

KIRKCUDBRIGHT DEVELOPMENT TRUST

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Kirkcudbright Development Trust in Kirkcudbright Library,
Kirkcudbright on Tuesday 12 January 2016 at 7.00pm

Present: Mr Andrew Wards
Mr David McHale
Mrs L Garbutt
Mr Alex Kinnell
Mr Colin MacLaine
Mr Alan Ross
Mr Andy Campbell
Mr John Blaikie
Mr John Johnson
Mrs Yvonne Gordon
Mr Alistair Gordon
Ms Avive Asbridge

Minute Secretary: Ms Deborah Craig

Apologies: Mr Brian Thomson
Mr Malcolm Oldfield
Mr Gordon Cowan

1. **Welcome from Lesley Garbutt – Interim Chair** **Action**
Mrs Garbutt welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Kirkcudbright Development Trust.

2. **Office Bearer Elections**
Chair– Mrs Garbutt was nominated by Mr Johnson and seconded by Mr McHale.
Vice Chair – Mr McHale was nominated by Mr Johnson and seconded by Mr Campbell.
Secretary – Mr McHale was nominated by Mr Johnson and seconded by Ms Asbridge.
Treasurer – Mr Johnson was nominated by Mr Campbell and seconded by Mr MacLaine.

Mrs Garbutt thanked everyone for the nominations and the meeting was continued.

3. **Bank Account**
Mr MacLaine reported that there was now a bank account in the name of the Kirkcudbright Development Trust with the Bank of Scotland and all that was needed was a change of signatories. There was a current balance of £3986.65 which was ring fenced as Youth Drop In funds.
Mr Johnson asked if there was a way that the bank could ring fence funding.
Mr Wards said that would be down to the Treasurer but that it was not a problem.
It was then proposed that the Treasurer, Chair and Secretary would be the signatories of the account, which everyone agreed with.

4. **Membership Forms:** Mr Wards asked the meeting to consider how membership regulations would be decided and suggested that perhaps it could be changed to residents of the Stewartry or Kirkcudbrightshire.

Mr Campbell asked why membership had to be restricted at all.

Mr Wards replied that if the Trust was applying for grants then membership guidelines would be needed.

Mrs Garbutt asked if everyone was happy with membership applying to residents of the Stewartry.

Mr Gordon thought that it needed to be defined a bit more.

Mrs Garbutt then suggested that it be defined by residents with a DG6 postcode, which would cover other villages such as Dundrennan and Borgue.

Everyone agreed and it was agreed that it would be ratified at the next meeting,

Mr Wards then said that everyone should have membership as the greater the membership then the greater the clout the Trust would have.

Mrs Garbutt then noted that Mr Thomson had, in his apologies, suggested that Incorporated Trades would be keen to join and it was agreed that he should be informed that each member should join individually as well as joining as a group.

Mr Wards then reiterated the fact that the stronger the organisation the greater the influence it would have, but he also said he felt it was important not to push membership on groups, rather people and groups should see how it was working and decide for themselves. He also stressed that it was not the case of a group giving up its independence if it joined the Trust.

Mr MacLaine then said that the Youth Drop-In was going to disband and join the Trust with the aim of developing its projects within the Trust.

Mr Kinnell then asked if the Trust had considered groups paying a fee to become members.

Mr Wards replied that it had been considered at one point, but it was deemed unnecessary.

Mr Blaikie then said he was worried that if a group joined, it would then have to go to the Trust to ask permission to do things.

Mr Wards said this would not be the case as a groups funding would be restricted as their own and it could be seen as a duty of care as much as anything. He also said that there was usually a 'wind-up clause' within a group which allowed its assets to be transferred to a similar group, which the Trust was.

Mr and Mrs Gordon then asked if the groups would still be able to run their own accounts.

Mr Wards said that at every board meeting there would be a very clear breakdown of the accounts and that every transaction was recorded and transparent. He then said that everyone was welcome to visit the Creetown Initiative to see how the accounting system was run. He also said that it was about working with different groups and not just about bringing funds together. It would also make a huge difference to an organisation if it had project workers supporting it and would help retain volunteers.

5. **Project Workers Update:** Mr Wards reported that the first application for a lottery grant had been made. It was to a new fund for community led activity and was for 3 years funding of £135,000. There was also an application to Scottish and electric for £10,000. If acquired then these funds, he continued, would go towards salaries, professional fees, high-street premises, office costs etc. this was, he said, a stage one application but it was an important part of building the capacity of the community group.

6. **Consultation Questionnaire:** Mr Wards explained that this was a survey specific to the

Johnston School and asked for everyone's opinion on it.

Mr Johnson said that he thought the general thrust of it was excellent.

Mr McHale said he felt some of it was biased and was a bit long and complicated which would ultimately put people off.

Mr Wards said that the reason it had to be so long was that it had to cover everything and the Trust needed evidence that people support the development of the Johnston School.

Ms Asbridge asked what the target number of respondents was.

Mr Wards said in most cases the minimum return was 25% and explained that this was a starting point and the important thing was to get the right results from the questionnaire.

7. **AOB:** Mr Wards said that following the recent meeting with Ian Barr it seemed that the council wanted to parachute a Kirkcudbright International Festival into the opening of the new Art Gallery. He said he had some reservations as there seemed to be little or no local ownership and with something like this it would be important to leave a legacy.

DC

Mr and Mrs Gordon and Mr Blaikie then left the meeting at this point.

Mr MacLaine agreed with Mr Wards and said that it was important to gauge local reaction.

Mrs Garbutt also agreed and said that it was important to celebrate the opening of the Gallery but on our own terms.

Mr Wards said that if it was to be an International Festival then it also needed to have Kirkcudbright Appeal. His main concern, he said, was that the festival could potentially soak up any money that the Trust could be using.

Mr McHale said that perhaps the Trust could ask Ian Barr for funding if there was to be something done to celebrate the opening of the Gallery.

Mr Wards said that it was very important if there was to be an international festival then a theme was important and it had to be connected to Kirkcudbright. Perhaps, he said, something along the lines of visual arts or fishing.

Mrs Garbutt agreed and said that it could be built on the success of the recent exhibition along Moat Brae.

Mr Ross then said that having just been in Kirkcudbright for a year, he found the range of activities and support for them amazing.

Mr Wards agreed and then said that perhaps Ian Barr could be asked for suggestions to celebrate the opening of the Gallery, rather than letting the opening celebrations be dictated and it was important not to dilute or detract from what was already going on in Kirkcudbright. He also suggested that everyone should be involved in the selection of the Festival Director, which everyone thought was a good idea.

Galloway Glens Landscape

Mr Wards said that he had been speaking to Mr David Devereux recently who had suggested that there might be something to gain from the recent Galloway Glens Partnership. Mr Wards explained that it was a Heritage Lottery Funds project and it could be a gateway to something bigger and agreed to monitor it.

Youth Drop-In

Mr MacLaine said that the Youth Drop-In would be putting out a press release about moving to the Development Trust. He felt it was important that people know about the move. Mr Wards and Mr MacLaine agreed to draft a press release together.

Mrs Garbutt then asked for suggestions on the date of the next meetings. The first Monday of every month was settled and the date of the next meeting was to be 1st February at 7pm. There being no other business, Mrs Garbutt concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for attending and hoped that everyone had found it illuminating. The

meeting ended at 8.45pm.