

Hutton Community Fellowship
Boreland Village Hall 17.11.2019

Present: Chris Miles: John Galt: Neil Parker: Theresa Parker: Liza Pern: Sophie Dupre (Apologies: John Dupre)

1. Minutes: The minutes of the AGM do not need to include Treasurers Report as this is to be on the website as a PDF with the Accounts as presented. The draft will be removed. There is no minute of the conversation had by LP and CM on 25th August as that meeting was not quorate.
2. Treasurers Update: There has been no change since the AGM. Awaiting invoice for the hire of Hall for AGM. No acceptance yet from Hutton Curlers and their bank details and copy of a bank statement will be needed for funding to go ahead. The committee agreed to keep the offer to HCs open. **Action CM to follow up with them.** It was agreed that both of these offers could be paid as and when by TP. Payment to Auditor was also agreed (£100).
Signatories for Bank Account: LP and SD to be added as full signatories. AM and PG to be removed. SD and LP signed the forms for this action.
TP to ask Bank about double approval of online authorisation. At present the Treasurer seeks approval for payments via email. It was suggested we choose the method that avoids bank charges.
There are funds of £42,219.63p on this date.
3. Discussion Points:
Website and Email. New committee members to be included in HCF email address. Freshspace were asked about the overload of spam on HCF email and have suggested various blockers. Material re groups funded, e.g. Dryfe valley Singers and Hutton Curlers to go on website plus any newspaper articles featuring HCF funded projects. Also photos of Hutton Primary school trip (with permission).

Management of Community Funds in the future. The Chairman attended a meeting with North Milk Community Council (NMCC) and fed back the outcome of that discussion. It was to discuss whether future funds from windfarms will be managed by HCF or by NMCC (as new windfarm companies now engage with the CC) or both and what is a sensible arrangement for the community. Boreland Village Hall Committee do not want to act for the community on handling funds. As Scottish Power has made clear, funding must flow through a constituted body. In the absence of the NMCC the DECBG SCIO was set up and acts as a conduit for the Ewe Hill 6 funds coming to HCF as well as disbursing the Ewe Hill 16 funds. HCF is a valid body for the disbursement of funding and meets the requirements of HMRC in terms of record keeping and decision making. In principle Cross Dykes community benefit funds which have been being discussed with them for several years will be channeled through HCF but Little Hartfell funds are likely to go to the NMCC.

It was agreed that funding channels must be kept simple and straightforward and having two funding pots and application processes for Boreland may not be a logical structure.

A possible joint meeting with North Milk CC was discussed however it was agreed that ultimately the community would need to decide how funding into the community is to be organised.

Residents can be kept informed of how to come forward with project ideas and how to get the funding through the website. An annual update by flyer might be useful. This could be managed and paid for through an area coordinator if this was funded with other communities.

Ewe Hill 16 process

DEBCG manages the funds from Ewe Hill 16 worth £180,000 per annum which are open to all residents East of M74. DEBCG co-ordinates the application process through SUP and decides on which projects to fund. HCF has two places on the Board of DEBCG. DEBCG's next application deadline is 31st January and its grant meeting is in March 2020.

Community Consultation. 120 residents have had face to face interviews with the consultants (Creetown Initiative). They have met residents from all parishes, youth groups etc. DEBCG is to meet with consultants in Lockerbie on 28th November 2019 for an update on their work. Some questions to them will be: what are the next steps in the consultation process? How will they encourage more project ideas to come forward? Will they create website content? The consultants are picking up some interesting project ideas from the people they have met to date. One question was whether any of the funds could be invested and that has come up as a possible idea from the communities.

Crossdykes update. HFC is likely to manage community benefit funds from this scheme of between £20,000 and £30,000 per annum. Muirhall Energy are also offering communities shared ownership in the Crossdykes scheme. DEBCG has engaged consultants to assess and advise on this. DEBCG will have the first meeting with the consultants in November. One consequence of Crossdykes including other communities in its offer is that DEBCG will need to expand to include the other parish groups. The constitution may need to be restructured. This might have consequences for HCF if for example the Board needs to change. The legal structure would be amended rather than the nature of the groups.

Little Hartfell. This scheme which is on Castlemilk estate behind Bailliehill was given planning permission in August 2019. Community meetings have been held and North Milk CC has been attending these. CM was invited to meetings as a member of DEBCG. There is to be another meeting on 27th November 2019. Communities will be asked how the flow of funds should be arranged. The choice is between the Ewehill model, i.e. an amount for the immediate parish and a larger fund for wider or larger projects to apply for or for all funds to go direct to each Community Council.

Next meeting Sunday 16th February 2020 14:00