

Hutton Community Fellowship

Chairs report on activity in 2019/2020 for the 2020 AGM

Since the last AGM The Fellowship has met four times November 2019, February, April and September 2020. April and September's meetings were held via zoom due to Covid restrictions.

An application was completed in May for the 13th round of Minsca funding. We subsequently received £2317.01 in July 2020. Funding was also received from Ewe Hill of £10878.96.

Since the last AGM in October 2019 funds have been used for the following activities. The way these were allocated to either Minsca or Ewe Hill funds and the amounts involved is shown in the accounts;-

- Hutton Community Fellowship Public Liability Insurance, website and admin costs.
- Funding for Hutton Singers musicians
- Funding for Hutton Curling Club
- Funding for Boreland Hall to cover some overheads and repairs in the absence of income
- Funding for Boreland Hall for the installation of hand dryers
- Funding for School trips to Edinburgh and New Lanark
- Costs associated with the Community consultation
- Support for community volunteers costs in organising food deliveries
- Funding for the Townhead/Aberlour meals for vulnerable elderly during Covid

Obviously activities have been much reduced this year due to the Covid controls and we look forward to a different year in 2021.

The community consultation.

Community members will recall that a community consultation led by DECBCG on behalf of the communities had been set up using Creetown Initiative. They completed one to one interviews last Autumn and that was followed by a written or online questionnaire that was delivered to 5,540 addresses in February.

The information given by the 120 people who contributed to the one-to-one interviews informed the questions asked. The questionnaire was completed and returned by 327 people and families. This level of return gives a 90-95% confidence that the spread of views and ideas in the community have been captured.

Clearly because of the Covid restrictions it has not been possible to meet in person with Creetown or community members to discuss the results. Since then Creetown Initiative have analysed and collated the views expressed and drafted a community plan. They presented this to the DECBCG members in July and were given feedback in August and a new draft was received in September. This is currently being considered by DECBCG. The one to one discussions in Boreland are part of the collated feedback and can be used with the

wider report to initiate projects and proposals in our community. One of the main recommendations from the feedback is to have a community manager post to help communities to turn ideas into projects.

Ewe Hill 16

HCF have contributed to the work of DECBG in delivering two rounds of projects funded from the Ewe Hill 16 funds. Both have had to be done via remote meetings making decision making harder. In March 15 out of 18 applications were approved in full or in part. In September 3 out of 4 applications were approved. A number of extensions to projects unable to proceed was also agreed.

Crossdykes

The community is well aware that the Crossdykes windfarm is under construction. This is expected to be completed and operational by January 2021. Work is ongoing to consider the offer from Muirhall Energy, the scheme owners, of community share ownership. Consultants have provided first stage reports on the offer but work is ongoing given the complexity. The communities would need to have decided which way to go within 6 months of the completion of the windfarm.

DECBG agreed to amend its constitution to bring Lockerbie, Canonbie and Eskdalemuir onto the Board and to open membership to all residents of the communities it works for. This change is nearing completion.