

Distributing Harestanes Community
Benefit on behalf of
ScottishPower Renewables



Helping communities
to make positive
changes

Annandale and Nithsdale Community Benefit Company

ANCBC Board Meeting
Thursday 27th October 2016, 6.30pm
Lochhouse Farm Retreat, Beattock, Moffat, DG10 9SG

MINUTES

Directors Present:

Martin Brown (Chair)	Kirkpatrick Juxta
Richard Clarke	Keir
David Dick	Closeburn
Richard Mann	Johnstone
Alastair MacFadzean	Dunscore
Russell Stuart	Heathhall
Murdoch MacPherson	Dalton & Carrutherston

In attendance:

Gillian Arnot	Scottish Power Renewables
Cllr Stephen Thompson	(Part of meeting)
Cara Gillespie	Foundation Scotland
Isobel Henkelmann	Foundation Scotland

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

2. Apologies/quorum

No apologies were noted and it was agreed that the meeting was quorate.

3. Minutes of last meeting

3.1 Approval

The minutes of the previous meeting 27th July 2016 (previously circulated) were agreed to be a fair and accurate record of the meeting.

3.2 Matters arising not on agenda

- i. It was noted that further to item 8 of the minutes Jim Renwick's nomination to become a Director has not been progressed- awaiting further information.
- ii. As per item 9 of the minutes, dates for future meetings were confirmed and it was noted that the public information in this regard has been updated.
- iii. It was noted that Foundation Scotland handles application feedback very well and Katie's handling of potentially difficult situations was praised.

3.3 Outstanding actions

It was agreed Wamphray Community Council should be given a further extended deadline for their project and it was agreed to give them until the end of February given that the planning and building process can be lengthy.

Action: FS

4. Grant Applications

There were 10 grant applications to consider which included £110,632 of recommended awards. There was a balance of £228,796 available for grant making.

Application Name	Project Description - Summary	Amount Applied for	Amount Awarded	Declarations of Interest / Comments / Conditions / Feedback to applicant
Electric Theatre Workshop	To establish a community hub model of participation in the arts. This will be done by recruiting and training 8 community leaders, youth leaders and mentors to work in communities across Dumfries.	£10,000.00	£5,000.00	-
Lochmaben Amateur Football Club	To build a sports pavilion for Lochmaben Football Club.	£20,000.00	£20,000.00	Conditions: That the Club reviews the restriction on voting membership at its next AGM. That evidence of match funding is provided – the level of award may be reduced accordingly. That payment is made according to an agreed payment schedule and on receipt of contractor invoice/s. That a letter of comfort is provided by the land owner, Dumfries and Galloway Council, confirming that current arrangements for use of the land by the Club will continue indefinitely, unless otherwise agreed by both parties, and that it agrees to the proposed works.
First Base Agency	To support the continuing growth of the First Base Emergency Food Project.	£18,000.00	£18,000.00	Conditions: That evidence of match funding and/or a fundraising plan for the year ahead is provided ahead of the release of grant instalments in years 2 and 3.
Moffat Museum Trust	To restore Mail Coach Monument on the A701.	£4,5000.00	-	Comments: The Board felt that there was insufficient evidence of direct benefit to the community, however they would be willing to consider a revised application in the future and also to waive the fund requirement that groups may only apply once each year. Any new application must evidence community benefit, for example through linking the monument with a wider project to promote local heritage to the community and/or plans for how the monument will contribute to tourism.
Dumfries and Galloway Small Communities Housing Trust	To contribute towards the delivery of Community Housing (DOCH) Project.	£15,830.00	-	DoI: David Dick - Comments: The Board felt that compared to the overall cost of the project, relatively low numbers of people are likely to benefit directly. Further, there was some concern at the intermediary role of the Trust and associated cost of the service. Direct applications from beneficiary communities wishing to deliver housing projects, potentially in partnership with the

				Trust are more likely to be positively viewed the future.
Cllr Stephen Thompson left the meeting				
South of Scotland Ice Rink Club	To contribute to the costs of Lockerbie Ice Rink's 50th anniversary celebrations.	£4,000	-	Comments: The Board is very supportive of the club but felt that the particular costs requested in this application could not be funded. Cash prizes, free access and hospitality were all felt to offer potentially disproportionate benefit to higher income people and current users. The Club is welcome to reapply within a year, and the Board has waived normal criteria to facilitate this. We ask that the Club first discuss its ideas with our local representative, Katie Nairn, before applying and also that any new application should focus on long term benefit for the community, such as improving the sustainability of the club or increasing public access.
Torthorwald Community Council	To contribute towards the cost of 3 community events and a community newsletter	£2,489	£2,302	Conditions: that estimates are provided for bus hire before this element of the award will be paid. The level of award may be reduced to reflect evidenced actual need.
Project Scotland	To provide individualised one to one and group employability support anchored with a local, structured volunteering placement for the young people of Dumfries Academy.	£19,940	-	Comments: The Board felt the high level of unrestricted reserves held by Project Scotland meant that a financial need for a grant was not demonstrated at this time. New application/s would be considered in the future but the organisation is encouraged to first utilise its reserves, so that financial need can be demonstrated.
Bankfoot House (Moffat) Ltd	To add an extension to the rear of the Home that will accommodate 6 residents.	£20,000	£20,000	Conditions: That evidence of Planning Permission is submitted. That evidence of full match funding is provided.
Dumfries Baptist Church	To contribute towards the costs of a café and catering kitchen.	£20,000	£20,000	Condition: That the ANCBC Grant is not used for the promotion of religion.

4.1 Local Grants Update:

Martin noted that Eskdalemuir and Kirkmichael Community Councils have not spent their grant. Two Community Councils have been paid. Loreburn, Carronbridge, Penpont, Terregles, Georgetown, Ae and Lincluden are in the pipeline. Lochside and Woodlands are working on monitoring/admin.

It was agreed that Martin would produce a written report of local grants, outlining how each CC had been using the money and their status as regard to spend. **Action MB**

5. Finance & Governance

5.1 New Treasurer

It was noted that the newsletter should invite people with a financial background onto the Board which it is hoped will secure a new treasurer. Richard Mann agreed to continue to act as interim treasurer and Russell Stuart to be the third signatory on cheques for both company accounts.

5.2 Financial Report

The Financial report was circulated which brought together the income and expenditure along with projected future expenditure. This showed an available unrestricted balance of

£378,658. The balance for grant making once future expenditure had been deducted was £228,796 and recommended awards for the current round totalled £110,632.

5.3 Foundation Scotland Fund Statement and Grant-making report

The negative balance takes into account 3yr Capital Costs Grants which have not been fully paid. Discussion took place as to what happens if an organisation fails to spend their grant as agreed. It was noted that discussion takes place on FS' receipt of the Completion Report.

5.4 Assessing financial risk

No new risks were identified.

5.5 Directors

It was suggested that in the Newsletter there should be a call for Directors, inviting in particular, younger people and women as well as those with a financial background. ANCBC had an approachable and accessible nature which should come across in the Newsletter.

6. Foundation Scotland updates

FS had no updates

7. Policy updates

7.1 Companies House / Oscr Update

It was explained that, at the request of the ANCBC Board, FS prepared an application for charitable status. FS had no issue with the board now changing its position but wished it noted that charitable status had not been FS's suggestion. It was explained that in terms of not having to pay corporation tax, charitable status would be beneficial. It was also noted that FS had persuaded Farries Kirk & McVean to use the Charities SORP format on the ANCBC annual accounts, on the basis that ANCBC intended to become a charity in the current financial year. The Board should be aware they may now query ongoing use of the charitable format for annual accounts.

8. Any Other Business

It was reported that some community Councils/ community Councillors remained unhappy that 100% of ANCBC funds were not split equally between all CCs.

It was noted that the current arrangements had been subject to extensive negotiation with CCs over a number of years before ANCBC was established and could not now be 'undone' without re-negotiation of all contracts. the Board noted that CCs may be unaware of the beneficial impact of open grant-making in making funds available to other types of community groups and also that CCs themselves could apply for additional funds if they could demonstrate a need and that their local grant had been required for other purposes. It was agreed this be highlighted in the next newsletter and Community Councils invited to apply to the main fund if they need to. Martin and Katie to draft newsletter text with input from Gillian. **Action MB/KN/GA**

Alasdair indicated that Dunscore CC had queried the rate at which Harestanes community benefit is paid (£2,000 per megawatt) when current good practice is £5,000 per megawatt. Gillian & Martin confirmed that the rate had already been increased by SPR as a result of negotiations prior to ANCBC being established. It was noted that the project was first given planning consent in 2007 and the standard rate in those days was nearer £800 per megawatt. Also that it is standard industry practice for community benefit to be set at the rate agreed when the wind farm is first proposed/ consented, which may be several years prior to it being commissioned and payments being made.

Following a £4,000 grant made to Sea Cadets to enable 12 boys to attend an offshore sailing course, Russell had attended a celebration lunch. He circulated a thank you card and letters from the group.

Invitations have also been received from Dumfries Pipe Band and Lockerbie Pipe Band.

5. Date and venue of next meeting and Future Meetings

The next meeting was due to be held on **Wednesday 22nd February 2016, 6.30pm** at Lochhouse Farm Retreat, Beattock.

Future Meetings

Thursday 15th June 2017, 6.30pm at Lochhouse Farm Retreat Beattock

Thursday 12th October 2017, 6.30pm at Lochhouse Farm Retreat Beattock

Thursday 15th Feb 2018, 6.30pm at Lochhouse Farm Retreat Beattock

Item	Action	Date	Who
3.3	To inform Wamphray CC of the extended deadline.	ASAP	FS
4.1	produce a written report of local grants	ASAP	MB
8.0	To draft a Newsletter clarifying ANCBC's position on grant making.	ASAP	MB,KN,GA