

Holmehill Community Buyout

**Minutes of Open Meeting of the Board
held on Tuesday 20th March 2007 in Leighton House.**

In attendance: Phill Tebbutt, Steve Mason, Malcolm Wilson, John Seddon, Rosemary Bland, Claire Watt, Rob Forrest, Caroline Smillie, Ron Lloyd, David Topliff

1. Welcome and Apologies

Rosemary welcomed all present. Apologies were received from Deirdre Wilson, David Prescott, David and Paula Woolley, Caroline Crawford, Andy Gould, Sarah Aldred, Gerard Hastings and Sylvia Jackson

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. There were no matters arising.

3. Financial Update

The concert made approximately £630 and the Market café £270. A bill has been received from the Inland Revenue for £100 for failing to submit a tax return. Claire will pass this on to Andy Gould to investigate.

3. Registration of Community Interest

The new Memorandum and Articles have been accepted by the Scottish Executive. Alison has been through the application and Rosemary and Deirdre have checked the signatures again. The application should be ready to be re-submitted by the end of this week.

4. Update on Events

- Market Café - a large effort was put in by those concerned and although a huge amount of money wasn't made it was felt that this had been a good awareness-raising exercise.
- Guitar Concert - this was very well supported and a good time was had by all. Thanks to Dougal Thornton whose idea this was and to everyone who helped make it a success.

6. Campaigning in 2007

A note about campaigning ideas had been distributed with the agenda. The ideas were discussed and the following comments made:

- Statement of Campaign Objectives - Rosemary suggested adding the possibility of more allotment space. Steve suggested adding a note as to neglect and disrepair on the site.
- Rosemary rang the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments who sent her some aerial photographs of the hill. We need to stress the archaeological importance of the site.
- The Episcopal Bishop has emailed Rosemary following a conversation between Akri and the Archbishop of Canterbury. He is offering his help. Rosemary will ask him for more information about St Blane and his activities in this area.
- Dave suggested compiling a list of all those involved in Holmehill over the centuries - perhaps as a timeline. He would then put together a piece of community theatre using this information (on his return from Canada). Dave suggests that in things we write we should link Holmehill to the Braeport Centre wherever possible
- Steve will appeal for someone to put together a historic page for the website and speak to Grant about the progress with our website

- It was agreed that we should have regular articles in the Community View rather than trying to distribute leaflets.
- Caroline S & Claire will approach Cathedral elders to see if we could get an article into the Cathedral magazine. Claire will investigate as to whether St Blane's produce a magazine.
- It was agreed that some new photographs are needed. Caroline C has been in touch with some professional photographers and is looking into obtaining some digital images. This was agreed in principle.
- The display is getting old and Steve suggested we invest in some roller banners at approximately £350 each. This was agreed in principle.
- Claire will talk to Caroline C about organizing a dawn chorus walk.
- It was also agreed to look at examples elsewhere of good practice in relation to the maintenance and development of woodlands.

6. Art Competition.

It was generally agreed that an Art competition would be a good idea. This needs to be developed further but some ideas were that artists could donate work which would later be auctioned, a competition to locate where on the hill the artists were painting, involving the local art club. Rosemary to lead with help from Caroline C, Malcolm and Claire.

7. Holmehill Funday

Dave's contact (Sandy Smith) is unable to organize a Funday on the Fling weekend. He suggested that we could combine a future event in the Braeport Centre and on the hill with an Art competition - maybe in June. Steve will speak to Sandy.

8. AOCB

Planning - if planning application is made, we will need to be ready to act quickly. Dave asked what we are allowed to say in letters of objection. Steve will email our previous letter to the Planning department to Rob for him to comment on what objections we can raise. Steve, Rob, Claire and Caroline C will get together to draft a list and future letters.

Diana Davis of the Friends Park of Keir has suggested that we should join the Woodland Trust but Caroline C has said that this is probably not appropriate for us. Diana also informed us of an event for small businesses to be held in the Dunblane Centre on 28th March, sponsored by Enterprise Scotland. Malcolm will make further enquires about this.

It was agreed to hold a small event in April to mark the departure from the board of Deirdre Wilson and Liz Law.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 16th April at 7.30pm in the Fraser Room (big conference room) in Scottish Churches House.

CW