

Holmehill Ltd

Notes of the open Board meeting

Thursday 7th June 2018 at 7 30 pm, Cathedral Halls, Dunblane,

1. Present

David Prescott [in the Chair], Sue Harley, Caroline Crawford, Libby Hughes, Phil Tebbutt Ann Gambles, Diana Davies, Martin Davies, Mary Birch, Robin Davies, Andy Mitchell, Ian Sutton, Hilary Armitage, John Armitage, Veronica Hansmann, Guy Crawford, Maud Crawford, Tim Hughes, Caroline Crawford (part), Chris Toop, Chris Spray, Alan Booth, Claire Watt, David Topliff, Steve Mason, Ian Adam, John Prosser, Mike Christmas, Joan Newman, John Newman, Alan Watt, Bill Carman (part), Keith Hunter (part)

2. Apologies

Rosemary Bland, Richard Bland, Geoffrey Osborn, Pauline Darnborough Peter Holmes, Paddy Holmes, Maureen Mitchell, Dave Stubbs, Andrea Peters.

3. **Jim Waterworth** died suddenly on May 20th 2018. He was a regular attender at Holmehill meetings and will be missed by us.

3. **Minutes of previous meeting:** were approved.

4. **Finance:** We have £1350 in the bank.

5. **The Fling:** Libby Hughes reported that the weather was good, the Fling was well attended and we recruited 9 new members.

6. New owner of Holmehill: Bill Carman

David Prescott introduced Bill Carman to the meeting. Bill was a Professor of Virology, now living in Dunblane. Through a charity that he and his wife have established he has bought Holmehill as an Open Space and wishes to protect and develop it for public use, with the aim of improving public spaces in Dunblane and its immediate environment, and involving young people. Keith Hunter will facilitate the charity, collect the views of local residents and organize a community event to involve the community.

Bill would like to attract all age groups to the Hill. His initial ideas include maintaining and improving the woodland; improving the paths and making new paths and running routes; possibly creating a public garden in the Braeport meadow which links into the Braeport and make a flat grassy area for events and picnics on the site of the old house.

He has a plan of action for three projects in the next six months. To remove many of the brambles, the logs and branches and have a party at the end of August. He wants to add more trees.

Alan Booth suggested he undertake a mapping exercise to use as a basis for consultation. David Prescott suggested that he undertake some archaeology. There was a plea to maintain the biodiversity on the Hill.

We thanked him for buying the Hill. Bill clarified that he had not bought the Lodge House.

7. Discussion following the visit of Bill Carman and Keith Hunter

Some initial thoughts were expressed: There was general agreement that we were pleased that the Hill had an owner who supports community use of the Hill. We probably need change our role to that of support for the new charity and its aims. We need to identify the aims and priorities of our group and present them to Bill Carman.

Some immediate actions were identified as follows:

David and Steve Mason will draft a press release and organize social media coverage with Richard Bland DP/SM/RB

Steve Mason will write to organisations who supported previous fundraising attempts by the Holmehill group. SM

We will convene a Board meeting during June to discuss ways Forward (Post meeting note 20th June). SH

We will arrange an EGM (after the AGM) to change our Memorandum and Articles as our Buyout objective is no longer relevant DP/SH

8. Meetings dates for 2018. All meetings are 7.30pm in the Cathedral Halls.

Tuesday 4th September AGM

Tuesday 13th November