

COLLIESTON & SLAINS COMMUNITY TRUST

MINUTES MEETING 26 FEBRUARY 2007



Present: John Hitchcock, Fiona Chaplain, Susan Somner, Jack Page, Vicky McNiff, Alan White, Steve Rainey, Elizabeth Hay, Craig Leuchars.

Apologies: Roddy Junor, Peter Somner, Shirley Beattie,

Minutes of 15 January 2007 meeting proposed by Steve Rainey, seconded by Alan White and approved by the Committee.

Craig Leuchars was welcomed onto the committee, proposed by Steve Rainey and seconded by Elizabeth.

1. Architectural Competition Ballot results - Way forward

There were 7 votes received after the ballot results were initially posted, some of which the cause of late entry was not in the control of the voters, e.g. the post and possibly being missed from the shop door. The committee agreed in the interest of inclusion that these should be included. Their inclusion does not affect the result. However, votes post 26 February will not be accepted. Two ballot papers were received after this revised cut-off and have not been counted.

1.1 Action Vicky to update the results and send the additional ballot forms to the independent adjudicator, the Very Reverend Gerald Stranraer-Mull.

Below are the detailed ballot results and statistics, with these 7 included.

	Total	Village	Slains District
Returned Ballot Papers	144	110	34
Neither	15	13	2
Reiach and Hall Votes	71	50	21
Sarah Hare Votes	58	47	11
Number of Papers sent	406	234	172
% Returned Ballot Papers	35%	47%	20%
% Neither	4%	6%	1%
% Reiach and Hall	17%	21%	12%
% Sarah Hare	14%	20%	6%
% Ballot papers returned completed	32%	41%	19%
Note: The number of people eligible to vote in the Slains district is only an estimate and so the % returned from Slains and overall cannot be verified as correct			

The return from the village (47%) was less than the Committee had hoped for (50%). Alan had discussed the ballot results with CADISPA, and they indicated that a return of 47% was in fact high, as in their experience anything above 30% was considered good, and some groups had been successful in obtaining funding with an even lower return. CADISPA suggested organising a meeting with user groups and other key parties. It was recognised that the original mandate to demolish and rebuild the hall was still valid.

The Committee was heartened to learn that Amenities and playgroup had already minuted their support of CASCT.

The consensus was that it is still vitally important to understand and address any genuine concerns in the community. However, it was agreed that it was simply not going to be possible to win everyone over and we should focus our attention and energy on moving the project forward on behalf of the majority.

Steve informed the committee that Neil Gillespie has indicated that he is willing to work from a clean slate and suggested that we can go ahead with a workshop with him, facilitated by CADISPA.

Bulletin

It was agreed to post a notice announcing the updated results and saying that following the ballot CASCT are organising a User Group meeting. Say that Neil Gilliespie from Reiach and Hall has responded to the results saying that he is looking forward to working with the community to achieve the right design, even if this means starting from scratch.

1.2 Action Jack & Alan to draft announcement for email review.

User Group meeting

First step is to set up an initial meeting with all the user groups – e.g. Amenities, WRI, Playgroup, CAT's, Over 60's. Objective for the meeting is to come to a consensus on the way forward and to obtain support.

1.3 Action John Hitchcock to organise this, including setting the date and agenda, inviting the participants, booking the hall, etc.

A potential way forward, which should be discussed at the User Group meeting, is that we could hold an architectural workshop facilitated by CADISPA, where we ask each user group to send a certain number of people and where we also allow some places for the general community, up to a maximum of 30-40 people. CADISPA have offered to facilitate one on the 14th or the 21st April. The 21st may be too close to the AGM.

1.5 Action Alan will reply to CADISPA that the 14th is preferred.

1.6 Action Jack to invite Neil Gillespie.

2. Treasurer's Report

The balance of account is £18,585.40 as of the 31 January 2007; the bank statement was viewed by Vicky. The actual balance is £17,944.47, due to a few outstanding cheques.

The accounts are now transferred into the new software, and have been reconciled in this.

We have received Sheila's fee for acting as the company secretary, which is £179.50.

3. Legal/Slains Estate Update

Steve has had a conversation with Robert Whyte, Property Director of Slains Estate. He indicated that the Estate intends to protect its future development rights by imposing a development security on the land (with a 100% clawback of any profit in perpetuity). This condition is not negotiable unless we wish to pay more for the land. They see the sale price of £5000 as being connected to the land being used for a community centre, and for no other purpose.

Vicky has drafted a risk assessment summarising the risks associated with buying the Rivie.

3.1 Action Steve to edit and fill in the missing details and email round.

We have received a letter from Grant Smith, informing us that there is a change in the law, where the company registration details must be included in all electronic and hardcopy correspondence and on the web site.

3.2 Action Steve to send details of what must be included.

We have received confirmation from the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) that our Annual Return was accepted. In future they have requested that our accounts give details of the charity number.

We have received a letter from Ian Baker confirming that we have submitted our Annual 2006 Tax Return to the Inland Revenue.

Our 2007 Annual Return needs to be filled in and submitted to Companies House in due course.

We are in receipt of a letter from Angela Williams, one of the architectural competition judges, to say thank you for the framed photograph of Collieston and that she enjoyed the time spent here and admires what we are trying to do.

4. Funding Strategy

4.1 Action Steve to look into the application form for Investing in Communities, to see what is required to obtain this.

5. AOB

Booklet:

Alan informed the Committee that the design of the community booklet had been finalised and it was in the process of being printed. A printout of the final version was circulated - all thought that the booklet was impressive and a vast improvement on the previous version. It was noted that the actual design and production costs used the entire budget of £2000, so there were no funds available to develop a funders briefing pack, as had been hoped.

5.1 Action Alan to email the PDF round and also to see if the money can be routed through CASCT's accounts.

6. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 19th March 2007 at Steve Rainey's, need someone to take the minutes.