

Minutes of meeting of CCDT Board on 31 January 2023 in VIC

Present: G.Fischbacher M.Heen G.Kerr M.Moore D Moore F.Park
P.Prescott T.Kliskey

A.Docherty S.Bell C.Fingland

Apologies: A.Mitchell M.Griffiths S Holden B.McKay S.Mackay T.Thomson

Welcome and Introductions: Chiara Fingland was welcomed as representative of Imagine If. Space CIC regarding fulfilling potential Development Officer Role.

1. Minutes of the November meeting were approved

Prop: M.Heen ; sec: P.Prescott

2. Matters arising/ updates

2.1 Finance Committee Update: Reports from Hydro Company (CCHL) and 55 Main St were circulated prior to meeting. It was noted that CCDT is a growing business and as such its growing financial commitments should be recognised, both in respect of staffing and property costs. The Hydro Company, due to increased tariffs is likely to generate excess income in the region of £400k this financial year. It was agreed that priority use of increased profits over next 18 months should be:

1. Ensure current commitments are covered (general running costs, Annual £60k to Hydro Fund & Initial £10k for Cost of Living Fund)
2. Pay down Loans (Both 55 Main Street & Hydro Company Loans)
3. After Priorities 1&2 are complete look at potential new investments to bring in income to future proof against eventual loss of FIT in 12 years time.

It was noted that due to CCHL not having charitable status loan capital can only usually be paid post corporation tax on profits. However as all profits generated by CCHL are gifted to CCDT the following 2 options are being investigated, alongside a letter to HMRC requesting special dispensation from HMRC for CCHL to pay off loans without corporation tax liability due to charitable status of CCDT

1. CCDT loan back money to CCHL to repay Triodos loans. CCHL to pay interest to CCDT at a commercial rate but capital loan will remain on books indefinitely.
2. CCHL issuing more shares, purchased by CCDT to raise the capital to pay off the Triodos Loans.

Board agreed that Finance Committee should continue investigations and negotiation with CCHL Board in this respect and to report back to Board for a decision to be made. It was agreed a written proposal from CCHL regarding any issuing of new shares would be prepared should this be one of the routes approved. It was also agreed that the Finance Committee should start to research potential future income generating investment options for when all loans are repaid.

2.2 Development Officer post: C. Fingland gave a presentation on Imagine If. Space CIC with background and experience relevant to fulfilling the role of a Development Officer. The importance of not losing momentum following the publishing of the LPP was noted as vital. Further discussions to be had after meeting on potential activities that Imagine If could carry out whilst funding is sought for the post from SC.

2.3 Landscape Partnership Falls of Leny project is on schedule to complete its pre-construction stage by March 2023 and the project manager will be seeking sources of funding for the actual construction work c 2024.

The Signposts project: CCDT's commitment to take ownership has been delayed as still waiting for a list and map of where they are as well as confirmation of what funding NP will provide for ongoing maintenance.

Golf Post path signposts (separately funded by CCDT) have been delivered and Golf Course Staff are going to install.

3. Reports

3.1 LPP Update and Handover Report was circulated prior to the meeting. The Air Quality Monitoring and Community Transport issues raised were agreed to be responsibility of CCC who will follow up.

The Callander South Masterplan produced by the NP is calling for responses by 27^h February. All parties were extremely disappointed that the LPP has been ignored in respect to the Drummond Estate field, which is NOT located on the south side of the river. It has been designated for possible development, whereas LPP was clear that community wants this site to be redesignated for open recreational space. It was agreed that a coordinated response is required and all Callander Organisations should submit responses. To this end a special additional meeting of the board has been arranged for 10am Tuesday 14th February to discuss and produce response.

3.2 Woodland Group report circulated. WG have declined to encompass the work of the former Callander's Countryside as was discussed at the last meeting as it was deemed to be too large a remit and they do not have the resources required.

3.3 Other reports received: School Parent Council, Climate Action, Resilience Group.

4. Any other business: D.Moore confirmed Code of Conduct amendments are still in progress.

Minutes approved by Board and signed by Chair, F.Park, on 28 February 2023