

Ellingham Community Trust

Minutes	7 th November 2012 Ellingham Village Hall
Present:	Gustav Macleod, Robert Stuart, George Unwin, Heather Cairns
Apologies:	Ruth Machen, Christopher Watson
Approval of minutes:	Minutes of the October meeting (previously circulated) were approved and signed.
Matters Arising:	Neil Mundy, Parish Council Chairman, had asked GM if the results of the Community Trust Questionnaire could be looked at by Parish Council to check for accuracies. Trustees agreed, noting that PC would only be able to check for accuracies and would not be able to make changes.
Charity Commission Register:	Charity Commission Certificate could not be printed – can be viewed on link: http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/Showcharity/RegisterOfCharities/CharityFramework.aspx?RegisteredCharityNumber=1149186&SubsidiaryNumber=0
Email Account, Website, Photo, Logo, Indemnity Insurance:	<p>CW and GM had discussed and in view of extent of work involved in setting up website had suggested that professional assistance should be sought. Trustees agreed. One quote of approx £600 plus £100 per annum maintenance fee had been received; agreed that another 2 quotes should be obtained. NB – ensure that any hosting/maintenance fee is not excessive and that, one site built, content management can be undertaken by Trust rather than web-designer.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: CW/GM</p> <p>CW and GM had been to various areas in parish to take photographs which can be used on website.</p>
Draft Application form And Guidelines:	<p>GM and RM had drafted application form and guidelines, RM had produced additional document addressing hierarchy for funding. Trustees examined draft application form with suggested areas for inclusion/deletion. A lengthy discussion regarding private business benefit vs. community benefit ensued. It was agreed that the whole community would very rarely benefit from funding of a particular application but rather that different sections of the community would benefit at different times, and that each application would have to be considered on its own merits. Any funding to private businesses or individuals must be able to demonstrate benefit to some if not all of the wider community. HC suggested that the statement from section 2 “Hierarchy for Funding” in RM’s document should be included near the beginning of the guidance notes – all present agreed.</p> <p>GM proposed that HC, RM and GM work to tighten up the main points in the guidance notes and to incorporate the hierarchy into the document.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: GM, HC, RM</p> <p>RS and GU to complete the application form for a hypothetical application from each of their communities to assess how easy it is, and what else should be included.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: RS, GU</p>

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RS noted that at present the form appears to be only for formal, constituted organisations or groups and there should be a second form for small schemes and individuals. From this it was also noted that in some instances the Trust will have to either (a) pay cash to the successful applicant (and be given receipts to cover the funding amount) or (b) be invoiced by suppliers and pay these direct rather than via the applicant.

Broadband update Statement and Registration:

GM had contacted BT Openreach regarding broadband provision but so far had received no response. Information from John Cooper (Community Engagement Officer, NCC) – forthcoming “Round 3” bid in which Ellingham could be considered for the provision of superfast broadband but this will be dependent on how many properties register with iNorthumberland – Defra would require 30% of households registering and currently only 13 have done so (12%). Letters prepared to distribute to all households, to encourage registration. RS will deliver to Tynely, Brockdam and Brownieside; GU will deliver to Chathill; GM and HC will cover all other areas.

Action: RS, GU, GM, HC

GM will attend Community Forum meeting at Bamburgh Pavilion on 8th November where the issue of broadband will be discussed.

GM noted that potentially Community Trust could pay for satellite broadband or microwave system, should superfast broadband not be made available to the Parish.

Scholarships:

Teresa Hall (Ridgewind) had advised GM that 8 applications were received and that these would be considered during the next week. She will advise the Trust of allocation.

Clean Free Energy Day:

GM attended this event in Alnwick where various forms of ‘green’ energy were showcased. GM suggested that the Community Trust could initiate a strategic plan for providing energy to the parish, where the Trust could be clear about where Trust Fund being spent and which would provide maximum community benefit. However there would need to be agreement across the parish to any such scheme or schemes.

Having had an initial discussion with a consultant GM proposed that he should research the possibility of consultants attending an initial public meeting to discuss what sort of energy schemes the parishioners in the different villages/hamlets would be interested in having and then request an estimate of costs for the consultant(s) to provide a strategic plan for the parish. HC noted that clear guidelines as to what was wanted would have to be given to any consultant undertaking this task.

Meeting Dates:

Wednesday 5th December, 7pm
Wednesday 9th January 2013, 7pm

Minutes prepared

Elsbeth Gilliland, 7.11.12

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By: