

Ellingham Community Trust

Minutes: 19th January 2017

Ellingham Village Hall

Present: Christopher Watson (in the Chair), George Unwin, Heather Cairns, Robert Stuart, Louis Fell.

Apologies for Absence: Stanley Calvert.

1. Approval of Minutes: Draft minutes of 15th December 2016 (previously circulated) approved and signed.

2. Matters Arising: None.

3. Treasurer's Report:

Bank Balances as at 19.01.16: Current Account £9,544.65; Deposit Account £30,574.97; Total £40,120.62. Transactions in previous period: DAS £300.00; Fuel Support Payments £200.00; Accounts Charges £18.00. Estimated committed spend: DAS £4,700.00; SFS 2016 £100.00. Trust assets not allocated £25,774.97.

The Trust has now received the first RHI payments from school. All payments up to £1,416.68 received on 16.01.17. This represents 9-10 months of the year giving us an estimated income of £2,000 per year.

4. Update on Active Schemes

Solid Fuel Scheme : All cash payments have been made to 33 applications. Some loose ends to tie up with the solid fuel distribution to 101 people.

Action : George, Chris & Louis to disperse the remaining packs.

Domestic Appliance Scheme : The Trust has received 4 applications since the last meeting, bringing the total number of applications under the scheme to 60. Over 50% of households in the parish have taken advantage of the scheme.

Winter Fuel Support Payment : This scheme is now closed.

5. Bus Service Grant

Heather explained why the parish council had not used the grant provided by the Trust to support the local bus service. After a good discussion it was agreed that the money would be returned to the Trust. Should support for local transport be required in the future the Trustees will consider any application.

Action : Heather to arrange the return of funds.

6. Neighbourhood Plan Update:

A second questionnaire is being prepared for distribution. The grant approved by the Trustees to support the process may not be needed, an update may be available at the next meeting.

7. Investment Strategy

The Trust's accountant has requested a meeting with Trustees to look at options for our long term investment strategy. Louis has also some ideas and contacts and will arrange a meeting of interested parties as soon as possible.

Action : Louis to arrange meeting with interested parties as soon as possible.

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8. Applications

No applications received.

9. Any Other Business: None.

Date of next meeting: 16th February 2017, 7pm in Ellingham Village Hall; 16th March, 7pm in Ellingham Village Hall; AGM 20th April 2017, 7pm in Ellingham Village Hall.

Minutes prepared by: Virginia Mayes-Wright