**BLACKHILL WINDFARM COMMUNITY FUND Ltd**

**Meeting of Directors, Wednesday 17th August 2022 Volunteer Hall, Duns, following AGM**

**MINUTES**

1. Welcome – Present – Keith Dickson, Stuart Renton, Hazel Smith, Juliana Amaral, Adam Prokopowicz, Sharon Cleghorn
2. Apologies – Tim Myer, James Robson
3. Declaration of interest.
4. Approval of minutes from May 2022 - Approved
5. Applications – Update

* BF0227 – Ayton Heritage - £3,500.00 – Rejected Ltr sent 02/06/2022
* BF0229 – SWI Langton - £500.00 – Awarded 10/06/2022
* BF0230 – Greener Duns - £600.00 – Awarded 13/08/2022
* BF0231 – BHS Senior Musical Theatre Group – £1,200.00 – Awarded 10/06/2022
* BF0232 – ReTweed - £4,000.00 – Awarded 26/07/2022

1. New Applications – Bank Balance – £57,903.17

* BF0233 – BAVS – £350.00
* To go towards Berwickshire Awards in celebration of BAVS 50th Anniversary.
* JA declared an interest and left the room.
* They have requested a modest amount for a good network building event.
* BWCF recognise the good work that BAVS do.
* A good community building organisation
* Proposed an increase in the amount granted.
* Approved – £500.00
* BF0234 – Health in Mind - £2,177.99
* Commission local artist Claire Beattie to run a 6 week block of art classes in Duns.
* A national charity that has a lot of money.
* Application did not specify the number of people that would benefit and was a bit vague.
* Although they are not asking for a lot of money, they have a lot of reserves.
* Sufficiently specific about what they are going to do and they have piloted this before.
* Building on something that there is a demand for.
* Approved - £2,177.99
* BF0235 – AHFD - £4,500.00
* Work with Duns History Society to develop a program and map with the history of Duns.
* Since 2014 AHFD have submitted 8 applications, 5 have been approved to a value of £18,300.00. 3 have been rejected. They have also supported a subgroup, Keeping Duns Bloomin Marvelous, to apply.
* The cost of developing the site of AHFD will eat into the current reserves.
* How do we best support them in moving forward?
* Anything that will lead to a more vibrant Duns is worth supporting.
* An application for the Community Larder/Drop In Cafe would have been more appropriate and in line with BWCF ethos.
* Fundamentals of the Windfarm fund is to support groups within our communities such as AHFD. Therefore, we should expect that AHFD is a recipient of regular funds.
* We are being more demanding on applicants than ever before and we can only give money to those that apply.
* Does BWCF funding this project limit our ability to fund another project?
* Approved - £4,500.00
* BF0236 – Duns Football Club - £10,000.00
* Repair the roof to the portacabins.
* A pretty vague application for a large amount of money.
* Duns Football Club have a lot of club members that could provide the labour.
* Suggest a site visit and further discussion.
* Letter to advise that SR and KD would like to do a site visit and to discuss your application in more detail. – Meeting took place on 24th August.
* BF0237 – Ayton Heritage - £1,000.00
* Remove the ivy on St Dionysius Church and effect repairs to masonry on Fordyce Aisle.
* JA met with Michael Wilson and discussed application.
* Lottery funding has been approved but this cannot be accessed until they can access the site. i.e., cut back the ivy.
* Does our funding lead to more funding being released from other sources?

We are aware there was an application to the Localities Fund which was not mentioned in your application, is there an overlap in funding requested?

In the application, under “other sources of funding” there was no mention of the Neighbourhood Support Fund.

The Heritage Lottery request was down as £23k requested and £63k approved.

Ayton Hetitage newsletter has stated that work to remove the Ivy will commence on 29th August.

The directors had concerns related to a lack of clarity related to the funding and a lack of detail regarding precisely what the grant would be used for.  It was agreed that further details were required. Following the meeting, further information came to light, including the August edition of the Ayton Heritage Newsletter.

Decision.  After further consideration the directors agreed that this application could not be supported at this time.  It was further agreed to inform Ayton Heritage that should they wish to submit a further well-defined application, with a clear financial request and costings together with specific outcomes, we will of course give it full consideration.

1. PR Update
   * + - Directors to push grant applications within their own CC and other groups.
       - June 2021 was the last time we pushed for new directors. A new “Call for Directors” advert to be circulated to Social Enterprise Champer, BAVS, Community Leadership Partnership and Berwickshire News.
       - 2021 advert attached.
       - Facebook
       - SC now has admin access on Facebook page. Posts to start at the end of August and go up every Friday.
       - Outline of proposed posts attached.
2. Administrators Annual Pay Review

* Following recent discussions, the Board of Directors have agreed to increase the administrator's hourly pay rate and in future undertake an annual review of pay.

1. AOB

**Future meeting dates**

16th November 2022 – Lammermuir Community Council - TBC

15th February 2023 – Gavinton Village Hall - TBC

17th May 2023 – Preston Village Hall – TBC

August 2023 – Volunteer Hall, Duns - TBC