**BLACKHILL WINDFARM COMMUNITY FUND Ltd**

**Meeting of Directors, Wednesday 15th February 2023, Gavinton Village Hall, at 6.30**

**MINUTES**

1. Present – Keith Dickinson, Juliana Amaral, Sharon Cleghorn, James Robson, Tim Myer, Hazel Smith, Adam Prokopowicz
2. Apologies –
3. Declaration of interest – Juliana Amaral – BAVS
4. Approval of minutes from November 2022 – Approved
5. Applications – Update
* BF0238 - Gordon Community Sport Field – £2,000.00 – Awarded 17/12/2022
	1. Match funding along with internal funds raised has resulted in the purchase of the field going ahead.
* BF0239 – Berwickshire High School – Rejected – Letter sent 25/11/2022
* BF0240 – Eat Sleep Ride - £4,000.00 – Awarded 15/12/2022
* BF0241 – Ayton Heritage – Rejected – Letter sent 15/12/2022
* BF0242 – Berwickshire Swap – Invited to resubmit in February
* BF0243 – Sea The Change – Invited to resubmit in February
* BF0244 – LJ Dance Academy – Rejected – Letter sent 25/11/2022
* BF0245 – Duns Football Club - £3,252.00 – Awarded 15/12/2022
* BF0246 – DunsPlayFest - £5,000.00 – Awarded 15/12/2022
* BF0247 – Berwickshire Alliance - £2,922.00 – Awarded 17/12/2022
* BF0248 – Friends of Duns Primary School – Rejected – Letter sent 25/11/2022
* BF0249 – Community Cinema Gavinton/Gavinton Village Hall - £3,314.00 – Awarded 17/12/2022
1. New Applications – Bank Balance – 25/01/2023 - £49,108.14
* **BF0250** – BAVS - £2,000.00
* Looking to carry out an external evaluation of a Lottery Funded Project that aimed to rebuild community life post pandemic.
* JA declared an interest and left the room.
* Received award BF0233 at the end of August 2022
* Our funding guidelines state “…no group would be expected to apply for more than one grant in any financial year.”
* Seeking funds to hire a consultant to carry out a review. What is the benefit of the review?
* A project of this size should have a review built in.
* Funding is available for a final report however BAVS are looking to go a step further and analyse the findings to see what lessons can be learned.
* This is a strategic review rather than a more tangible project that BWCF like to support.
* Hard for BWCF to justify the funding and show the benefit to the community.
* BAVS are a great organisation with a huge benefit to the community.
* Have over £44k of unrestricted reserves.
* Rejected – BWCF have modest funds that are used to identify projects that impact our communities directly. Although this is a worthy activity it is not a mainstream benefit to our community. Along with the fact that BAVS received funding from BWCF 6 months ago, this application is not something that we can fund.
* **BF0252** – Berwickshire Swap - £1,491.67
* Looking to purchase storage solutions for garage space.
* Garages provided by Berwickshire Housing.
* Suggestion that palettes could also be used to raise boxes of the floor.
* Worthy community based organisation.
* Approved
* **BF0253** – Duns Tennis Club - £4,500.00
* Looking to replace the surround netting of the courts.
* Established in 1900s and a big part of the community.
* Netting at the tennis club was initially installed in 2001.
* They have newly established links with local primary and high schools and are also looking to boost adult membership.
* Showed they have thought how they make this sustainable, as well as using some of their own reserves.
* They have received funding from National Lottery Awards, Clubsport Berwickshire and the Rotary Club, Duns.
* This is a large amount of money but it will have a long lasting effect.
* Approved – Request a plaque to be positioned in the club house.
* **BF0254** – SWI - £1,000.00
* Looking to hold an Afternoon Tea Party to celebrate 100 years of the Berwickshire Federation SWI.
* Expecting they will have between 100-120 members attend the Afternoon Tea Party.
* SWI are a great organisation that bring lonely people together, build communities and give people a sense of purpose.
* Were very active throughout Covid.
* Approved.
* **BF0255** – Duns Community Nursery - £1,732.80
* Looking to purchase mats, sheets and strollers.
* Links Nursery, part of a larger organised and the only nursery in Duns, recently closed.
* A group of former users of Links have got together to ensure a nursery still exists in Duns.
* Committee is made up of parents and staff.
* Have applied to be a charitable organisation, SCIO.
* Why have they not applied to PACT?
* PACT has been dormant for a number of years, JR to speak to PACT.
* Approved - £2,000.00
1. Current Criteria for awards
	* + Torus Holistic Therapies applied for funding to subsidise treatments to enable the community to access their treatments at 70% reduced rate.
		+ They provide additional health care services that are not available from the NHS.
		+ The subsidised treatments are not means tested.
		+ THT is a business, not a community led organisation or a not-for-profit group with charitable aims therefore is not eligible for funding from BWCF.
		+ Lammermuir CC also received an application and have approved 60% of funding requested.
		+ An application from a community led project that needed the services of Torus Holistic Therapies, would be more appropriate and a better fit for our funding guidelines.
		+ Following the receipt of this application further discussion was had to review our current criteria.
		+ Current criteria are appropriate. We do not wish to change our community charitable based aims.
2. PR Update
	* + - International Women’s Day, 8th March – Shine a spotlight on women led projects that BWCF have funded.
			- Post “Call for Directors”
3. AOB
4. Dates of future meetings
* 17th May 2023 – Lammermuir Village Hall – AP to source meeting venue.
* 16th August 2023 – Volunteer Hall, Duns – TBC
* 15th November 2023 – Preston Village Hall – TBC
* 14th February 2024 – Gavinton Village Hall - TBC