

CRIEFF SUCCEEDS BID COMPANY LIMITED
Minute of a Meeting of the Board held on
Tuesday, 4th April 2017
Crieff Hydro, 6.30 p.m.

PRESENT: David Agnew (DA); Bob Anderson (BA); Scott Bennett (SB); Ailsa Campbell (ACa); Ann Cowan (ACo); Graham Donaldson, Chairman (GD); Anne Younger (AY)

ATTENDANCE: Neil Combe, BID Manager (NC); Jean Ann Scott Miller, Minutes Secretary (JASM)

APOLOGIES: Stewart Cassells; William Frame; Kate Graham; Stephen Leckie; Simon Pengelley

1. The Chairman extended a warm welcome. He thanked NC for his work on the website following its launch, and for handling some difficult comments on social media.

2. Previous Minutes

It was **PROPOSED** David Agnew **SECONDED** Anne Younger that the Minute of the Board meeting held on Tuesday, 7th February 2017 be approved, and it was then signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. BID Company

4.1 BID Office and Town Hall

- **VisitScotland** have vacated the building
- **Burgh Chairs** and **Monuments** remain in the basement
- Some **fixed furniture** remains
- **Building Warrant** approval awaited
- **Work scheduled** to include: ground floor toilet facilities – compliance with DDA (disability regulations); upgrade of electrics, including rewiring; new lighting; fire alarm installation; remodel upstairs toilet and cleaner's cupboard; roof repairs; paint and decorate window frames; new floor covering; stonework repairs
- **Roof repairs** expected to solve the issue of damp in and around the building
- **All fixed furniture** – counter, slat walls etc. – to be left in situ
- **Glass cabinet** immediately inside porch area to be removed
- **Fire alarm** panel plus one other electrical installation to be installed in porch – reducing potential space for touch screen facility. Essential to maintain clear access to stairs/office
- **Leaflet/Information dispenser** to be sited in porch
- **Basement** - no plans for any work
- **Touch screen.** NC in discussion with ADS – company providing hardware for the facility, chiefly interested in advertising opportunities. BID interest in providing

access to website. NC to continue discussion – siting of screen also crucial, with limited space available in porch area for requisite 40” screen

- **Re-pointing** of stonework also crucial
- **Lease and all related matters** to be reported to Crieff Common Good Fund Committee, for information, Wednesday, 26th April 2017
- **Making it Happen** sub-group and **NC** to monitor details of re-wiring etc. to meet BID requirements
- **Third Party Insurance** – responsibility to be established

4.2 Levy Payment Update – report tabled

- Further revenue collected following Sheriff Officers’ action
- Revised data base now available from PKC

4.3 Management Accounts

- Figures for February tabled – March figures to be available later in the week
- Reflect a satisfactory position

4.4 Budget 2016/17 - tabled

- Board should focus on full-year forecast figure
- If levy collected in full, Business Plan objectives could be met
- £12,000 additional PKC funding for 2015/16 now in place, but £15,000 due for 2016/17 unlikely to be available till next financial year
- Making it Happen sub-group to review figures and decide on any re-allocation
- Increase in revenue expected
- Budget to be signed off at next Board meeting (6th June 2017)

4.5 Levy Payer communications

- Remains an issue – some positive feedback coming through (response to recent info release on improved Broadband)
- Breakfast meeting/levy payers’ meeting to be arranged before end of April
- NC engaged in face-to-face discussions – some positive response

5. BID Business Plan

5.1 Website

- Work-place platform
- Generally working well, but concern over slow response through use of shared server – BA/NC to discuss
- Response faster on phone/tablet app
- Some concern over site maintenance – monitoring required

5.2 VisitScotland Growth Fund

- Discussions with VS allow room for optimism
- Any funding awarded not available till August

5.3 Big Event

- Positive meeting with local estate

- Event proposed for end-February/beginning-March 2018
- Decision essential by end April 2017
- NC to discuss further with PKC

Following further detailed discussion, it was **PROPOSED** Ailsa Campbell **SECONDED** Bob Anderson that the envisaged Big Event at Drummond Castle in February/March 2018 should be put out to tender. **AGREED – NC to progress**

5.4 Crieff Choral Group – Mozart Concert

- Letter of thanks received from Chairman
- CCG had received £1,000 direct funding + £1,000 in-kind support from VOLPA, reduced to £500. They had expressed concern re VOLPA's performance
- No increase in attendance
- General discussion on continued support for events – not cost effective for BID to support existing events unless these delivered significantly increased footfall and demonstrable benefit to levy payers
- Applicants still failing to recognise need to establish clear objectives, supported by viable marketing strategies
- BID should consider withdrawing support for external applications unless these met much stricter criteria, and should examine the alternative of promoting BID events – recognition that this would require more active participation of Directors
- Grants already agreed in current year would be closely monitored

6. Perth and Kinross Council – relationship

- General perception that PKC primarily concerned with promotion/development of Perth City
- “Trickle-down” effect of PKC bid for City of Culture still to be demonstrated
- Continued concern that PKC had recently dismissed, on a technicality, Crieff Hydro's major application
- Continued concern at reduction in additional PKC funding
- General agreement that BID should vigorously present Crieff's claims/needs/programme at all levels

Finally **AGREED** (1) that following discussion with Stephen Leckie, the Board should register with PKC their grave concern at the Council's recent decision on Hydro East; (2) that BID should approach all candidates in the forthcoming Local Government election, asking them to detail their support for Crieff and what they would do to improve the town and particularly the business sector

7. Crieff Community Trust – Report **NOTED**

8. Sunday Events/Christmas Planning – referred to sub-groups

9. AOCB

9.1 Board Membership

- Simon Pengelley had resigned as Chairman of Strathearn Artspace. **AGREED unanimously that he be invited to stay on the Board as a co-opted member**

- GD to issue a general letter to all levy payers inviting people to become involved with Crieff Succeeds, in particular our sub-groups, and perhaps looking to join the Board as a Director

9.2 Virtual Reality Tours

- ACo suggested that BID should investigate the promotion of this novel concept, under development at the University of Stirling
- General agreement that the academic team involved must first develop a commercial model

9.3 PKC Representatives

Councillors Cowan and Younger were not standing for re-election in May. The Chairman offered his own and the Board's very warm thanks and appreciation for their service on the BID Board and to the community, and wished them well.

10. Date of the Next Meeting – Tuesday, 6th June 2017, Crieff Hydro, 6.30 p.m.

There being no other competent business, the Meeting ended at 8.25 p.m.

Signed

Date