



Go Golspie Development Trust AGM
Tuesday 27th August 2024, 7pm at Fountain Road Hall

Attendees:

Amanda Macdonald (Chair), Richard Gale (Treasurer), Claire Gordon (Secretary), Jayne Gutteridge, Valerie Mackay, Marion Sutherland, Rose Shelley, Catherine Moodie (Development Manager).

9 members of the public were in attendance: Christine Ross, David Perry, Audrey Inkster, Mariya Bezkorovayna, Peter Allan, John Murray, Valerie Gale, Robert Inkster, Henrietta Marriott.

1. Welcome and Apologies

Amanda Macdonald welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for coming along. Apologies from Penny Macrae, Tessa Till and Tracey Campbell, were confirmed and recorded at this stage. Don't have a note of any other apologies.

2. Minutes of the 21/08/2023 AGM

The minutes of the last meeting, which was on 21st August 2023, were reviewed page by page. The minutes were then Proposed by Marion Sutherland and Seconded by Rose Shelley.

3. Matters arising

There were no new matters arising.

4 & 5 Chairperson Report & Secretary Report

Amanda Macdonald explained that the Chairperson Report and the Secretary Report were blended together for this AGM.

Go Golspie Development Trust has had another very busy year. The YMCA building has been opened and has had several different groups and clubs using the building, from the Golspie Hub to the Youth Club and the Fishertown project.

The community car has continued to provide an essential service to appointments locally and Inverness. The minibus and Midas training is kept busy. This benefits our village with our volunteer drivers, and also other communities throughout Sutherland.

The Mystery Tours, Lunch Club, and Walk and Talk activities bring good company and joy to many people. Social interaction is an important element for Go Golspie as a charity, to provide this to the less mobile and the elderly.

Fountain Road Hall continues to provide hall facilities for lots of groups and individuals, vaccine clinics, markets, and long sessions. Golspie Community Food has been moved to the FRH, which now runs a Community Larder open three times during the week. This was previously run by Sutherland Care Forum, but with the sudden and sad passing of the lady who ran it, Go Golspie were asked to take over the running of it. There is now a smaller food share at the YMCA building where people can access food items when they are passing by. The pantry is accessible 24/7 which is located behind the service point.

There is new equipment being added soon to the park at the top of the village and following this and general refurbishing, both Playparks will be greatly improved. These will continue to provide fun and bring smiles to the young children, local and visitors.

The Flood Defence project is moving forward and is now involving several different groups in the village to try and improve the ways of protecting our village from flooding. Golspie Flood Action Group has been set up to look at the bigger picture so we are now only taking forwards the capital infrastructure option between the Pier and Seaforth House.

There has been a Caretaker/ Development Officer appointed to Fountain Road Hall to look after Community Food, assist with the bookings and with general upkeep of the building.

To start the Golspie Community Place Plan a survey was carried out to update priorities and make sure we remain community- led in the services and work we deliver. This is now being taking forwards by the Community Council.

This year has been one which has seen a few changes, some challenging and also productive.

With our Trustees pulling together, we continue to be able to provide help and assistance to the local community. We would like to thank all those who continue to volunteer and support us.

Amanda asked those present to read through the hard copies handed out and said any questions would be answered after that. No questions were asked.

6 Financial Report

Richard Gale referred to the Financial Report and announced that it had been a really successful year as can be seen from the accounts, with the year end figure of £150,477 to be carried forward into next year. Of that figure £25,402 was Unrestricted Funds and £125,075 Restricted Funds. Richard praised Catherine Moodie for her hard work bringing in the number of good grant awards which help to keep Go Golspie Development Trust (GGDT) going. Other work carried out to aid the sustainability of GGDT brought in £35,836, this was due to fundraising events, the hiring of Fountain Road Hall and the YMCA Building, Community bus/car hire and MiDAS training. Richard thanked James Pryde, Peter Allan and the volunteer drivers for the community transport service provided. GGDT is the only provider of MiDAS Training in the North of Scotland, Richard thanked Peter Allan for providing it. Richard confirmed that GGDT is in a good financial state going forward into 2024/2025. No questions were asked.

7 Appointment of Financial Examiners

As there were no other proposals for the appointment of Financial Examiners it was agreed that GGDT would continue with the current Financial Examiners, Mackay & Co, Chartered Accountants.

At this point Richard Gale announced that he was standing down from the Board of Trustees but first wanted to say that the strength of the Board over the last year had been fantastic and that Amanda had done a really good job keeping everything together. He would always be happy to support GGDT if needed.

8 Resolution to change the Constitution

Catherine Moodie explained the Resolution to change the Constitution. There were 2 changes proposed:-

- i. Changes to GGDT's purpose - Currently the Constitution states its purpose as 'The advancement of citizenship or community development (including rural or urban regeneration)'. During the year GGDT had been asked to take on Community Food in Golspie, also more is being done with Recreational Facilities as both Fountain Road Hall and the YMCA Building are open and running.

GGDT had applied to and had received approval from OSCR to add in 'the relief of poverty and the provision of recreational facilities.' A vote by a show of hands of full members declared this change passed and accepted.

- ii. Change to the Number of Trustees – this does not need approval from OSCR.

Number of Trustees to increase from 10 to 12.

A vote by a show of hands of full members declared this change passed and accepted.

9 Election of Committee

Amanda handed over to Christine Ross (VGS) who explained that under the current Constitution all Trustees step down and stand for re-election. The current Trustees are Amanda Macdonald, Jayne Gutteridge, Penny Macrae, Valerie Mackay, Rose Shelley, Marion Sutherland, Richard Gale and Claire Gordon (co-opted). Marion and Richard were stepping down altogether, Christine thanked them both very much for all their work particularly Richard who started GGDT. Christine asked for nominations for Trustees. Richard proposed Audrey Inkster, Claire Gordon seconded it. Richard proposed Tessa Till, Claire seconded it. The existing Trustees were re-elected en masse, proposed by Marion Sutherland and seconded by Richard Gale. Claire Gordon was re-elected as a co-opted member, proposed by Audrey Inkster, seconded by Valerie Gale.

Christine advised that for future elections that only $\frac{1}{3}$ of the Trustees step down on a rotational basis, the longest serving, but still be eligible for re-election. This will be discussed at the next Board meeting and put to the members at the next AGM.

10 Any other current business

Amanda thanked all the volunteers for all their hard work. Valerie Pryde is stepping down from tending the flowers at FRH, but another volunteer will be taking over from her. Amanda personally thanked Richard Gale and Marion Sutherland for all their hard work and presented them with gifts from GGDT. Marion thanked Amanda for stepping up to be the Chairperson and doing a very good job.

Amanda thanked the Board Members and Staff for being a good supportive team.

Date of next meeting

A date for a Board meeting and to appoint Office Bearers to be arranged.

Amanda thanked everyone and the meeting declared closed at 7.20pm.

Minuted by Jayne Gutteridge