**Draft Minutes of TBI Admin (Trustees) meeting held online on 25 April 2023**

**Present Julian Paren (Convenor), Julie Gibson, Peter Moffatt, Martin Sherring, Anne Thomas, also Laura Donnelly for part of meeting**

**Apologies Rose Grant**

**Minute taker Peter (swapped with Martin) Next minute taker Anne**

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| **Item** | **Discussion** | **Action** |
| **Minutes of meeting**  **28 February 2023** | Accepted |  |
| **2. HC Waste Partnership** | Laura (acting Project Officer) presented a report outlining project activities. These included a first Climate Café, developing a share and repair directory, recycling collection points at repair cafes and markets, possible link with ILM electrical recycling, a household food waste challenge programme and work on community composting including possible visit to a site in Fort Augustus and event at Rosemarkie Beach Café. Laura had contacted Muir Hub about the repair café on 20 May and possible film nights and swap shop. An expanded repair café / Zero Waste gala was planned for Avoch 24 June. Laura and Rose had knocked on doors in Avoch, talking about waste and over-consumption. Laura was working with BI Repair Café, the Good Food Partnership, Cromarty Green Plan and Black Isle Food Festival working group, and had attended meetings and workshops on various topics.  Laura was thanked for her report and left the meeting |  |
| **3. Matters arising from previous minutes** | **Visitor map launch** This tourism-orientated event on 14 March was well attended, and Julian's work on the preparation of the new map was acknowledged. Funding for the event was provided by the H&I Climate Hub.  **Far North Way** VisitScotland was criticised over the definition and signing of this route.  **Community Learning Exchange** was left as a possibility for the future.  **TBI visit to Forres** Peter was asked to continure trying to arrange this.  **Market managers' pay** Martin reported that the changes agreed at the previous meeting had been implemented.  **Regenerate our Green Space** It was noted that this Fortrose and Rosemarkie volunteer organisation was looking at the possibilities of obtaining land for a multi-use community building in Fortrose, a project which could be of interest to TBI.  **Fair Trade** A local (Inverness?) group had been approached about possibly providing information at markets, but no active response had been received. | **PM** |
|  | **ITEMS FOR DECISION** |  |
| **4. Black Isle Place Plan** | It was noted that the planned first stage village consultation events had been completed. It was still possible to respond online until 15 May, or by going online as if to respond, to see the views expressed at the village events. It was agreed that a TBI position on the Plan should be formulated for the next stage of the consultation, and that TBI rrepresentatives?? should meet with Becky Richmond, Plan Project Manager, and Nick Wright, planning consultant. | **??** |
| **5. HC new Local Transport Strategy** | This was open for consultation until 29 May. Julian emphasised the importance of this consultation, and agreed to write a piece for the newsletter inviting those interested to join him in preparing a TBI response. Peter would publicise the consultation on the website. | **JP, PM** |
|  | **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION / INFORMATION / UPDATE** |  |
| **6. Markets** | Possible resumption of Fortrose market was discussed. It was noted that Councillor Sarah Atkin supported this, and agreed that Martin should offer TBI support, if Councillor Atkin could find a way to recruit local volunteers willing to commit to re-starting and maintaining the market. | **MS** |
| **7. Highland Good Food Partnership and Highland Food Strategy** | Martin had submitted a report noting that The Good Food Nation Act requires each Scottish local authority and NHS board to prepare a food plan. A meeting was arranged for 2nd May, involving HC, NHS Highland, HIE, NFUS and Scottish Crofting Federation to explore a proposal that HGFP should facilitate the preparation of an **Integrated Food Strategy for the Highlands**, to meet the Good Food Nation Act requirements for both the Council and the NHS Board.  HGFP's employed co-ordinator was leaving at the end of June, and her replacement would be delayed, and the strategic direction of the partnership reviewed, pending development of the Highland Food Strategy. |  |
| **8. Website upgrade** | This was still suffering delay, and little progress was expected until the autumn. It was agreed that Peter should contact Jamie Pond at Plexus with a firm request that he start building the site by a specific date in September. | **PM** |
| **9. Avoch-Munlochy Active travel route** | A briefing note sent to unspecified 'stakeholders' was subjected to severe criticism by TBI's representatives Anne and Julian for being released without TBI being notified, and for misrepresenting TBI's and consultants Pell Frischmann's work in conducting public consultation and attempting to engage with the landowners holding up progress. The council have offered to engage in *'a partnership with Transition Black Isle and the Landowners to*  *work together to deliver a route . . . through negotiation'*, but excluding the Munlochy to Drumderfit section. |  |
| **10. Membership** | Applications received from Alison Fraser and Maru Fraser were approved. |  |
| **11. Food & growing** | Julie had submitted a report with Potato Day follow-up information and a profit estimate of £3000. An interim reprint of the growing guide had been completed, and it was agreed that it would be priced at £12. |  |
| **12. Farmer clusters** | The HGFP report referred to *'a research project to identify opportunities for neighbouring farmers to collaborate on issues of common concern'* currently in progress. |  |
| **13. Treasurer's report** | Martin reported a satisfactory financial position, noting that underspend on the Waste Partnership could be used to provide outside expertise for specific projects, and that Laura's contract as acting Project Officer would be extended until September. |  |
| **14. Newsletter** | Anne noted that the forthcoming newsletter might be shorter than usual owing to her restricted typing ability following a bicycle accident, and she would be glad of some help in preparing it. |  |
| **15. Jo Mackenzie - Kessock Equine Vets** | Possible volunteers. Jo was a neighbour of Peter's, who might be interested in the future but not at the moment. Peter had been approached at Potato Day by a young lady called Jan from Kessock Equine Vets, and would make further enquiries. | **PM** |
| **A.O.C.B.** |  |  |
| **'Thrive' course review** | Martin suggested that it would be useful at the next meeting to review this online course run by Transition Together, which most of the trustees attended in February and March. |  |
| **Home Energy Scotland contact** | In response to interest from Home Energy Scotland Anne had suggested HES might take stalls at our markets or repair cafes. |  |

**Future meetings** Tuesday 30 May. Mode / Venue and subsequent meeting to be decided.