

## Hill of Fiddes Community Fund Minutes –11<sup>th</sup> May 2022

The meeting was called to order by Susan Watt at 1900 hrs via Microsoft Teams meeting. This meeting was carried out during the COVID-19 pandemic and therefore a face to face meeting was not possible.

### PRESENT:

Susan Watt (Chair), Nicola Strachan (Secretary), Adrian Tuckwell, Calum Davidson (Treasurer), Willie Grant, Laura MacArthur, Dave Hancock



**APOLOGIES:** Jon Priddy (Ventient), Colin Duncan (Udny Community Council), Eric Buchan (vote in absentia), Janet Jones

### MINUTES OF 9<sup>th</sup> February 2022:

Review previous meeting minutes – Agreed as correct.

### MATTERS ARISING:

Susan Watt welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no matters arising. Nicky Strachan was thanked for writing up the minutes and various work undertaken.

### VENTIENT ENERGY UPDATE

Jon Priddy was unable to attend the meeting and sent his apologies. He expressed his thanks to the committee for their hard work. He aims to attend the next meeting.

### APPLICATIONS:

The following applications were received this month. All applicants had provided additional information to support their applications. All groups were informed of the result following the meeting.

The following applications were discussed:

Ref	Description	Group	Awarded	Votes
123	Solar Panels Inverter	Udny Station Community Association	£500	8 approved 0 declined Award granted
124	Wheelchair Access	Meldrum Academy Community Garden	£1000	8 approved 0 declined Award granted
125	SMART TV	Cultercullen Primary	£2788	8 approved 0 declined Award declined
126	SUP Training	Newburgh Windsurf Club	£1000	6 approved 2 declined (EB, WG) Award granted
		<u>Total Awarded</u>	£5288	

Newburgh Windsurf Club – During the meeting it was confirmed that HMRC would define this type of training as a capital investment and as such this ensured that the bid met the requirements of the constitution of the group in that funding was for a capital investment for a project that although not in the defined fund region is a resource that can be used by people within the region.

All other bids received met the funding criteria for the group and were unanimously approved.

A late bid was received on the day of the meeting from Foveran Primary School for a significant investment in their library. Due to the size of the application (in excess of £5000) and the late nature of the application it was decided to invite them to the next meeting to provide further information on their application.

Subsequent to this meeting Meldrum Academy Community Garden notified the committee that they were awarded £1000 by SSEN after their application to this fund was submitted. They requested that this money now be used to further improve wheelchair access to their garden. An on-line vote was taken of the committee members, with 7 voting in favour of the change to the application and no objections received. The project was awarded.

**CHAIRPERSON REPORT (S Watt)**

Susan Watt thanked everyone for attending via Teams and for their efforts in supporting the committee during the past year.

Susan Watt provides copies of these minutes to Foveran Community Council following each meeting.

Susan Watt expressed how good it was to see an increase in bids from a variety of organisations. Posters have been put up promoting the fund. Nicky Strachan continues to update the Facebook page.

**TREASURERS REPORT (C Davidson)**

Calum updated the committee that the current balance of the fund is £17, 681.65 with the next payment pending. This total was taken prior to this meeting and any funds being distributed.

The committee queried the levels of payments received from Ventient as the accounts indicated that the amounts received were decreasing which is contrary to the agreement with Ventient. Susan Watt is to seek further information from Ventient to further clarify this.

**PAYMENT OF Domain Fees**

The committee approved the payment of the domain fees of £28.78 (Project 127). Susan Watt thanked Adrian Tuckwell for his work on the web site.

**AOCB** – Laura MacArthur took the opportunity to thank the committee for the recent funding provided to Cultercullen School. They held a parent event recently to showcase their new outdoor equipment and this was a great success. This investment has made a big difference to the school for which they would like to offer their thanks.

**MEETING CLOSE**

**NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 31st August 2022 at 1900 hrs via Teams– applications to be submitted by 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2022. This meeting will be the AGM.**

**Applications Submission**

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2022  
Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2022

**HOFS Meeting Date**

Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022  
Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022