

Hill of Fiddes Community Fund AGM– 31st August 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, Eric Buchan, Calum Davidson, Willie Grant, Janet Jones, Alison Gagne, Dave Hancock, Jon Priddy (Ventient)

APOLOGIES: Laura MacArthur, Colin Duncan,

MINUTES OF 4th May 2022:

Review previous meeting minutes – Agreed as correct.

MATTERS ARISING:

Susan Watt welcomed everyone to the meeting. In particular, she welcomed Jon Priddy of Ventient Energy.

Susan Watt had sent an email to Ventient Energy in relation to payments being index linked. This was only completed just prior to the meeting and there has been no response yet. Jon Priddy will look into this and provide feedback for the next meeting.

VENTIENT ENERGY UPDATE

Jon Priddy discussed how the fund is administered and indicated that although Ventient Energy are interested in knowing the fund is providing funds to groups they do not have an influence on the types of projects approved. He was pleased to see the variety of projects proposed at this 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	Application	Votes	Decision
128	Planters	Cultercullen Community Park (Sheena McVean)	£1000	9 declined 0 approved	Declined due to lack of matched funding.
129	Tents and Cooking Sets	1 st Newburgh Scouts (Chris Proud)	£770 of £1120	9 approved 0 declined	Awarded
130	Shed	Foveran School Parent Council (Rachel McClintock)	£500 of £640	9 approved 0 declined	Awarded
131	Library Books	Foveran School (Jamie Ferguson)	£2008 of £2008	Amended application of £500 8 approved 0 declined 1 abstained (AG)	£500 awarded
132	Library Furniture	Foveran School (Jamie Ferguson)	£5542.16 of £5700	0 Approved 8 declined 1 abstained (AG)	Declined due to size of bid and match funding.
133	CCTV Equipment	Newburgh and Ythan Community Council (SCIO) (Ron MacDonald)	£2995 of £5991	0 Approved 9 Declined	Declined as further information required in relation to the use of CCTV. Questions sent to Ron MacDonald for consideration.

134	Cooking Equipment	Cultercullen School	£1809 of £2429.27	8 approved 0 declined 1 abstained (AG)	Awarded
135	Sink	Udny Station Playgroup	£625 of £625	0 approved 9 declined	Declined on the basis of no confirmed matched funding and lack of information. No one present at the meeting to discuss issues. Feedback provided to playgroup
136	Rugs and Laptop Programmes	Udny Station Playgroup	£230 of £230	0 approved 9 declined	Declined due to lack of information about the bid. Feedback provided to playgroup.
137	Loose Parts Play	Udny Station Playgroup	£498 of £498	0 approved 9 declined	Declined due to lack of information about the bid. Feedback provided to playgroup.
		Total Awarded	£3579.00		

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 explained that the committee this year had provided £19,394 to local groups and causes. Mrs Watt and Mrs Strachan will attend the Foveran Community Council meeting on the last Wednesday of September 2022 to provide feedback on how the funds have been distributed. There was also an invite from Udny Community Council to attend their next meeting in September.

Mrs Watt led a discussion on the importance of considering each bid on its merits and the requirement to include matched funding. Recently more and more applications do not include matched funding. In light of current economic forecasts for the country the committee is aware that the need to provide funding to groups may increase and as such matched funding and the proportion of each bid that is matched should be considered fairly.

TREASURERS REPORT and Adoption of Accounts:

Susan Watt presented the audited accounts to the committee (attached). The committee was urged to encourage community groups that they were aware of or in contact with to apply for funding.

The accounts have been audited by L McKenzie and have been approved as accurate. No questions were raised, and the accounts were adopted. Mrs McKenzie is happy to be the Independent Financial Examiner for the next financial year.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

All existing committee members agreed to remain on the committee and this was unanimously approved.

The following roles were agreed:

Chairperson: Susan Watt
Treasurer: Calum Davidson
Secretary: Nicky Strachan

AOCB

No items for consideration were raised.

MEETING CLOSE

All members of the committee were to encourage local groups to apply for funding for projects based within the community or that provide facilities that benefit members of the community.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 9th November 2022 at 1900 hrs at Cultercullen Primary School – applications to be submitted by 30th October 2022

The following proposed dates for 2023 were put forward

Applications Submission

Sunday 5th February 2023

Sunday 7th May 2023

Sunday 20th August 2023

Sunday 5th November 2023

HOFS Meeting Date

Wednesday 15th February 2023

Wednesday 17th May 2023

Wednesday 31st August 2023 (AGM)

Wednesday 16th November 2023