

BVT AGM 26th June 2019 19:30 to 22:00

Attendees:

Members: Fiona Harvie, Keith Taylor, Steph Taylor, Emma Galloway, Mark Galloway, Josephine Bisacre, Val Reed, Ian Hynd, Rupert Jenkins, Mike Molleson, Lynn Molleson, Caroline Hamilton, Jill Gillard, Ann Silverleaf, Nigel Gillard, Richard McLeod, Alan Agers.

Non-Members: May Zhang

Apologies:

No Apologies were received

1. Welcome and apologies

Keith Taylor welcomed the attendees to the meeting

2. Chairman's Remarks:

Keith Taylor, expressed his enjoyment from his involvement in the BVT. There have been challenges and opportunities that have led to many different projects over the years some of which will be discussed later tonight.

Keith expressed his thanks to the organisations that provide funding allowing us to employ some staff. In particular the funding from Harlaw Hydro enables us to maintain our staff. We get funding from other sources often associated with specific projects. For example, Edinburgh Airport funded the replacement of the bees, BVT is now providing advice to the airport on siting bees on their land. Scotmid provided some funding for the Malleny Gardening project, Cala Homes are providing money to the community chest fund.

3. Presentation of annual accounts:

Josephine presented the accounts for this year; however, the accounts still need to be signed off which will be done at the next board meeting.

Keith explained that carry a reasonable reserve to ensure continuity for our employees in the event that other funding streams are challenged

4. Agreement to verify the accounts:

Fiona Harvie proposed and Lynn Molleson seconded that the accounts are accepted.

Mike Molleson proposed and Jill Gillard seconded that Gordon Maver is be appointed to verify the accounts

5. Election of directors:

To be sorted at next directors meeting

6. Reports:

10 years of the BVT: Lynn presented a brief history of the trust. In July 2009 the BVT became a company limited by guarantee primarily to run the farmers market. The Energy Group from the BVT became Harlaw Hydro with a view of providing an income for the trust and provide money for local community grants.

Emma Galloway presented on the Farmers Market: Now using monthly themes to encourage people to the market, this year we have had increased numbers of people. The Farmers Market provides an important social function and providing community cohesion. This year we also wanted to show people what happens at the market so a video has been prepared this was shown at the meeting.

Val presents the Scarecrow Trail. 35 scarecrows were on display this year done by a variety of individuals and groups. This was advertised at the Gala day where several lots of straw were distributed. Over 600 people voted on the scarecrows

Josephine presented on the work of the Friends of Main street. This year the group worked with local school children. The Group has been assessed by Keep Scotland Beautiful and have achieved a good level already. Hanging baskets have been added to the street. Current work is being done to get a sign installed to explain the work of the farmers market.

Emma gave an update on Harlaw House: BVT is undertaking a smaller lead project to look at the heritage of the building. We are also working at possible solutions to improve access by working on parking and alternative access via foot and bike. While Edinburgh Council is looking to rent the building commercially BVT believe that there is significant investment needed to upgrade the building.

Malleny House Garden: Anticipating that the lease will be able to be extended. The garden is thriving. This year also looking at possibly using the Janitors House at Balerno Hydro to start growing and working with children who would benefit from these activities.

Fiona BPIP: started with some fundraising to improve the playpark by the primary school. This project was not successful while it is a good idea there is not taken up by the community. The plan is to use the funds raised to get 2 swings installed in the existing playpark and the project will be warped up.

Emma provided a brief summary of the grant distributed by the community chest this year.

7. Talk “The Sex Life of the Honey Bee” by “Rupert Jenkins”:

Rupert Jenkins provided an interested presentation.

8. AOCB:

None