

Kennett Community Land Trust

Trustee Board Meeting – Minutes – 04.04.19

Location: 22 Station Road, Kennett

Present:

Robin Swanson	(RS)
Frank Danks	(FD)
Paul Swanson	(PS)
Tim Fody	(TF)
Lynne McCallum	(LMc)
Geoff Grieves	(GG)
Peter Johnson	(PJ)

The meeting was opened at 1858 by the chair (RS) who welcomed all present and thanked everyone for their attendance.

The minutes of the previous Trustee Board meeting on had been circulated to all trustees prior to this meeting for review. Those minutes were reviewed and accepted as a true record by all who attended. The minutes were signed accordingly.

A letter from Kennett Parish Council was received by the Secretary on 22.03.19 following a Parish Council meeting on 12.03.19. Three Trustees had been present at the Parish Council meeting and were able to provide further insight into the issues raised by the Parish Council. A copy of this correspondence had been circulated to all Trustees for review prior to the meeting. The content of the letter was discussed in depth and an appropriate response agreed. The chair committed to draft a written response for circulation to Trustees for final approval before a formal reply.

Action: RS

Correspondence had been received from seven members from three family groups requesting that the Trust's support for the Dane Hill Farm development be re-confirmed by a further membership vote. This was in response to a comprehensive update on the status of the Outline Planning Application to the membership on 06.03.19. This followed a majority decision made at the Trustee Board meeting on 01.03.19 which is quoted as follows:

"It was then decided by a majority vote that the membership should be advised of the current situation by means of a formal update which would also emphasise the advice to make contact with the Board if further clarification or reassurance was necessary on an individual basis. The Board committed to react to concerns raised by the membership and respond accordingly."

As a period of a month had elapsed since the update with a total of seven requests for a review vote which represented less than 5% of the eligible membership, it was agreed that this number did not represent a significant change of position by the membership and that no further action on this was necessary. It was agreed that a response in writing to the seven members would be drafted, circulated to the Trustees for approval and sent to the members involved by the Secretary.

Action: RS

The Secretary provided an update on the Trust's financial status. The current balance stands at £4577.01 with an outstanding invoice for NCLTN subscription fee for 2019-2020 of £150.00. The Secretary requested Board approval to pay this invoice which was granted unanimously.

The Annual General Meeting is now planned for 1900 on Wednesday 01.05.19 at Kennett Village School. The meeting is overdue and must be completed by 04.05.19. The proposed agenda had been circulated for review prior to the meeting and was discussed and all items confirmed as acceptable. A mandatory 14 days' notice to the membership is required by 17.04.19.

Action: RS

The Board had reviewed a draft Memorandum of Understanding received recently from ECDC which detailed the future legal aspects of the Trust's involvement in the KGV development. It was agreed that, with one minor change, the draft covered the Trust's requirements and that the Memorandum of Understanding should be accepted and moved on to the next stage.

The Chair (RS) advised that ECDC had held a meeting with the landowner to explore the possibility of measures to protect the remainder of the KGV site from future speculative development after the completion of the proposed development. The landowner had been receptive to the proposal and although there remain issues with an agreed time frame it is likely that additional protection measures will be forthcoming. The Board agreed that this issue should remain a high priority and a high profile maintained.

The Outline Planning Application for the KGV development will be reviewed by the ECDC Planning Committee on 24.04.19. The Trust will attend to provide a verbal presentation of the Trust's position and support for the development. L.Mc committed to deliver this.

Action: L.Mc

A.O.B.

A recent series of articles in the Ely Standard newspaper supporting a local protest group's campaign against the KGV development and ECDC was discussed. The platform for this publicity would appear to target District Councillors involved in the Planning approval as the publication is Ely based and there is a very limited circulation locally. It is obvious that the editor of the publication is not interested in providing any balance to the reports and is clearly influenced by the protest group's dubious publicity and misleading rhetoric.

As the Trust has so far refrained from entering into a debate over the development it was discussed that this position should perhaps change and that the development, the advantages to the local community and the Trust's involvement be highlighted by means of various platforms to provide a balance which to date has been lacking.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 2030.

F. Danks

KCLT Secretary