

**Minutes of Meeting of Board of Trustees Held on Wednesday 10th April 2024
18.00 hrs Kirkintilloch Town Hall**

Present:

Alan Wright	(AW)	Independent Director (Vice Chair)
Greig Russell	(GR)	Independent Director
Ian Gallagher	(IG)	Partner Director
Jimmy Watson	(JW)	Independent Director
Lu McNair	(LM)	Independent Director
Maeve Kilcoyne	(MK)	Company Secretary
Mark Grant	(MG)	General Manager
Sandy Marshall	(SM)	Independent Director
Stewart MacDonald	(SND)	Partner Director
Vaughan Moody	(VM)	Partner Director

Apologies:

Alix Mathieson	(AM)	Partner Director
Craig Bell	(CB)	Trade Union Director
Jim Gibbons	(JG)	Partner Director (Chair)

In Attendance:

Fiona Thom	(FT)	Active Schools Manager
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Item	Subject	Action
1.	AW welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2.	Apologies As above.	
3.	Declaration of Director's interests None.	
4.	Minutes of Meeting of 7th February 2024 and Matters Arising Minutes were proposed by AW and seconded by LM.	
5.	General Manager Recruitment MG gave an overview of the internal candidate recruitment process. GR said that a lot of Trusts have used an assessment centre and that this has been useful. AW added that this is a very tight timescale if has to be advertised externally after the internal process. MG said that it could be advertised externally very quickly if there was no successful candidate through the internal recruitment process.	

Item	Subject	Action
	<p>JW said internal recruitment in the first place is a good idea and asked if MG could be part of the recruitment panel, it was confirmed that the current GM would not be involved.</p>	
6.	<p>Active Schools Update</p> <p>AW welcomed FT to the meeting. FT said that she wished to provide a current overview of the Active Schools data for East Dunbartonshire.</p> <p>A copy of the presentation slides were provided to the board, which detailed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background on Active Schools aims and objectives • Examples of East Dunbartonshire data taken from sportscotland MySport Online system • Project highlighted- Inclusive Dance <p>JW raised a question around the types of activities, which showed football as the most popular; team should be focussing on the minority sports. FT agreed, and confirmed the AS team focus on areas that need support as they are more likely to engage those not currently active.</p> <p>GR asked if the activities are on EDLC sites or schools. FT said this data was majority of activity was based in schools.</p> <p>FT highlighted the importance of volunteers and the training courses provided are free for those volunteering. SMD agreed and said that at Twechar Primary School he had met Innes Paterson (ASC) who offered good training which was free, and qualifications were gained by volunteers. He asked if the team link with Duke of Edinburgh Awards. FT confirmed they have in the past, but the leadership pathway looks different in each secondary school. FT added that volunteers sometimes go onto paid work and potentially fill the gap in the workforce for coaches. FT added that active schools use a small number of paid staff e.g. sports development coaches and that this cost is not passed onto the kids.</p> <p>LN asked how the team use data to target pupils. FT explained that the ASCs will work with the SMT within schools to identify those who are not taking part, and then provide targeted sessions that would engage those young people.</p> <p>FT said that 2 of the team have a focus on additional support needs, and support/lead the team on this work.</p> <p>IG said that he agrees with the expanding minority sports. FT highlighted the new Sports Inclusion Forum, based at Woodland View School, which is managed by AS and brings together schools' staff, clubs and EDLCT/EDC staff to develop further opportunities for pupils with ASN.</p> <p>IG said that everyone should be able to access opportunities within their local area.</p> <p>GR said that it is not always about numbers it is about impact.</p> <p>AW thanked FT for the presentation and the enthusiasm that her team provides this service.</p>	

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7.	<p>Digital Strategy/Web Site Update</p> <p>MG advised that it is a 3-year plan. SMD said that a few years ago we were digitising the archive's collection and was this done? MG confirmed it was although the number of visits and purchases had been lower than expected. SMD asked if the 3D printer is still available to the public, MG said he would check this.</p> <p>AW said strategies are good but what about KPIs, how do we know if it is working. FT said KPIs were set, detailed in the initial implementation plan, and these were focussed on improving processes, creating a new Digital Communications Officer (DCO) post, and provision of a new website. These have been achieved, and now Alex MacKay (DCO) is in post new KPIs will be developed that will be based on analytics, reducing channels, so more focus, KPI s exist but will become more refined as work progresses. FT said that by the next meeting hopefully we will have some more information. AW thanked FT.</p>	MG
8.	<p>Pitches Strategy</p> <p>MG said the Pitches Strategy is scheduled to go to the Council's June 20th meeting.</p> <p>SMD asked if there is any progress in getting schools working together with us. MG said that there is a cost difference with schools due to the management arrangements within the PPI schools.</p> <p>SMD asked about 9 asides and if there is any scope to provide this. MG said this is taking place now that we have Lennoxton and High Park available. So 9 asides provision spans Huntershill, Merkland and High Park.</p> <p>GR said that the increasing demand for girl's football impacted on the overall demand for access to pitches.</p> <p>Grass pitch recovery rate is approximately 20% due to the work that has to be put into maintenance. MG added training is not allowed on grass pitches.</p> <p>MG added that the Pitches Strategy report will be presented to the board at a future date.</p>	
9.	<p>Finance Update</p> <p>JW asked about EDC spend and MG said it is around £330 million and that we are a small percentage of their spend via the management fee.</p> <p>IG asked for clarity on 24/25 figures and MK said that currently 24/25 expenditure budgets exceed income budgets by £24.2k and therefore a deficit budget for this amount is in place.</p> <p>Free swim and gym scheme has increased numbers and we are also hoping to grow our main membership as there won't be a 100 percent uptake following the free promotion.</p> <p>IG asked for clarity about the option for families 0 – 5 always been free, and that there is no offer currently in place for primary school children. IG asked that given that we have increased our income charges by 10 percent what</p>	

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	<p>does this mean for families so that kids don't miss out, MG said that there has been couple of enquiries in relation to ap that and that for families who swim more than twice a week it is worth getting a gym DD membership, this is the same for adults i.e. if you use something more than twice a week the DD membership is more cost effective. (the same idea as the gym)</p> <p>IG asked about the reduction in employer superannuation budget. MG advised that EDLC would only benefit for the two-year reduction period. IG said what would the hierarchy be if we have to cut back. MG advised it would involve increasing income, decreasing utilities, savings options would need to be presented to the board, previously this has happened, and these were highlighted to the Council and the Council may or may not find some options palatable.</p> <p>AW asked if finance could be 30 mins for next meeting.</p>	MK
10.	<p>High Park 3G Opening</p> <p>MG said he was at the opening and that it was a great success. This will be a great provision of sport over the next 10 years.</p>	
11.	<p>Bearsden Hub/Library Closure</p> <p>MG said that Bearsden will be closed for at least a year. An update will be shared at the next board meeting. He advised that the usage is increasing for Milngavie and Westerton and that click and collect is getting used also. A full range of digital services are available online.</p>	
12.	<p>AOCB - Date of next meeting – 12th June 2024</p> <p>AW thanked MG and wished him well for the future. MG said thankyou to senior managers and to the Board for all their support over the last 13 years.</p>	

Signed:



Date 12 June 2024