

Minutes of the Trust Council held on Saturday 7th November at 11am by electronic means

1. Welcome and Apologies

Attendees: Chris Sims, Chris Bolt, Terry Mundy, David Copley, Peter Turvey, Rob Dunton, Graham Snook, Mike Bailey.

In Attendance: Rob Dean

Apologies: David Fearn

2. Minutes of the last meeting held on 6th July 2020

These were agreed and will be published on the website.

3. Health and safety

Mike Bailey updated Council, no issues to report. A Health and Safety Committee meeting is scheduled for November 19th.

4. Finance Report

4.1 Chris Bolt briefed council on the financial position as at 31st October.

The overall cash position for the Trust at the end of October remains slightly worse than the Mat projections, excluding the £50K legacy receipt.

Variances in Trust budgets in October include:

- Savings in Central salaries and office running costs
- Receipt by Crofton of a £4K contractor contribution for the use of the car park during November and reduced direct costs.

4.2 Mike Bailey to be added to the list of signatories for the bank mandate.

4.3 The Enterprise cash position remains better than the May forecast, and no further drawdown of the loan facility, other than replacing the £40K emergency loan, has been required. However, all 'boat' branches (including Bruce) showed negative variances in the month, and ongoing costs make it more likely that the financial positions will deteriorate further by the end of the year.

4.4 Current projection of the end of the year cash position for the Group remains around £450K including the £50K legacy receipt. This is well in excess of the £200K target for free reserves under the revised Reserves Policy agreed in July.

4.5 Grants

Two applications have been submitted:

- Wolfson Foundation: this is restricted to Crofton (given that the Foundation made a contribution to the OCS project). This was not for a specific amount or project but is intended to provide support to reflect the impact of Covid, and the application was supported by projections of the impact of the pandemic on Crofton finances in 2020. A decision is expected this month.
- Wiltshire Community Foundation: this is a grant of up to £15K specifically for heritage projects in Wiltshire and was by invitation only. Following a trawl of Wiltshire branches, and a discussion with the Foundation, three small projects have been put forward: repairs to the tea room at Bradford on Avon, completion of the Archimedean Screw project at Crofton (for which an AIM conservation grant of £4K

has already been agreed); and a scoping study for redevelopment and restoration of Bedwyn Wharf. A decision is expected before Christmas.

4.6 Legacy

Branches were asked to put forward proposals for new projects which could be funded from the £50K legacy from the estate of Susan Greenfield. Two proposals have been received:

Bruce Branch: three linked bids totalling £17.5K towards total costs of £35K, to support day long Discovery Trips to Crofton: conversion of one boat to suit day trips £7K , conversion of an engine to electric-hybrid £7.5K and purchase of an electric golf cart £6.5K.

Newbury Branch: improvements to the Stone Building and Wharf at Newbury £5K.

All proposals were approved by Council.

5.0. Future Trust strategy and work programme

5.1 Future vision and strategy

Chris Bolt outlined the proposed Vision and Strategy. See separate paper. The Vision and Strategy was adopted with changes.

5.2 Revisions to membership scheme

David Copley outlined the proposed revisions to the membership scheme. See separate paper. The membership system review will help to shape the revision to the membership scheme.

5.3 Membership system options

A number of membership systems are under consideration including Donorfy and Beacon. A trial will be run of the selected platform.

5.4 Priorities for 2021

Chris Bolt outlined the 2021 priorities. The priorities were adopted with changes See separate paper.

6.0 Dates for future meetings

7th December – approval of 2021 budgets – by Zoom

11th January 2021

15th March 2021

10th May 2021

12th July 2021

13th September 2021

15th November 2021

All meetings to be on Mondays, 11:15am at Devizes unless otherwise agreed.

