

Moray DMB

Meeting Minutes

Thursday 12th August 2010
Moray College

Present:

DMB Members

Bridget Oatridge (Moray Businesswomen)
Cllr John Russell (The Moray Council)
Matthew Young (Forestry Commission)
Paul Timms (SNH) **Chair**

In attendance

David Watson (Moray LEADER programme Manager)
Lindsay Grant (Moray LEADER programme Co-ordinator)
Pierre Masson (The Moray Council)

1. Apologies

Eileen Bush (MVSO)
Rosella Smith (MFCHA)
Alastair Kennedy (Joint Community Councils of Moray)
Anita Milne (Moray Forum)

*Due to the fact that a sufficient quorum was not present no decisions could be made at this meeting.

2. Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the previous meeting were agreed as accurate but as there was not a sufficient quorum they will be considered at the next DMB meeting.

3. Applications

- **Speyside Paths Network Group - Mortlach Story Walks**

There was discussion surrounding where the recruitment costs came from, it was found to be from recruiting artists.

The DMB would recommend that the LAG approves this application as it fits all LEADER criteria and the Moray strategy.

JR declared an interest and left the meeting

- **The Moray Council - Food Festival**

Members discussed several issues regarding this application:

- Members would like clarification on the objectives of the project.
- In what form would the project go ahead if LEADER did not approve?

- Is The Moray Council match funding dependent on other match funding being found?
- If future funding is required a full report would be required.
- Members would also like local food and drink producers to be supported as part of this project if it was approved.

The DMB would recommend that the LAG approves this application if the above points can be clarified and answered to the LAG's satisfaction.

- **The Moray Council - Moray Towns Partnership Phase 2**

DMB members would like:

- Evidence of the outputs from Phase 1
- Evidence of towns working together, and how they can achieve a better way of working together in the future
- A condition that a constituted group will be formed to drive the partnership forward in the future

The DMB would recommend that the LAG approves this application if the above points can be clarified and answered to the LAG's satisfaction.

JR returned to the meeting

The following applications were discussed without seeing a technical assessment; however LEADER staff did not foresee any problems with the applications so far.

- **CFINE - Food Access Regeneration**

Concerns raised by DMB members:

- Commercial displacement
- How much of the project would take place outwith the Moray LEADER area.
- The long term sustainability of the project
- If produce from Moray would be used?
- Members would like an evaluation of how the Fairer Scotland Funding has been used, and clarification that there was no duplication.
- They would also like to see what the outputs of the pilot project were
- Would like to see a letter of support from the Community Healthcare Partnership
- Clarification on what the social outcomes are going to be.

The DMB would recommend that the LAG approves this application if the above issues and concerns can be addressed to the LAG's satisfaction.

- **Moray Handyperson Services - The Connect Project**

Members would like letters of support for this project from the Community Healthcare Partnership and NHS Grampian. However they felt it was worthwhile and could see the demand for such a project.

The DMB would recommend the LAG approves this application as they felt it was a worthwhile project from an established organisation which is doing something different.

- **HIE - Community Led Growth**

There was a concern about the amount of investment being proposed considering the low population numbers. However, there was universal support for this application. It was felt that the process was more important than the product and HIE have a proven track record of delivering in fragile communities. It was also recognised that there is potential for significant income may be generated by a proposed windfarm, therefore it is important that the community are in the position to maximise the benefits from this.

The DMB would recommend that the LAG approves this project.

- **Burgie Castle Preservation Trust - Burgie Castle**

The DMB had concerns regarding this application.

- They would like clarification on the benefit to the community
- DMB members felt more information on the structure of the trust and the ownership of the asset would be helpful.
- Members would like some assurance that future funding will be available for the restoration project.
- The national significance of Burgie Castle was questioned.

The DMB would recommend that the LAG approves this application if the above concerns can be answered sufficiently.

- **Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society - Innovative Tourism**

There was universal support for this application, it was seen as a large but worthy project and the applicant is an asset to Moray. DMB members would like to know if the applicant has considered improving the car parking facilities and if they had thought about installing a viewing platform.

The DMB would recommend that the LAG approves this application as it fits with LEADER criteria.

4. Broadband funding

Members were informed that a press release went out inviting applicants to come forward with potential solutions to connectivity problems. LEADER staff are also engaging an expert on how to move forward with broadband issues.

5. Transfer of funds from SRDP

Members were made aware of the recent press release confirming that 2 SRDP measures have now been transferred over to LEADER. LEADER staff will prepare a paper for the next LAG meeting with options on how the LAG can deal with these types of applications.

6. Budget update

2 more claims have been paid to projects since the last DMB meeting, for just over £6000. This is the only change to the budget.

7. Proposed times and venue for future meetings (DMB & LAG)

The next LAG meeting is on 25th August at Kinloss Church at 10am.

The next DMB meeting will take place on 9th November in Moray College at 10am.

8. AOB

a. Equalities training

LAG members will be asked to indicate availability for a training day to be held in September. LEADER staff will then arrange a date for training.

b. Attendance at meeting

Members were advised to let LEADER staff know if they will be attending meetings.

c. Annual report

The report will now be published and a press release will be issued.

d. Rural Moray Business Grant Scheme

PM advised that Highland Opportunity will speak with their board about being the applicant for this scheme. If they decide they do not want to be the applicant then The Moray Council will become the applicant.

e. Marketing campaign

LEADER staff will prepare a tender to go out to PR/marketing firms.

f. Audit visit from RCET - scoring sheets

Members were reminded that scoring sheets are needed on file. The DMB agreed to continue to use the current matrix and that members will ensure that scoring sheets are handed into LEADER staff.

g. Visit Scotland representative at next LAG meeting

It was decided that there is a lot to discuss at the next LAG meeting and it would be better to defer inviting a representative from Visit Scotland to speak at the LAG meeting. This will be discussed with the LAG chair.