

Moray DMB

Meeting Minutes

**Friday 16th July 2010
Moray College**

Present:

DMB Members

Alastair Kennedy (Joint Community Councils of Moray)
Bridget Oatridge (Moray Businesswomen)
Cllr John Russell (The Moray Council)
Eileen Bush (MVS0)
Matthew Young (Forestry Commission)
Rosella Smith (MFCHA)
Priscilla Gordon-Duff (Drummuir Estate)

In attendance

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

1. Apologies

Paul Timms (SNH)
Anita Milne (Moray Forum)

2. Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the previous meeting were accepted.

3. Applications

- Portgordon Village Hall

RS declared an interest and left the meeting.

There was some discussion over the lack of innovation in this project; however it was felt that involving young people in the community and appointing an innovative architect that this is a project worth supporting. The DMB felt they would approve this as a pilot project as the outcomes may be transferable to other community facilities within Moray.

The application was approved by the DMB on the condition that all other funding is in place.

RS returned to the meeting.

- Moray Heritage Connections

JR and PM declared an interest and left the meeting.

It was unanimously decided to approve this project as it was seen a good example of joined up thinking to create a new tourism market for Moray. It was also felt that this may be transferable to other areas. It was also seen as very innovative as the DMB is not aware of any other areas that have used this model to promote ancestral tourism.

The application was approved by the DMB on the condition that all other funding is in place.

JR and PM returned to the meeting.

4. Broadband funding

DW informed the DMB of the Broadband Challenge Fund recently announced by the Scottish Government. There were concerns about the short time window for applications and the relatively small amount of money in the fund. It was felt that the best way to proceed with this issue was to put out a press release inviting communities that have possible solutions to broadband problems to come forward and approach LEADER.

5. Annual report - Marketing

The annual report will be ready for publication in the near future; a press release will go out once it has been approved.

The DMB also agreed that LEADER staff should investigate the cost of appointing a PR company to produce a short marketing campaign.

6. Budget update

To date just over £600,000 has been committed to projects, this is from a total budget of £1,837,500. (This budget includes administration costs).

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

The next DMB is scheduled for 11th Aug at 10am in Moray College.

The next LAG meeting is scheduled for 25th Aug at 10am, venue TBC.

8. AOB

- Social Enterprise Development in Moray - ML0014

The DMB agreed to the transfer of the grant issued to MVSO to VAM on the condition that it met the guidelines set out to run the programme. LEADER staff will investigate the procedure to allow this to happen.

The DMB would like to give their appreciation for all the work MVSO have done throughout Moray.

- Awareness Raising - ML0019

Unfortunately the JCC have notified the LAG that they will be unable to use LEADER funds awarded to them, therefore the offer will now be withdrawn.

- H&I Theatre Network application

The technical aspect of this application has now been resolved.

- Panel for decisions under £1000

It was decided to continue using the process that the DMB uses to assess applications under £1000, therefore a designated panel will not be appointed.

- Replacement of Rod Lovie on the LAG, other members

LAG staff will investigate appointing a new LAG member from Moray Social Enterprise Network. DW will also investigate the process for appointing a new LAG member.

- Client survey
This will be part of a marketing strategy which LAG staff will look into.
- Rural Moray Business Grant Scheme
The DMB agreed that this was a scheme that would be worthwhile. PM is to investigate further the mechanisms for delivery of the grant.
- Burgie Castle invitation
A letter will be sent back to Burgie Castle Preservation trust on behalf of the LAG politely declining the invitation to visit the project to ensure consistency and fairness as this has not been used as an option previously.
- LEADER conference
DMB members were informed about the LEADER conference which happened in June.
- DBS
Members were given an update on The Moray Council's DBS programme which could see the LEADER office being moved into the new Moray Council HQ.
- FOI requests
DMB members were advised that there have been some FOI requests from members of the public.

Actions:

- a. LEADER staff to investigate costs of a marketing campaign.
- b. LEADER staff to approach MSEN for a new LAG member.
- c. Press release to go out inviting communities with solutions to broadband problems to approach LEADER.
- d. PM to investigate mechanisms for delivery of Rural Moray Business Grant Scheme.