

DUMFRIES TOWN BOARD

Meeting of 08 May 2024
at 4 pm Scottish Power Energy Networks, Leafield Road, Dumfries

PRESENT

Richie Nicholl – Town Board Chair
Tom McAuchtrie – Town Board Vice Chair
Kenny Bowie – Chamber of Commerce
Supt Nicola Robison – Police Scotland
Lisa Callander Bone – Include Us
John Caskie – Guid Nychburris
Anne-Marie Coulter – Summerhill Community Centre
Laura Thomas, Rosefield Mills Gallery
John Dowson
Dale Graham
Councillor Maureen Johnstone
Councillor David Slater

Council Officers

Stuart McMillan – Strategic Economic Investment Manager
Maureen Johnstone – Dumfries and Galloway Council

Observers

1 Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed members to the Third meeting of the Dumfries Town Board. He advised that Daniel Armstrong has stepped down as a member of Dumfries Town Board and will now be replaced by Julie Langland ***Board Agree**. After emails were sent out to all MSP'S to offer a place on the board, Colin Smyth was the only individual who raised interest.

2 Apologies

Billy Currie – D&G College
Jamie Milligan – The Swan

3 Minute of meeting 27 March 2024

The minute of the previous meeting was agreed with the understanding that a comment in section 8 to be deleted (the mention of The Smithy being a preferred option)

Action: KB

4 Matters arising

An update on the street cleaning initiative was given from Richie who had met with Street Scene. A proposal to buy a street cleaning machine was brought to the board. Opinions were mixed with queries on priorities, lifespan, and staffing.

The Board agreed that further discussion was required at the next meeting – **with Richie providing further information to gain a better understanding.**

Action: RN

5 Code of Conduct / Governance Update - SMcM

Stuart gave us an governance update as follows; Webpage for the TB is on the council website and live - Minutes will be added onto this.

He advised that no letter of validation received as of yet, but DG Council are in possession of the funds for The Town Board.

Code of conduct is completed.

Stuart advised it would be beneficial to bring a young person's views/ representation into consideration.

Maureen agreed she would consult young people on the matter.

Action: MJ

6 Town Centre Premises Update – JD & BC

John advised he had been to midsteeple about 109 High Street. Offer made from May – July free of charge *utilities, furniture etc not included.

Promotion opportunities available from Loreburn Centre.

Richie agreed to write a letter of intent for this.

Action: RN

7 Secretariat Update – KB & LP

Introduction to new Secretariat.

8 Web and social media Set Up – LCB & DG

Lisa found Facebook page which can be used.

Facebook needs contact email and number for the account.

Board agreed to start posting on the Facebook as a "Watch this space".

Awaiting Web-design final 3 names and prices. Still to vote.

FAQ required for Facebook.

Instagram and Twitter required

Action: SMcM & LCB

9 Logo Competition – JC LCB

An update was provided about the logo competition; poster made and distributed to schools with a closing date of 31st May. A maximum of 15-20 to be shortlisted to the board for judging. Students were advised this could be a drawing or a graphic design. It was discussed that there were 5+ business's able to give prizes for the competition.

10 Forward Planning & Data Capture

An example questionnaire was made up and put forward to the board for discussion. Views on this were that we need to split the questionnaire into "themes" to get the most out of the data. Board allocated themselves appropriately. Other discussions were that this needs to be simplified and to look further into the questions being asked/not being asked.

20 questions for each theme to be brought to discussion.

A) After looking into other TB in Scotland it is clear that Dumfries are taking leaps over others in regard to proactive members and meetings.

IV) Discussion took place in regard to holding a community council meeting but also including smaller community groups/councils outside of Dumfries were favoured. **Invites to be sent out to appropriate communities.**

Action: All & JC

11 AOB

Discussion took place regarding the protocol for people coming to the Town Board with bids on spending the allocated money.

It was brought to the board's attention that email address' were leaked in the first PR. Lisa agreed to write future press releases to avoid this.

12 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be hosted and supported by Chamber of Commerce, the meeting will take place at 4pm on 3rd June in SPEN Offices on Leafield Road and online via MS Teams.