



Board Minutes
Thursday 11th March 2020 at 4pm
Via Zoom

Present

Sophia Newton (Chair), Helen Moriarty (PM), Matt Williams (SLDC Officer), Andrew Simon (Windermere Lake Cruises), Cllr Dyan Jones (SLDC), Adrian Faulkner (BWCOT), Scott Keenen (Keen and Able), Gill Holmes (CCC), Peter Hamilton (WTC), Janett Walker (Flock), Martin Rayner (Lakeland), Marian Jones (LDNPA), Kate Barton (Mountain Goat).

Apologies

Cllr Robin Ashcroft (SLDC Councillor), Ruth Leahy (SLDC Officer)

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Apologies

SN welcomed all and attendees introduced themselves and apologies were noted.

SN explained that the purpose of the meeting was to highlight the recommendations in the handover report prepared by Helen Moriarty and to take any questions from Board members regarding the Chair's and Project Co-ordinators experience of BWF to date.

2. Handover Report Review

HM and SN summarised the review report provided to Board members. The following was recommended:

- Keep social media channels going, create a FB group and a communications working group
- Marian Jones highlighted the success of engagement regarding Orrest Head funding and BWF's support in sharing the business survey link
- Highlight and promote the potential for Glebe Market to support new start-up businesses (Rosies success was noted). Grow as a destination and attract fresh produce not to replicate the current retail offer but to enhance it.

Board members felt the meeting was better utilised to discuss how BWF should move forwards. All other recommendations are noted in the hand over report.

3. Next Steps

The board discussed the difficulty in BWF's current set up regarding business attendance and the voting quorum. SN noted the difficulty regarding long term strategic development work and quick wins on the ground and how the Board should seek to close that gap within a new structure.

Several businesses felt that considering current Covid challenges the Board should suspend activity until June. There was a conversation around phrasing as there was concern that 'suspending' implied that BWF might not return. It was agreed that 'pause' was more positive.

SLDC provided reassurance that their investment in BWF was secure and that they would work with Board members to create a structure that worked both for local businesses and local authority members.

AF noted the response of several Chamber of Trade members which was circulated to attendees.

HM noted the Kendal Futures model and how significant investment for the area could be unlocked via a professional partnership led structure. It was added that any new structure would need transparency and clear declarations of interest policy reflected in the Terms of Reference. The terms should also outline how funding could be utilised to invest in community enhancement projects. PH expressed its support for the initiative and felt that together with Windermere Town Council's current strength the two organisations could work together.

It was decided that SK would work with MW to create options for the future of BWF and how best to share BWF contacts. SK will Chair a meeting to discuss options and agree a way forward in June.

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| ACTIONS | <p>HM share leaflet info with Kate Barton</p> <p>HM to share logins and passwords etc with SLDC</p> <p>SK & MW to review current Terms of Reference and create merger options for Board and Chamber consideration</p> <p>SK & MW set up June meeting to consider options and decide best way forward</p> <p>SK & MW to confirm funding contributions (CCC&SLDC) within new set up</p> <p>SN to send final email to mailchimp contacts</p> |
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4. Close

The meeting was closed with Board members thanking both HM and SN for their BWF work to date.

6. Next Board Meeting Dates

- **June tbc**