



**Minutes of Committee Meeting
Tuesday 18 September 2018 7.30pm
The Bungo, Nithsdale Road**

Present: Kevin Kane (Chair), Steven Good (Vice Chair), Heather Alexander, Imelda Devlin, Paola Rezzilli, Carol Dobson. Nick Kempe (Treasurer), Sarah Reid, Andrew Downie (resident), Dean Playford (resident), Stephen Fagan (resident)

Apologies: Fiona MacKinnon (Secretary)

1. Welcome and apologies

Kevin welcomed all to the meeting, noted apologies and invited everyone to introduce themselves.

2. Minutes and matters arising

- a) **Minutes** of August meeting were reviewed.
 - (i) **Action: Kevin** to revise and recirculate.
 - (ii) **Action: Heather** to post revised Minute on social media.
- b) **BitBL actions** discussed and carried forward.
 - (i) **Action: Fiona** to write and post thank you letters for BitBL contributors (as per the Event Book guidance).
 - (ii) **Action: Kevin** to document proposed new business model for bars and circulate for discussion.
 - (iii) **Action: Heather** to put together proposal on new match-making service for people looking to set up stalls in Lane 4 at the event.
- c) **Strathbungo Window Wanderland:** Sarah is still investigating whether the name needs to be changed, or whether an agreement can be reached on an annual £100 offer to the original event owner for the continued use of the name. Kevin had been contacted by someone at the Conservatoire about the potential for some residents to offer their windows up for "performance art" at the next event. The committee agreed this should be followed-up.
 - (i) **Action: Sarah** to report back on progress of event name settlement.
 - (ii) **Action: Kevin** to reach out to Conservatoire contact about pursuing the "performance art" idea and pass to Sarah.
- d) **Sustrans South City Way funding:** Following the discussion at the previous meeting, Kevin has submitted a proposal for a mural on the gable end of Heraghty's at Pollokshaws Road / Alison Street. This is expected to cost in the region of

£4,500, with £3,000 to come from the Sustrans funding and another £1,500 from the Society and /or others. Kevin noted he had discussed this with the owners of Heraghty's, who also own several of the flats in the building, and are supportive. A response is due by end-October. It was noted that Paola made the original suggestion to think about a mural.

- e) Nick suggested that, given the recent piloting of "Community Budgeting" by the Council, the Society should consider maintaining a **portfolio of "shovel-ready" project proposals** with costs in the range of £5,000 to £10,000, in order to be able to take advantage of the new funding opportunities. It was agreed that this was an excellent proposal and it was a potential topic for the AGM discussions.

3. AGM preparations

- a) The **AGM** will be held on **Monday 29 October 2018 at 7:30pm** in the **Queen's Park Govanhill Church of Scotland Parish Church Hall** at 170 Queen's Drive.
- b) Kevin re-iterated his intention to **stand down as the Chair of the Society**, owing to other commitments. Nick indicated that this would be his final year as Treasurer. Kevin urged Committee members to consider volunteering for the four office-bearer positions (Chair, Vice-chair, Treasurer, and Secretary).
- c) After discussing options for **AGM topics**, it was agreed that two shorter (10-minute) presentations by Sustrans and the Langside Halls Trust (LHT) would be suitable.
 - (i) **Action: Kevin** to make contact to secure speakers from Sustrans and LHT.
- d) **Local elected representatives (Councillors, MSP and MP)** need to be invited.
 - (i) **Action: Kevin** to arrange invitations.

4. Environment / Heritage

- a) Work on the **Strathbungo Station Railway Footbridge** is due to commence shortly. The Committee awaits an update from Fiona on the proposal to use the original Caledonian Railways colours. It was agreed that there should be a social media post to Instagram with information about the upcoming works, including dates.
 - (i) **Action: Fiona** to update on the agreed colour scheme for the bridge.
 - (ii) **Action: Paola** to post about the works on Instagram.
- b) The new **Niven's by Café Source** has just opened in the former Salisbury premises on Nithsdale Road. Kevin noted his view that this was an excellent example of the Society helping to create a good outcome via a good engagement, with a local business. Following initial discussions when works began in the unit, the developers had adjusted their plans to retain various features, and subsequent work had exposed an older, original butcher's shop sign (William Bennie & Sons) that pre-dates the Niven's motor repair shop business; the original butcher's signage has been retained as a feature. (it was noted that a descendent of the butcher had visited to see this, and confirmed that many of the hook and rail features previously assumed to relate to motor repair work actually had been used to hang carcasses).

- c) Nick noted that following a previous action, he had met with the operators of **Gnom** to discuss various matters including their outdoor seating, and that they had been receptive and accommodating to concerns raised about keeping the pavement clear by the bus stop. They had also talked about the challenges they experienced with refuse collection and costs.
- d) This led to a broader discussion about the role of the Society in **fostering greater engagement with and amongst the various local businesses**, on a range of topics of collective and mutual interest (e.g. events, collective refuse arrangements, council engagement, and so on). It was agreed that this would be a good thing to take forward.
 - (i) **Action: Carol** to ask **Alan Dobson** if he would be willing to work with **Nick** to set up some informal business networking.

5. Communications / social media

- a) Paola and Heather reported that **social media engagement** was going well, with a good flow of items and good take-up. Posts to Instagram, and from the Bygone Bungo stream were particularly popular.
- b) Andrew raised the use and maintenance of mailings lists. Due to complications with MailChimp and the introduction of GDPR, some of these may now be out-of-date or defunct. It was agreed that Andrew and Heather would meet up to review the mailing list situation and agree a way forward.
 - (i) **Action: Heather & Andrew** to review mailing list maintenance and GDPR compliance, and to agree a way forward.
- c) The size of the **regular print run for the Strathbungo News** was discussed. It was agreed to ask Sarah to confirm the numbers. It was estimated that about 1,300 copies are required to distribute across Strathbungo, but it was unclear whether the current print-runs are for 1,500 or 2,000 copies. It was agreed to also check the relative costs of printing 1,500 versus 2,000 copies, to determine whether any savings are possible.
 - (i) **Action: Sarah** to confirm print-run size, and to check printing costs for various run sizes and report to Nick.

6. AOB

- a) **Mulberry Street:** Ownership of Mulberry Street has changed hands with the new operators having reached out to the Society. They have noted they have a social enterprise company, and have expressed an interest in working with the Society. It is expected that the premises will undergo some refurbishment in the near future.
 - (i) **Action: Kevin and Nick** to meet with the new operators.
- b) **BT phone box:** A group of people representing staff and/or regulars at the Titwood Bar have contacted the Society regarding the potential to fundraise for a **defibrillator in the BT phone box** on Nithsdale Road. The suitability of this as a location was discussed, with Andrew suggesting that there were some guidelines and recommendations on obtaining and locating a defibrillator available on the

internet. There was also a debate about the use of the phone box, and it was noted that due to its location in a conservation area BT are obliged to retain it; and indeed have recently (under pressure from the Society) repainted and refurbished it. In Kevin's view it may be prudent to hold off any adoption or new use, given BT's on-going public obligation to maintain it. It was also agreed that this was another example of a topic suitable for raising as part of the wider local business engagement discussed earlier.

- (i) **Action: Kevin** to respond to initial contact about defibrillator
 - (ii) **Action: Andrew** to source information and guidelines on obtaining and locating a defibrillator.
- c) **Great British High Street Awards - Avenue 77:** Kevin noted that on behalf of the Society he supports the Council's bid for 'Avenue 77' - the only Scottish city nomination - for the Pollokshaws Rd. / Kilmarnock Rd. corridor (Tramway to Shawlands). Some Members questioned the bid given their view that Shawlands Town Centre has a growing number of empty units, with businesses facing increased rents (and hence increased business rates) and by an ongoing debate of the value and benefit of the Shawlands Business Improvement District (BID), which involves the voted levy of supplemental business rates. They feel that the Council does not deserve the credit of winning such an award (which is 30% based on a public vote). Kevin noted that the Council has spent over £3m on Shawlands Town Centre improvements, including the current development of the new Shawlands Civic Square at Langside Halls. It was agreed that it was up to individual Members whether they wished to support the Avenue 77 bid by giving their vote, which is available at <https://thegreatbritishhighstreet.co.uk/high-street-of-the-year-awards/champion-finalist-glasgow>

7. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 16 October @7:30pm, at The Bungo? (Fiona to confirm)