PPCDT Trustees and Trust Members Meeting Minutes

Thursday 10th September 2026 – 7pm Auld School Community Centre

Ann Berry – Trustee, Marie McNulty – Trustee, Nicky Spinks - Trustee
Local Residents: Pearl McGibbon, Tracey Sampson, Chris Sampson, Roger Pirrie

Welcome: MM opened the meeting by welcoming all present.

Apologies: Janette Gates, Neil Gates, David Walker, Jean Wyllie, Morag Campbell

1. **Declarations of Interest:** None

2. **Approval of minutes dated August 2026:** The minutes were proposed by Ann and seconded by Nicky.

3. **Stinchar Valley Gardening Group**
   Stinchar Valley Gardening group members Pearl, Tracey and Chris came along to discuss proposal to generate income from the Pinwherry Field polytunnel activity
   Pearl McGibbon from Stinchar Valley Garden Club gave an overview of what they wished to do on the field with the poly tunnel and beds. SVG also shared they will be looking to apply for funding for compost for the beds and speakers at the Auld School winter meetings..
   SVG put forward idea to buy plants and sell plants and sell them at the field/polytunnel. It was suggested it would be better if the group maybe asked for donations for surplus and cuttings etc. as the trust do not want any trading activities developed through the polytunnel and the field currently. Marie suggested the group attend the meeting with trustees to discuss the plan and future development of the field. It was suggested that a meeting with Amy may also be helpful to see if she can help in anyway with developing ideas for the group.
   Action: Marie to invite Pearl to the field development meeting.

4. **Actions**
   The following actions were discussed:

ACTIONS	**OWNER**	**Status**
Ann/Marie to arrange a small gift and note for each household around New Year, linking in with resilience communication.	Ann / Marie	Carry forward
Amy to look into policies necessary for the Changing Places application.	Amy	Carry forward. Draft policies will be shared for approval to PPCDT committee

Marie to apply to PPCC for the funding for the acoustic panels.	Marie	Awarded and funding received. Panels purchased. Complete
Neil to get quotes to replace the fencing around the field.	Neil / Amy	Quotes received. Amy contacted SPR and they are happy to accept 2 quotes. Funding applications will be put in when round opens end Sept.
Neil to contact the handyman at Colmonell to get a quote to refurbish the outside noticeboards.	Neil	Handyman at Colmonell not able to do the job. Neil to contact Simon Black of GHB contracts. Carry forward.
Marie to inform the insurer that we plan to keep the solar batteries inside the building.	Marie	Insurer approved the location of the batteries inside the building. Complete.
Ann to consider options for a hardstanding on the field and whether planning permission is needed.	Ann	Ann contacted David Clark from Planning. We will need planning permission for any structure on the field. They will assist with pre planning advice if we submit a proposal. Complete
Ann to look into opening a savings account with a separate bank.	Ann	It appears we are unable to open a savings account as we are a charity and TSB do not now do business savings account. Complete
Neil to create a 'no dogs, except assistance dogs' sign for the hall.	Neil	Complete
Ann to buy new IPAD	Ann	Complete
Jimmy to contact John Gregg re. Fixing field drain	Jimmy	Carried forward
Neil to finalise plans/list for Pool table, dart board and indoor activities	Neil	Complete
Marie to arrange date for Field Work Group meeting and post to facebook	Marie	Will be sending date to trustees for agreed date and then post on FB

5. Finance and funding

Ann advised we currently have funds of £137236.74 of which £131487.05 is restricted and

£5,749.67 is unrestricted. We currently have £25,395.49 in reserves. Ann ran through the following funding pots:

- Carrick Futures (field and water) - £4,903.47
- Tralorg - £3,925
- Carrick Futures (Development Officer) - £7,432.50
- Foundation Scotland running costs for year 1 - £27922.33
- Pinwherry & Pinmore £2,593.29
- Caretaker & cleaning costs yr 1 - £18501.84
- Covid funding - £4,684.63
- Valley Gardening club - £63.40
- Pinwherry Wee Whist - £270
- Carpet bowls club - £2559.88
- Cosy space expenses - £287.05
- Cosy space room hire - £290
- Nature Day - £225 ? awaits remaining receipts
- Solar panels – zero
- SPEN Nursery costs - £10,000
- FS Maximise Fitness – £2210

Our running total of income from the Old Skool night is £2,551.87
We have been awarded £68,520 of match funding by PPCF for the Changing Places toilet. There has been a change of personnel at Danfo. Trustees discussed access for the works - it was suggested the fencing is replaced after the toilets have been installed and that the entrance is widened.

6. Project Officer Report

Nursery Building
The architects came for a site visit and kick-off meeting on 27th August. I met with Andrew and Chris from Denham Youd Architects and Douglas from Grossart Associates (structural engineer) along with trustees and Jack, a local young person from Pinwherry studying architecture who will be gaining some experience through the project
Shared project background from the CAT process, nursery building feasibility study and community consultation and reaffirmed the community's preference for the nursery building to be converted into holiday accommodation. We stated that we'd like the following to be considered/incorporated into the project development work going forwards:
· Catering for walkers, cyclists, outdoor enthusiasts etc.
· Accommodation should have a minimum of 4 bed spaces with kitchen and bathroom facilities.
· Design options could include a more basic 'bunkhouse' option and a studio apartment arrangement.
· Possible relocation of the entrance to the side.
· Wheelchair access to be included in all designs.
· Sustainable energy options should be included.
· Reference to GSABiosphere to be made in the design options.
· An energy sustainability review will be carried out by consultants.
· EV vehicle charging point to be retained.
· External storage buildings to be utilised in some way.
· A new separate electrical supply to the nursery building is the preference.
· Agreed that Jack will spend some time at DY's studio for work experience.

Overall timescale – the project should be completed up to RIBA Stage 2 within 13 weeks. This should take us to the end of November.

Changing Places Toilet
On 25th August, we had a site meeting with the new Danfo Project Manager, Ryan, who is developing our Changing Places Toilet project. We told him that the Trust would like the CPT toilet drawing/plan to be switched with the DDA and unisex toilets to the left not the right. Ryan's manager followed up with an email to clarify points from the meeting. We clarified again the need for the water survey and mains water connection to form part of the works as agreed and costed at the start of the project.

Trust Insurance
The Trust's insurance is due for renewal on 26th October. I have contacted NFU, who will be providing us with a quote and the existing insurers are also providing a renewal quote.

12-week fitness programme and Bowling Club equipment
I submitted a funding application to the Local Place Planning Health and Wellbeing partnership fund for a nutrition, fitness and body scan 12-week programme and we're waiting to hear the outcome. The application for bowling club equipment has also been approved, in addition to the mobility exercise class funding and both sums have been deposited into PPCDTs bank account.

SURF Awards
I have submitted a nomination for The Auld School Community Centre for the 2026 SURF awards under the community regeneration category. We will hear whether we have been shortlisted or not on 25th September

SPR - New Windfarm Funds
Marie, Janette and I had a meeting with Amy from SPR regarding the new funding coming our way and the trust taking on the management of it. The key points I took away from the meeting were:
· We will be required to report annually how funds are spent and provide an annual due diligence/good practice statement.
· They will pay out the agreed sum (expected to be £50,000 per year) for as long as the wind farm is operational.
· 60% of the annual sum must be granted in a year – not necessarily spent, but allocated to projects.
· We can invest up to 10% of the fund every year into an endowment.
· 10% of the fund can be used by PPCDT for administration costs.
· We are able to commence a winter fuel payment scheme if voted for.
· We can create funding opportunities at the levels we see fit, for example a small grant fund for sums under £1,000 and a large grant fund for sums over £1,000.
· A funding panel isn't compulsory, but recommended, in terms of transparency. A panel could consist of representatives from PPCDT, PPCC, people from the community etc.
· We can have as many funding rounds per year as we like and/or have a rolling application. E.g. small grants could be open all year and decisions made by email. Bigger grants could have 3 or 4 deadlines per year.
· Applicants to the fund for smaller amounts, say £500 or under, don't have to be constituted, but they must show evidence of spend. Small funds can go into a private bank account.
· Bigger projects would need two quotes.
· The funding is likely to be available to the community at the end of summer 2027.

7. **Building**

Neil's/Building update

- Solar warranties (all 26 of them) are now registered.
- Arctic windows have said the window warranties are now registered.
- The IT room re-jig as agreed is done. The partition wall and shelving behind it has been built.
- The acoustic panels for phase 2 have been delivered and will be installed as soon as.
- The ladder brackets up at the end the school.

8. Events & Activities

- No events members present to update

9. Windfarm Developments

- Knockodhar - Katie Hagmann has responded and we believe she will be putting a personal objection in. Nicky advised that the developer is currently putting in the EIA for the overhead line.
- Trustees discussed the Arecleoch extension and it was confirmed that the community benefit funding will be managed directly by PPCDT and we expect to receive it in 2027.
- Glenvernoch OHL - no update.

10. **AOB**

Himalayan Balsam - Roger updated he had done some initial enquiries about the Himalayan Balsam issue across the village. The advice was that it would be best to run an initiative in Spring 2027 to encourage the pulling up of the young shoots. Those present suggested this was something we could maybe include through our newsletter and raise awareness of the impact of Himalayan Balsam on the pollination of our native species.

ACTION SUMMARY	**OWNER**
Marie to arrange a date for the field working group and post on FB to invite residents.	Marie
Marie to invite Pearl to Field meeting.	Marie