

**STONEHAVEN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING MONDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2021**

	<b>Item</b>	<b>Action</b>
1	Chair – Lesley Leslie (LL) Secretary – Charles Sands (CHS) Present – Dawn Black (DB), Jennifer Davidson (JD), Sheila Howarth (SH) Steve McQueen (SMcQ), Ian Philip (IP), Jim Wands (JW). Apologies - None	
2	<b>FINANCIAL REPORT (CHS)</b>  CHS had emailed out copies of Management Accounts and reminded the group that whilst there was £11,373 in the bank, these funds were all contracted for or designated (Our Community Hub £1,710, accountancy £1,200, Christmas lights £5,000, Community Garden £4,600 and CLAN LTN £869). As a result, there remained a requirement to raise funds during the course of this year (e.g. car boot sales).  There were various discussions about fundraising, and membership, and SH confirmed she had an up to date business register to complement DB's directory. DB agreed to re-issue the link to the directory. CHS agreed to draft a mailshot to potential new members, with others to follow up with contact / phone calls.  CHS advised that he had followed up a mailshot received from RBS and the incentive payment to move to another bank was genuine. The two banks suggested by the RBS website were Cooperative Bank and Metro Bank. The Coop was not suitable (as the SBA was not a charity). The committee agreed that CHS move the account to Metro Bank.  DB reminded CHS that there was in email from Audrey Michie (Aberdeenshire Council) about the Council reclaiming VAT incurred by another group CHS did not think this was possible as the contract was with the SBA rather than the Council, but agreed to look into this matter.	          DB          CHS          CHS
3	<b>CLAN LIGHT THE NORTH UPDATE (CHS/DB)</b>  The SBA had contracted to pay £6,000 to CLAN Light the North. DB and CHS's photo has appeared in the Press and Journal newspaper. CHS advised that approximately £965 had been received through GoFundMe (of which £869 had so far been transferred to the bank. Aberdeenshire K&M Area Top-Up budget had approved £3,000 and that was in the process of being paid. DB was also going to ask those groups who had promised support to remit the funds now. The artists had completed the lighthouse and a time-lapse video would provide more publicity and funding. An interim payment could therefore be made to CLAN.  IP queried the dates of the project. DB has been in touch with CLAN and whilst there was no formal announcement yet, it appeared likely that the March/May dates would be postponed until the autumn.	
4	<b>STUNNING STONEHAVEN / COMMUNITY HUB / SOCIAL MEDIA (DB)</b>  Earlier today DB had emailed out a report on the number of hits the website and app received. In the context of the pandemic, the numbers are good. There was a discussion about how they could be improved further. JW asked if the original vision for Stunning Stonehaven was still being followed. The hub was for locals as well as visitors but was it necessary to have all the less relevant businesses listed? Adverts or a charge for listings might be needed in the future. It might be possible to change the emphasis of the website and hub (they go together) to give tourism and community events a higher profile.	

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5	<p>PHOENIX GARDEN PROJECT (DB)</p> <p>The planning officer has recommended acceptance and the plans were due to be discussed by Councillors tomorrow. Bins will need to be provided. DB had held various consultation meeting. At the meeting with the police – who don't mind the design – they thought the garden might encourage people to loiter – and were not particularly happy with that. CCTV wouldn't stop things happening, they said. CCTV was discussed and needs to be looked at further – funding may be available.</p> <p>DB thought that takeaway outlets are already encouraging people to stay in the area. It was up to the licensing board and police to deal with this if it became a problem – and not everyone thought it was being policed effectively. DB thought there was nothing specific we could do to satisfy the police - -it was not thought to be a major issue – it just needs to be managed.</p> <p>If planning is approved tomorrow, we need to deal with insurance. CHS and DB attended an online meeting with Council (Roads, Property etc.) and Horizon the Men's Shed. It was reasonably positive. The project needs to be properly insured when work is going on (by us and the contractor) and thereafter when maintenance work is being done by Horizon and Men's Shed. The Council (Landscapes) will take it over as they do for the rest of the square.</p> <p>For funding reasons, the contract must be signed and preferably work started by 31 March.</p>	
6	<p>SPACES FOR PEOPLE (DB/IP)</p> <p>No update.</p>	
7	<p>BUSINESS DIRECTORY (IP/DB)</p> <p>Discussed above. DB to reissue log-in details.</p>	
8	<p>STP SCOTLAND LOVES LOCAL (DB)</p> <p>There is nothing new to report. The Council is working to obtain funds on behalf of various groups. A "digital audit" may be carried out – watch out for a survey.</p> <p>DB is attending at Town Centre webinar - will consider what others are doing Scotland wide and see how it can be applied locally,</p> <p>JW pointed out that overseas visitors can find it expensive to use their phones, and that was one of the original drivers. The Town Centre Improvement Group should be looking at this.</p>	DB
9.1	<p>COMMUNITY COUNCIL FEEDBACK</p> <p>SMcQ was the last meeting. 2 new defibrillators are going up – the one at the Station was used last week.</p> <p>Research is being carried out into how other foodbanks work and what needs to be done to make sure they are sustainable.</p>	
9.2	<p>LIONS CLUB FEEDBACK</p> <p>No formal decision has yet been taken on the cancellation of the Feein' Market.</p>	
9.3	<p>STONEHAVEN TOWN PARTNERSHIP FEEDBACK</p> <p>The STP is not holding formal meetings at the moment.</p>	

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10	<p>FARMERS MARKET</p> <p>Maureen was acting on behalf of the SBA when the market was originally set up and that is why she keeps us updated. She is looking for someone to take over her role. There was a discussion about whether it could be an income stream if an SBA sub-committee was set up, but we await developments.</p>	
11	<p>AOB</p> <p>CCTV works in other town centres and we should consider it too.</p> <p>Our AGM would normally be due soon but agreed to defer this until later in the year.</p>	
	<p>Next meeting – Monday 8 March 2021 at 7pm Chair – Charles Sands, Secretary Ian Philip</p>	CHS