

**RWE Innogy An Suidhe Community Fund**

**Panel Meeting**

**Brander Lodge Hotel, Bridge of Awe**

**6<sup>th</sup> November 2015, 3pm – 5pm**

**Minutes**

**Present:** Agnes Fleming (Dalavich Improvement Group), Mike Masters (Furnace Community Council), Andrea Henderson (Furnace community), Catriona O’Keeffe (Glenorchy & Inishail Community Council), Alan Kettle-White (Eredine community), Adrian Davis (Inveraray Community Council)

**In attendance:** Tom Black (Foundation Scotland)

**Apologies:** Jane Dewar (Dalavich community)

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

**2. Previous minutes and matters arising**

The minutes of the previous meeting had been approved by e-mail prior to the meeting.

**3. Panel membership & register of interest**

No communication had been received from David Owen (Inveraray community representative) by FS or Panel members since his appointment. Agnes was unsure whether Jane Dewar wished to continue as Dalavich community representative.

**Action: Tom Black** to contact David and Jane to find out if they wish to continue as Panel members.

Adrian Davis declared an interest as Treasurer of Inveraray Community Company.

**4. Fund update**

a) Fund statement and grant-making report

The fund statement was reviewed and a balance of £59,798.98 was noted.

b) Micro grants update

Eredine: £372.94 balance remaining

Furnace: funds fully spent, will request 2016 allocation

Dalavich: 2015 funds fully spent

Inveraray: c. £250 balance remaining.

Panel agreed to move the deadline for micro-grant completion reports to 31<sup>st</sup> March across all four communities. This would ensure reporting was in-line with the community councils' & DIG's accounting timescales.

**Action: Community Council / DIG representatives** to ensure micro-grant reports are submitted to FS by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

Panel agreed to increase the upper limit of micro-grant awards to un-constituted groups to £500 (from £250).

**Action: Panel members** to promote this in their communities.

c) Fund processes/procedures

i) Online application forms

FS can offer an on-line application process. Applicants can save and return to their applications. The Fund will move to on-line applications next year. Downloadable MS Word versions can continue to be available, however see 7. AOCB.

**Action: Tom** to ensure on-line applications are available for 2016 onwards.

ii) IMPACT (monitoring and evaluation) framework

This item was moved to the end of the meeting.

iii) Number of applications per organisation

Following discussion, Panel agreed that organisations/groups may submit more than one application in each round. FS normally assigns applications from the same group to the same assessor, and will ensure assessors ask applicants with multiple submissions to identify which are a priority.

**Action: Tom** to update applicant guidance and Fund webpage.

## **5. Grant-making**

a) Declarations of interest

Alan and Catriona declared an interest in South Lochaweside Community Company as directors; Agnes declared an interest in Dalavich Improvement Group as a trustee; Mike declared an interest in Furnace Amenity Association as a trustee and Chair.

b) Assessment reports

Eight reports were reviewed, as follows (Inveraray Highland Games was not assessed).

c) Decisions

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Purpose of Grant</b>	<b>Awarded</b>	<b>Conditions</b>
Inveraray Highland Games	To establish a permanent electric connection for the Highland Games site.	Ineligible; funds already secured from elsewhere.	N/A
Puffer Preservation Trust	To replace some hull steelwork and the wheelhouse of the VIC 32.	Rejected. Very limited local impact, also insufficient evidence of need for a grant.	N/A
Glenorchy & Innishael Community Orchard & Woodland Garden (GICO)	To contribute to the cost of creating a small community garden at the site of the recently demolished Church of Scotland at Portsonachan.	£4,222.80	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That evidence be submitted of permission granted by Church of Scotland to use the site for a community garden.</li> <li>• That a copy of final draft plan for the community garden be submitted.</li> </ul>
Inveraray Shinty Club	To purchase a mower for the upkeep of the shinty pitch.	£7,000.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That evidence be provided of adequate insurance cover against theft or damage.</li> <li>• That two further current quotations be provided for the Toro Reelmaster 2000D to the desired specification.</li> </ul>
South Lochaweside Community Company	To acquire Barr Mor Wood from Forestry Commission Scotland.	£10,000.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That evidence be submitted that all matched funding is secured before the grant is paid.</li> </ul>
Dalavich Improvement Group	To contribute to the cost of purchasing the 5-acre field that	£17,280.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>

	lies adjacent to the Community Centre.		
Dalmally Golf Club	To plant native broadleaf trees on designated areas of the course.	Rejected; Very limited impact on Fund Area.	N/A
Furnace Amenity Association	To install a mains hot water cylinder, commercial glass washer and acoustic panels in the village hall; to carry out repairs on Leacainn Walk; to carry out crown reduction on two lime trees at the Pennymore graveyard.	£7,992.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None – signed and independently inspected accounts were provided by Mike Masters.</li> </ul>
South Lochaweside Community Company	To restore the redundant BT telephone kiosk in Eredine village to house a community defibrillator.	£2,900.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>

With regards to applications for projects located outwith the Fund Area, the Panel agreed there will be considered on a case-by-case basis and must demonstrate clear benefit for residents from within the Fund Area.

**Action: Tom** to update applicant guidance and Fund webpage.

Mike Masters and Andrea Henderson left the meeting.

## 6. Planning for 2016

### a) Case studies for website

The Panel identified the following as potential case studies for the Fund webpage:

- Furnace Amenity Association – hall improvements
- South Lochaweside Community Company – defibrillator
- Dalavich Improvement Group – installation of fire hydrants.

### b) Fund promotion

**Action: Tom** to update and send out 2016 promotional poster to Panel members at start of April.

There was discussion around the difficulty in promoting the Fund in Inveraray, as there is no covered external noticeboard. This was flagged as a possible priority for funding, although it was not clear where it might be located.

c) 2016 application deadline and panel meeting

Open to applications 1<sup>st</sup> April, deadline 9<sup>th</sup> September.

Panel meeting 9<sup>th</sup> November.

## **7. AOCB**

a) IMPACT (monitoring and evaluation) framework

Tom circulated a paper outlining the Foundation's new monitoring and evaluation framework, IMPACT. Community Foundations across the UK were implementing this to enable better reporting on the outcomes of funding. In Northampton, this approach had been piloted and the evidence had led to a significant increase in the amount of funding pledged by businesses through the Foundation. The reports also enable the local communities to see how local funding is used.

Panel reviewed the paper and identified how the IMPACT themes or categories could be linked to each of the three existing aims of the An Suidhe Community Fund. Applicants would select the theme that their project will address, and at least one outcomes under this, at application stage. This will be via a drop down menu on the online application form. Panel also decided that applications from 2017 onwards should be made online only, as this would be more efficient/effective and enable impact to be demonstrated, and all communities have access to the internet. Applicants to be notified over a one year transition period during 2016.

b) Dalavich micro-grant payment

Agnes Fleming asked the Panel whether they would be content for this to be raised to £1,000 (up from £500) for next year at least. There are four community groups who receive micro-grant payments in Dalavich; an increase would enable equal payments of £250. Panel agreed.

**Action: Tom** to raise requested increase in micro-grant payment to DIG with RWE Innogy UK.