

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Lucky Ewe SCIO held on Tuesday, 16th February 2021 via Zoom at 19:00

Members present: Joan Brown (Chair), Norma Alari, Alana Paterson-Brown, Sarah Davidson, Jill Dawson, Josh Doble, Jenny Donaghue, Jen Gallier, Isha Harris, Mary E Herdman, Lorna Hirst, Heather Lawson, Margaret Robertson, Alyssa Sickerdick, Brenda Steffens, Richard Young and Mary Gibbon (Secretary)

Attending: Andy Brown, Bill McSeveney, Susan Usher,

Apologies: Rob Brodie, Nicole Jackson, Anna Kinross, Christine MacDowel, Lynzey Mutter, Simon Robertson

1: Welcome

Joan opened the meeting and welcomed members and attendees to the AGM.

2: Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of Lucky Ewe held on 16th August 2019

The above minutes were approved.

3: Chair's Report to the AGM

Joan presented the report to the AGM and detailed the progress Lucky Ewe has made in the eighteen months since inauguration:

- Lucky Ewe applied for SCIO status in 2019 and, after fulfilling the stringent criteria required by OSCR to become a charity, was registered as a SCIO on 13th March 2020.
- A community asset transfer request for 65 acres of land at Stratheden on a 25 year lease was submitted to NHS Fife on 5th October 2020. The transfer of land will return it to community use, provide Lucky Ewe with a more accessible location for beneficiaries and allow the expansion of Lucky Ewe services, particularly with regard to supporting learners in entry level land management and animal care courses.

A lot of time and effort was spent putting together the CAT request: four months later the first step in the process - validation - is still to be carried out by NHS Fife. At present NHS Fife's legal department is perusing the request.

- The National Lottery, Foundation Scotland, Comic Relief, Tesco and the Co-operative have all been successfully applied to for funds and in addition private individuals have generously contributed. This has enabled Lucky Ewe to fill two part-time education officer posts (six hours each per week) and two admin posts (two hours each per week), buy farm equipment and provide PPE for beneficiaries.
- A successful bid was made for a portion of the Douglas Bader Garden residual monies and Fife Council has earmarked £21,000 on which we can draw to meet the cost of setting up new premises.
- Monitoring and reporting of activities is crucial for funding success as, rightly, our funders want feedback on where their money has gone and evidence that Lucky Ewe is meeting its targets and is meeting the needs of the community. A survey was

drawn up where potential partners could register their views on our project and ascertain whether their clients might become involved, a more general survey is also active on our website, www.luckyewe.org.uk and feedback from beneficiaries currently working with Lucky Ewe is ongoing.

A short, professionally produced video which shows the work being done and the people involved can be seen on our website and Lucky Ewe education officers share short videos of a day in the life of. . .

- Because of Trustees' strong links to a local secondary school we have built a core group of secondary pupils following an alternative curriculum, and these volunteer-workers come along twice per week. They are fruitfully pursuing Princes Trust and SQA work experience qualifications. However, school based learners are only one of our target groups. We are in discussion with *16+*, *Cupar Youth Café* and *Apex* where some of our potential beneficiaries have been identified and *Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services*, *East Fife Riding for the Disabled* and *Options in Life* have all expressed an interest.
- Developing our beneficiary base – getting to know and understand the groups and individuals that Lucky Ewe will serve – will be our main focus in the coming months. Working with partners to develop strong local links depends on careful preparation of the ground in advance of activities: the current hiatus occasioned by Covid regulations will give us that time and prove to be a positive force in helping us to strengthen our charity's foundations.

Joan concluded her report by thanking Christine MacDowel who is standing down as a trustee for personal reasons. Always to be relied on for her sensible outlook, her generous gifts of time, hospitality and constructive advice, Christine will be sadly missed by the remaining trustees and we wish her all good luck in the future.

4: Treasurer's Report

Jill took the meeting through the above report.

- As already noted above, funding grants have allowed us to employ four part-time members of staff and to pay for the ongoing costs of running Lucky Ewe, including development costs, insurance and video production costs.
- A breakdown on Lucky Ewe Funding and Lucky Ewe Outgoings from 27th July 2020 to 8th Feb 2021 can be found on the two attached documents.
- Our bank account balance at 8.2.21 stands at £25,721.93, most of which has been allocated to us for specific purposes. Our aim is to maintain a 3 to 6 month operating reserve.

When the annual accounts are due to be submitted, Sue Jack of Fife Voluntary Action has agreed to be our Independent Examiner.

5: Election of Trustees

After proposal and seconding, all present trustees were re-elected. Richard Young agreed to become a trustee and was duly elected. Trustee Board now comprises: J Brown, A P-Brown, J Dawson, M Gibbon and R Young.

6: Any Other Business

- *CuparNow* is a community directory which lists and links over eighty clubs, groups and organisations that are active in supporting the town. Cupar Development Trust pioneered this digital initiative in partnership with many local voluntary associations including the Rotary Club of Cupar.
Bill McSeveney, Chair of the Rotary Club, suggested that Lucky Ewe would benefit from joining *CuparNow* and linking with relevant groups, for example, Cupar Allotments, The Sunshine Kitchen and SRUC Elmwood College.
- Mary will action joining *CuparNow*
- Several members and attendees congratulated Lucky Ewe trustees on what has been achieved so far and indicated they are looking forward to supporting Lucky Ewe in the coming year.

There was no other business and the meeting finished at 20:00