

## **Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Lucky Ewe Trustees held on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 19:30 at 15 Ceres Road, Cupar and via Zoom**

**Trustees present:** Joan Brown (Chair), Alana Paterson-Brown, Anna Chworow, Jill Dawson (Treasurer), Libby Elliot, Claudia Marshall, Richard Young and Mary Gibbon (Secretary)

**Apologies:** Abbey-Leigh Doig

**Attending:** Willie Lang, Farming Consultant for Lucky Ewe and Duncan Pickard, Farming Consultant for Lucky Ewe.

### **Matters Arising**

The previous Minutes were approved

#### **Item 1: Asset Transfer Request Appeal**

The Meeting discussed Lucky Ewe's plan of action regarding our Appeal to Scottish Ministers. We have less than twenty working days to submit the Appeal and the Meeting focussed on how to present all the information needed in the most efficient way.

Joan took us through the bullet points outlined by NHS Fife in their refusal notice (Please see Minutes of 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022).

#### **Point 1:**

This covers costs, funding and planning associated with moving to Stratheden. Lucky Ewe would be using a regenerative low-input system over five years and this must be reflected in our Business Plan and Growth Plan. Duncan, a previous Scientific Advisor to the Soil Association, and Claudia, Managing Director, RVM Systems Limited, both have extensive experience relevant to the above.

**Action:** Claudia and Duncan will liaise to develop the Business Plan including its structure and 5-yr farming input.

**Action:** Anna, Jill and Alyssa will liaise to draw together all relevant figures and monies to produce a financial overview. This will include figures for staffing over the next five years.

**Action:** Joan will give an estimate of the cost of each intern to Lucky Ewe: this will help to illustrate savings to NHS as per the [mentalhealth.org](https://www.mentalhealth.org) report of £1 spent on mental health in the workplace equating to £5 saving in mental illness per person.

**Action:** Joan will investigate getting an independent report on the asbestos situation in the old mortuary from Strathmore Environmental Services Ltd.

**Action:** Mary will provide a summary of the Lucky Ewe management structure to Claudia.

#### Points 2, 3 and 4

The above points queried our need for the extent of the land and whether Lucky Ewe has the skills and resources to manage the assets required. It was also stated that there was insufficient evidence of projected benefits and insufficient evidence of community support and demand for some of the proposed services.

The Meeting discussed the evidence already submitted, including our consultation with the community, present interns, parents and carers and our partners, including written testimonials and letters from interns.

Willie pointed out that there is a definite need for more land. We aim for example, to create more work experience farm placements as these are difficult to find elsewhere.

It was noted that providing a positive and healing environment for those with mental health issues would save costs in the long-term for the NHS (whose services, for example, CAMHS, are already benefitting from Lucky Ewe).

**Action:** Libby will seek endorsements from local organisations supporting the benefits of Lucky Ewe, including St Andrews University.

**Action:** Trustees and consultants will provide updated CVs detailing their skills, experience and ability to manage the assets required. These should be sent to Jill.

**Action:** Joan will contact Simon Baldwin of Cupar Now to create an online petition to show evidence of community support.

**Action:** Lucky Ewe staff will remind intern families to make their views known, if they wish, by emailing Lucky Ewe Admin and signing the online petition

**Action:** Joan will email partner services seeking endorsement of the benefits of Lucky Ewe to their services. Alyssa will collate the responses.

#### Points 5 and 6

NHS Fife states that the market rental value of the Stratheden site is £3,500 per annum. It is important that Lucky Ewe is informed by NHS Fife of the rental income received over the last five years for the Stratheden land and/or any subsidies received.

Trustees noted that no clinicians appear to have been consulted regarding concerns raised about the risks to vulnerable patients: more specific information regarding this should be sought from NHS Fife.

The Meeting noted that the use of an MLDT is not mandatory. It is possible to enter into a commercial lease for land normally agricultural but which is undergoing diversification (as is the case here). This would address any concerns the NHS may have regarding the terms of a MLDT. A commercial lease could also address any

concerns the NHS has about perceived risks or health and safety concerns regarding patients and could certainly have a clause or clauses safeguarding the possibility of necessary expansion.

It was agreed that all Actions noted above will be shared via email by Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2020. This will then give us time to collate all communications for the Appeal Form (attached)

#### Any Other Business

Joan informed the Meeting that Lynn Molleson from COSS has advised us to submit a Participation Request Form under the Community Empowerment Act 2015 to NHS Fife. Joan will circulate this to trustees and consultants.

There was no other business and the meeting concluded at 22:00. The next Meeting will take place at 15 Ceres Rd, Cupar and via zoom on Monday, 20th June 2022 at 18:30.