

Minutes of the Meeting of Lucky Ewe Trustees held on Monday, 16th January 2023 at 19 Crossgate, Cupar at 19:00

Trustees present: Joan Brown (Chair), Alana Paterson-Brown, Jill Dawson (Treasurer), Abby Doig, Libby Elliot and Mary Gibbon (Secretary)

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising and the previous Minutes were approved.

Item 1: Community Asset Transfer appeal

We are still awaiting the outcome of the Appeal; we may have word in February of this year. It was agreed to await the outcome before seeking an alternative venue.

Item 2: Farm update

The ewes will be scanned on the morning of the 23rd January and we hope for a fruitful result. The Rural Skills practical day is on Thursday, 16th February from 10:00 to 15:00 and will cover plumbing and drystone walling.

The Staff Meeting was held on 5th January and produced the following actions: Jen's suggestions for an intern destinations webpage will be emailed to trustees and staff for perusal and Alyssa will then update for the website; the monthly action planner will be revised with a copy of activities per month noted in the Farm diary - this should enable sessions to be planned more effectively.

A milking parlour has been purchased from EW Evans of Cronllwyn Farm, Fishguard with 50% deposit paid. The parlour will be arriving at Bonnyton in February.

Fife Voluntary Action has provided £5000 towards a Utility Vehicle; trustees discussed the possibility of buying either a Hissun, which is affordable new, or a Gator, which would need to be purchased second-hand. Libby agreed to investigate the possibility of an interest-free loan.

Interviews for the post of Farm-based and Development Worker will be held at Bonnyton on 6th February and will include a tour of the farm and a chance to meet interns, volunteers and staff. Jill, Joan and Mary will interview.

Item 3: Funding

It was agreed to change the Funders Group meeting, which was to be held on 6th February, to another date as interviews for the new staff post are being held on that day. Jill will consult with Alyssa for a suitable date.

Item 4: Annual General Meeting 2023

Trustees discussed the various preparations needed for the AGM which will be held on Thursday, April 20th at 19:00. It was agreed that we should invite a Speaker; Abby will ask if Buffalo Farm would agree to give a talk on their herd and the making of buffalo cheese. Mary will book the Fire Station or, if not available, the 'Y' in Cupar

Item 5: Sub-committees

Core members:

Education: Jill, Joan, Abby and Mary

Fund-raising: Libby and Abby

Funders: Mary, Alyssa, Jill and Joan

It was agreed that to accommodate sub-committee meetings, trustee meetings will be held quarterly as follows:

- Monday, 3rd April
- Monday 26th June
- Thursday, 14th September
- Monday, 4th December

Sub-committee meetings will be held as necessary and arranged by its members; dates will be made available to all trustees who are welcome to attend any of the meetings.

Item 6: People's Postcode Lottery funding

Libby and Mary will attend this workshop about applying for funding and which is hosted by the People's Postcode charities team. It will be held via zoom on 10th February at 14:00.

Any Other Business

Abby reported on potential placements for interns, including Melville Equestrian at Crossgates. An intern is very interested in a placement there and Abby will lead on this to set up a visit.

The Buffalo Farm would also welcome some group visits to see the farm and the mozzarella factory from March onwards with a view to some work experience later this summer.

Jill reminded the meeting of the need to be vigilant of security particularly with regard to bank cards.

Joan and Alyssa will set up a system to enable volunteers to receive travel expenses (which will be backdated to January 2023).

Trustees fundraised over £1400 for Lucky Ewe and our thanks in particular go to Libby and Abby for their tremendous effort in organising the Christmas Fair.

There was no other business and the meeting finished at 21:00.