

Minutes of the Meeting of Lucky Ewe Trustees held on Monday, 3rd July 2023 at 19 Crossgate, Cupar and via Zoom at 19:00

Trustees present: Joan Brown (Chair), Alana Paterson-Brown, Libby Elliot and Mary Gibbon (Secretary)

Apologies: Abby Doig, Jill Dawson

Attending: Alyssa Gowans, David Lawrie

Matters Arising

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

Item 1: Update on farm activities and intern progress

Joan reported that all livestock are in good health with sheep protected from blowfly. We have twenty-six interns attending through the week with Wednesday being our busiest day. Caroline, Franki, Susan, Joan and volunteers are working hard to keep up day-to day working on the farm and with interns.

The milking parlour has been installed by Daniel Gardner Electrical Contractor at the substantial cost of £3,918.88. Adam Holland, Operations and Systems Manager, appreciated that we are a charity and kindly looked at ways of making savings on the Lucky Ewe bill. He reduced the labour costs from £50.00 per hour to £45.00 per hour and gave us materials at cost price. This reduced our initial bill from £3892.74 +VAT to £3265,73+VAT. Lucky Ewe are grateful for this consideration.

Item 2: Accounts and Finance

Alyssa is liaising with Anna regarding the 2023/24 accounts to be readied for perusal by OSCR. It is hoped to have them completed by August 2023; they will then be sent to Kate Gregory for examination and submitted to OSCR by the end of September 2023.

Item 3: Sub-committee updates

- Postcode Lottery: the two questions needing fuller explanation, as indicated in our previous submission, will be discussed at the next Finance Committee meeting. The next Postcode application will be on 2nd October 2023
- Mission Statement: Mary will write this and circulate to trustees for discussion
- Mary reported that the award from COSS for help with legal bills will be paid when we submit our receipt for services.
- Joan will remind Fife Council about the Douglas Bader money set aside for our move to Stratheden
- NHS Fife: as it is now three months since any correspondence regarding the Stratheden situation, Joan will contact Willie Rennie to ask about movement on this.
- It was agreed to look at the Fife Rural Development Fund for possible funding
- Alyssa will buy the *Directory for Social Change* available on Amazon for £135.00
- Libby and Abby will continue to work on fund-raising ideas for the coming months, including a Christmas Fair and market stalls.
- Preparations are underway for the next SCQF Rural Skills course starting in October 2023. A flyer with the autumn dates will be circulated by Alyssa and a list of

interested interns drawn up. Joan, Jill and Mary are liaising with Windward Education regarding all aspects of the course.

- Libby agreed to draw up a wishlist for the next Lottery Winners initiative

Item 4: Utility Vehicle

Libby has sourced this and has now paid the deposit to Meldrums; training and insurance options are also being explored.

Item 5: Farm Operations Leader

Lucky Ewe's success in placing interns with work placements, our thriving partnership liaisons and the expansion of our flock and cheese production has made it imperative that we employ a Farm Operations Leader with the expertise and experience to take us through the next phase of expansion, particularly as regards to the large task of moving from Bonnyton to new premises at Stratheden.

A new advert will be drawn up and interviews for the post will be on 10th August 2023. We will need a multi-skilled Farm Operations Leader capable of working on their own initiative, with excellent farming credentials, good agricultural qualifications and sound leadership ability.

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 20:30

The next Trustee Meeting will be on Thursday, 14th September 2023 at 19 Crossgate, Cupar.

NB: please note the meeting is on Thursday, not the usual Monday