

Ecovillage Findhorn (EF) BOARD MEETING minutes

Wednesday 21 FEBRUARY 2024

Present Rupert and Mari; Apologies: Anni, Ian, Ross, Tessa. Digital Visitor: Edward F

Previous minutes. Posted on <https://www.futurefindhorn.org/meeting-minutes>

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT - Survey responses – includes volunteer offers that need catching/responding - tofu WHO ? – RB request too – see below

UPDATES: Insurance - Ian following up; SLF & Community Housing Trust - Ian following up; OSCR & TSI - TSI/Edward F - see below; Bank account - asked BoS to delete Anni's part of application and progress with Rupert, Ian and Mari – done.

FF Update - RB will have update co- signed by Mark, Mari, Rupert and Terry; Ongoing work towards a timeline (readiness to catch vs price); Carry cost - granularity - more details to be revealed - Infrastructure getting attention as core element of costs- NFD will follow up with us ; Other local experts required; Paddy's report requested and part of CHT services is to get more estimates

EF ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY

Strategy 1 - funded staff - how? - discussion priority next Board meeting – philanthropic loan or community interest raise with full risk disclosure (i.e., it's pretty much a donation given the stage) or hybrid with matching.

Strategy 2 - volunteers - RB advert for volunteer help this week - Volunteers still need managing and incentivising – roles / tasks definition and leaders with available time and focus - who are these leaders to be? who will create and motivate their own volunteer teams as LPP has done and Call 4 Ideas did ?

Strategy 3 - formal sub-committees for specific workstreams?- Consider /Board meeting on themes at the agreed/or regular time. Do helpful supporters need to be on the board or would they be happy as senior advisers? – to be investigated

ORG RELATIONSHIPS & INFO SHARING - Aim to engage orgs and start sharing more effectively with them in a chaired meeting, by us, and /or neutral facilitator?, in the right atmosphere - to assuage assumptions and fears, include orgs in process and bring up to speed - in a culture of curiosity

Relationships continue to be good with NFA-THA- Governance and LPP. We continue to lean into these groups to support spiritually informed, deep democratic, whole community approach.

PUBLIC MEETINGS TO BE SCHEDULED – Anticipate a Hall meeting for whole community with NFA, GWG, LPPG and us. In prep for such a meeting we meet with these groups to co-ordinate and connect. We may need to move to a daylong whole community meeting that we host in collaboration, once we have proposal(s) to offer members and friends.

COMMS update - Further community engagement - GEN/Gaia -tofu Tessa when back; Page on NFA website - to be written - Mari drafts Rupert improves ; Survey out re: memberships, donations and skills; We promised feedback on surveys - tofu -WHO ?; Need to progress skills bank - KH contacted to learn if still willing; Simon Spitz fixed red banner problem & helped with email addresses ; we chose : @ecovillagefindhorn.uk ; Survey to ask NFA and EF members about convergence is postponed but needs to happen soon - Follow up with Gordon and GWG ; LLP group update - they have a survey to follow from LPP after the SF presentations – looking forward to learning what that reveals.

CALL w EDWARD tsi MORAY – Best chance to get OSCR approval is to alter our FCA Rules and delete Human rights, Conflict resolution, Arts and Science and focus on the core purposes, which is the same (not allowed to give but effectively advice) Bill Ross from OSCR gave, in favour of simply Community Development (in sustainable ways) and Environmental Protection and maybe Education; we will align well with the FF's Trust deed and SCIO constitution. Our OSCR application could never justify all those activities adequately.. ongoing with fresh start energy

Went to Community Meditation - very peaceful

Dates for meetings - same weekly schedule until we change it

.....and Ian's on the 17 th of March :)