**St Fillans Community Trust Limited (“the Trust”)**

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 26th February 2021**

**By Zoom at 7.45 pm.**

**Present:**

Richard Graham (Chairman) Johnston Brown (Treasurer) 2 Directors and 19 members.

**Apologies:**

Apologies for absence were received from Lynda Pryde

**Minutes of the previous meeting**

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 28th February 2020 had been circulated in advance of the meeting. There were no matters arising from these Minutes.

**Board Reports:**

**Chairman’s report**

Trustees - May I start by taking the opportunity to thank my fellow Trustees. The success of so many groups within the village is absolutely dependent upon villager participation, and the Community Trust is one. Your current Community Trustees are – Johnston Brown (Treasurer), Lorna Kennelly, Carol Graham, Lynda Pryde, Richard Graham (Chairman).

And thank you especially to John Light. John is moving away from the village to be closer to family, we are all very grateful for your years of service to the village and in particular, the Community Trust. We wish you all success in your move to your new home, and health and happiness for the future.

Trust Activities - At this point, I would normally give a report on the activities of the Trust over the past year. However, as we are all aware, COVID has put paid to all our plans. What I can say with certainty, is that as soon as we are allowed to re-start our activities, we will do so with vigour. Our main concern, the Loch Earn Railway Path, had planned works that have had to be been postponed. But again, as soon as work can safely re-start, it will.

All fundraising efforts that would normally take place, from which the Trust benefit, have had to be cancelled this year. We look forward with great anticipation to our annual events resuming, and the village returning to its usual vibrant, sociable self.

Funding - We have provided funding in three areas this year –

1. Christmas tree lights. It was agreed that two additional LED light units should be purchased to provide better coverage, and make the lights that shine onto the tree brighter and the tree more festive. Thank you to Stewart and Richard.
2. Village phone directory. This has been recently updated, printed and circulated. Thank you to Audrey Gavigan.
3. Fireworks. A group of villagers took Bonfire night into their own hands, by letting off fireworks in the hills for the benefit of local residents. The group funded half of the cost and the Trust matched their contribution. Thank you to the Krazy Gang.

Your Community Trust are always here to assist with any village financial matters. Should anyone have anything they wish to discuss, please don’t hesitate to get in touch with a Trustee.

Wishing you all a safe and healthy 2021, when hopefully some sense of normality will return to our village.

**Treasurer’s report**

The Main purpose of the Trust remains the provision of financial guidance to community ventures, initiated and supported by the community, and that of assistance to raise funds for those ventures deemed as appropriate.

The accounts for the year ended 31st August 2020 have been circulated via the Village email system and the figures are set out on the reverse of the AGM Notice of Meeting. They have been submitted to the Charity Regulator OSCR.

This was the thirteenth year of the Trust’s activities. During the year the Unrestricted Funds received £120 in grants from The National Park, and it received donations amounting to £676 from the Hogmanay Party and St Fillans Walkie Talkies. It made grants amounting to £882 to the St. Fillans Community. These grants were:

£309 net cost of the annual firework display

£212 for replacement batteries for the Village Defibrillator

£10 to the Community Council

£266 for laser lights for the Christmas Decorations

£85 repair costs after a puncture on the Village

£24,866 of grants were received to be used in the creation of the latest stage of the Loch Earn Railway Path. £53,022 was spent on LERP, with the balance being held for costs of future construction. A further £3,411 was spent on the construction of the Playpark.

£150 was received from P&K for the Paths Group who spent £198 on batteries for the people counter and sundry materials.

At the end of the last financial year, The Trust had a total of £46,587 of available funds, of which £6,571 were general funds and £840 were restricted funds for the St Fillans Path Group; £36,865 for Loch Earn Railway Path (LERP) and £2,311 for the Playpark.

In the current financial year, £150 was used by the Paths Group to purchase the zimmer strimmer from the Garden Group but an equivalent grant was received from P&K Greenspace. £1,700 was spent on the Playpark, £320 was net costs of the Krazy Gang fireworks display, £220 on additional laser lights for Christmas, and £75 on the printing of the Village telephone directory.

The Board has agreed to move its bank account from RBS to Clydesdale Bank which provides free banking to charities with a “turnover” less than £1m. £4,200 was received as “cash Incentive” from RBS as it was required to reduce its number of bank accounts as part of its rescue deal.

At present the Trust has £10,266 in its general funds, £840 in the Paths Group, £611 for the Playpark and £34,351 for LERP.

**Nomination of Directors:**

Carol Graham, Lynda Pryde and Johnston Brown retired by rotation in accordance with The Articles of Association of the Company and offered themselves for re-election. Their re-election was proposed by Jim Brierley and seconded by Russell Cunningham. The three directors were re-elected unanimously.

**Any other business:**

Stewart Gavigan confirmed that at a recent St Fillans Community Council meeting, it had been suggested that an approach be made to the Trust to seek funds to provide for the purchase of a replacement “PC Speedy”. The Meeting approved such a grant in principle, but Stewart was asked to put the request in writing.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 7.55 pm.