

Key discussions and actions from PCLF meeting held on 20th April 2023 at Fair Maid's House, 15-19 North Port, Perth PH1 5LU
Chair: Mike Robinson

Forum Attendees						Apologies			
Mike Robinson	MR	Tricia Fox	TF	Thomas Glen	TG	Grant Laing	GL	Steven Stewart	SS
Iain Hutchison	IH	Dawn Fuge	DF	Nicola Chakraverty	NC	Gareth Ruddock	GR	Alan Caldwell	AC
Jackie Brierton	JB	Alyxs Dellaquaglia	AD	David Howe	DH			Nick Rowan	NR

Ref	Agenda Item	Lead	Update	Action
1.0	Welcome and Apologies	MR	AC is in London; SS has a prior unavoidable engagement; NR has a work commitment. AD and DF have worked hard to change workdays/commitments in order to be with us.	
2.0	Minutes from meeting on 16-02-23	MR	Approved	
3.0	Update on Perth Lower City Mills restoration project from Perth & Kinross Heritage Trust	David Strachan	<p>With the new Perth Museum planned for 2024, it is important that Perth's wider cultural offer is maximised and clear for both residents and visitors.</p> <p>The Lower City Mills is the kind of historic building every city would love to have. It is unusual to have an example of a grain/barley mill in an urban setting – most are rural. PKHT aims to restore the mill and the associated buildings, bringing them to life for visitors of all ages by 2025.</p> <p>Plans include training apprentice millers/millwrights; telling stories of the mill; using produce from the mill for heritage food and drink; training in traditional building/engineering methods; developing links with hydropower and sustainability; showcasing urban/rural connectivity; education; enterprise (eg bakery and café).</p> <p>The project will bring visitors from all over the country, providing an economic boost to the area as well as leading to further developments and innovations eg in regenerating the Lade with wider hydro possibilities. PCLF have written a letter to support this project.</p> <p>More information and a survey to build on community engagement is at https://www.pkht.org.uk/projects/lower-city-mills/</p>	<p>If anyone would like to visit the Mill, David would be happy to show us around.</p> <p>Let NC know if you are interested, so a date can be organised.</p>
4.0	Gannochy Trust Big House Project	Andy Duncan	<p>This isn't a Gannochy Trust project! The trust has been approached to develop the project from Fife into Perthshire.</p> <p>The Big House Fife Project redistributes surplus products from local businesses to families in need through a range of referring agencies including charities, schools, social workers etc. Household goods of all kinds, from bedding and towels to kitchen items and rugs are delivered to a central</p>	<p>A central conduit needs to be found to coordinate the project – PKAVS is a possible option.</p>

			warehouse, an inventory is made, and distributed to charities and public agencies who collect and deliver the goods to families who are struggling with the cost of living. Last year 600,000 goods worth £10 million were distributed to families in Fife. The Big House Project is looking to expand into Dundee and Perthshire, creating a physical and organisational hub in Perth with distribution channels from there operating throughout the area. This could perhaps link with Perth Foodbank's need for a new premises? One of the many empty premises on the High Street could be an option? The Anti-Poverty Task Force will be a helpful link.	Discuss options and opportunities at an Ambassadors' meeting.
*	5.0 – 8.0		<i>The following items were not discussed at the meeting. Some people sent in information detailed below.</i>	
5.0	Gran Fondo in Perth	MR/SS/NR	This cycle race is being held in Perth 4 th – 7 th August. PKC is planning to have as many bicycle-themed events as possible during the week running up to the event. Susanna Rae (embedded officer for Sustrans in PKC) wondered if we wanted to be involved. PKC would be able to provide some support towards costs and will be advertising all events.	
6.0	Communications	TF	Update on progress finding writers to create content to communicate to wider community	TF to bring forward costed proposal for writing and comms support for PCLF and Pride in Perth initiative.
7.0	Establishing a legal structure for PCLF	MR/JB/GR	Update on progress following discussion last board meeting and subsequent meetings with PKAVS and Gannochy Trust.	
8.0	Updates from Working Groups	DF AD JB NR	Perth City Centre: Perth Youth: AD & DF working to find placements for young people in local businesses to give supported work experiences. Perthshire Rural: See item 7.0. Growbiz might be able to help establish a legal structure for PCLF. Growing City/Biodiversity:	DF to bring forward date of next meeting. JB to bring forward formal structure proposal. MR to meet NR.



		<p>AC</p> <p>Zero Carbon: This group is focused on the various obstacles to get trial sites up and running in order to progress Project Sandstone. PKC wants to deliver the main targets for the Climate Commission, Net Zero Route Map, Citizen’s Involvement/Climate Assembly, despite risks of duplication and over focus on adaptation.</p> <p>IH</p> <p>Enterprise & Prosperity: Working to streamline the various business-related bodies – meetings in progress. Looking to revisit the Nashville Academy programme and reconvene the philanthropist meeting of last year, plus other projects progressing with Gannochy Trust and Chamber of Commerce discussions.</p> <p>GR</p> <p>Social Justice: This has mostly been overtaken by the anti-poverty task force, which is chaired by GR and attended by MR. This has de facto become the working group, although there is a strong need to take a more strategic approach to this area as well as to follow up the Big Lunch, ideally using the Ambassador’s programme.</p> <p>DH/SS</p> <p>Connected City: SS helped put together a connectivity strategy paper that was the basis of engagement with PKC. As the Connected City working group hasn’t had any meetings yet, he has been pushing the ideas in the strategy paper through the P&K Climate Commission.</p>	<p>AC to continue pursuing trial sites and jumping through hoops. Update perhaps to relevant PKC staff and others who might be able to help progress this.</p> <p>SS & DF will meet to discuss the many inter-related issues between the Connected City and the Perth City Centre working groups.</p>
9.0	AOB	<p>There was discussion around the purpose of PCLF. How is it different from PKC?</p> <p>MR summarised the PCLF: <i>It is a diverse group of disparate but committed leaders from every sector, who meet to share and help deliver their broad vision for Perth: Making Perth the Most Sustainable Small City in Europe. The aim is to be a conduit for economic development, social improvement and environmental enhancement across the whole area (and not specifically focused on the city), helping to make things happen, embolden others, drive things forward positively and create</i></p>	



			<p><i>synergies. Ultimately this is about promoting Perth and Perthshire locally, nationally and internationally and building a stronger sense of place, passion and direction for the whole area, and better galvanising local talent and expertise to deliver positive change. It is not just about ensuring Perth and Perthshire remain resilient and successful, but also to give it an identity and purpose which will build local and national pride and identity and drive inward investment. It is unashamedly future focused as a priority but recognises the importance of building a sense of place in part based on its history and geography, and building momentum and a reputation for positive change which supports this ambition.</i></p> <p><i>It is also well placed to facilitate consultations, convene broad interest groups and challenge businesses and others to give more priority to the area, and can also play a helpful role in creating more political space and expectation for positive change. This is a wide remit and therefore inherently difficult to define the 'value added' of PCLF, but it is clearly seen as an important reference point for many local and national organisations and projects. It is right that it continues to review how it can best play a role, and it is important that the members and committees are functional and engaged, and it is recognised that there is a challenge to the leadership forum to prove itself. However, it is also vital that this challenge is equally shared across all 15 members of the forum, the 3 from the council and the 12 from the private/third sector.</i></p> <p>There was some confusion around delegation and communication, most evidenced in a conversation about the Ambassadors programme, which is entirely led by Council, yet seen as being run by PCLF. There is similar confusion around funding where promises have been made, but no money been made available, and yet some pressure to explain how that money has been used.</p> <p>Having become recognised as a forum for local proposals and initiatives, how can PCLF operate more effectively and efficiently, without duplication? Are the existing Working Groups realistic? How can we harness the potential of the Ambassadors more successfully?</p>	<p>MR to meet with Ambassadors team within PKC again. MR & TG to meet to clarify next steps.</p> <p>Forum members to bring thoughts & suggestions to the next meeting</p>
	Next meeting		Tuesday 13 th June, 17.30 at Fair Maid's House	