**Banchory & District Initiative Ltd**

**AGM 25th September 2014**

**Held in the Douglas Arms Hotel, Banchory**

1. **Welcome from Chairperson** – Jean Henretty
2. **Present**
   1. Jean Henretty (chair); Charlie Abel; Alexis Corris; Jerry Cobb; Anne Lamb; Edna Leavitt; Brian Smith; Peter Wise; Matthew Merchant; Henry Allen; Jan Leatham; Tony Brown; Paul Panchaud; Margaret Paterson; Rebecca Glansbeck; Avril Clark; Chris Mutch; Keith Mair; David Ritchie; Ed Gardyne; George Mennie; Janelle Clark (Area Manager)
3. **Apologies** 
   1. Cllr Jill Webster; Cllr Karen Clark; Cllr Linda Clark; Stan Thomson; Tony Tulett; Norma Makin.
4. **Minutes of 2013 AGM**
   1. Proposed as a true record of proceedings by Edna Leavett and seconded by Henry Allen.
5. **Chairperson report** – attached
   1. Jean presentation on groups supported by BDI, sources of funding, Town Co-ordinator position, volunteers, Board, partners, goals including Community Action Plan and Business Plan. Also a short précis on the new town brand.
   2. Challenges for next year
      1. Secured funding for 3 years to enable BDI to deliver fully on its projects and to be able to fully support the position of Town Co-ordinator
      2. To retain the hard-working volunteers we already have and to find the next generation of volunteers to help take BDI forward
      3. To facilitate the development of new projects without compromising one over the other.
   3. Future plans
      1. Complete the Scott Skinner Square Regeneration
      2. Enhance the Bonnie Banchory Campaign
      3. Continue to develop ways to promote our Heritage and Culture
      4. Promote the area in partnership with Royal Deeside and Cairngorms
      5. Further develop events and markets
      6. Support the development of community facilities
      7. Revisit the Community Action Plan and Business Plan
6. **Financial Accounts** - attached
   1. Balance at 31st March 2014 - £49,033
   2. Noted that of the balance, only £15,000 is unrestricted funds. The remainder of the funds are ring-fenced for community projects
7. **Election of Board Members**
   1. Retired - Henry Allen and Anne Lamb
   2. No new nominations. JH thanked Henry and Anne for their many years of dedication to BDI.
8. **Appointment of Independent Examiner**
   1. Agreed to retain Graham Bonds of BBKS as independent examiner
9. **AGM adjourned**

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Banchory Sports Village**

Keith Mair is the chair of Bandswim is now the Banchory Sports Village. Location behind the HOB School, plans available. 6 lane swimming pool, training pool, 4 court sports hall, exercise rooms, viewing gallery, cafe, meeting rooms and 2 squash courts. The pool will be deficit-funded by the Council. Due to open Autumn 2017. Recognising the contribution and work done by 3 councillors, Bert McIntosh and Moira Lockhead. Community to raise £700,000, £320,000 raised already (£170,000 from Bandswim, plus 2 large single donations.) Sep 2015 is the date by which funds must be raised, 'a one year sprint'. Leaflets handed out which explain the project. Trustees have borne additional expenses including the wages of Fundraiser Jim Knowles. One of the key fundraising activities is a dinner donated by Stewart Spence at the Marcliffe on Tuesday 4 November Sports Dinner £100 per ticket.

**KGV PROJECT**

Chairman George Mennie of KGV reiterated the aims of the project. Late 2012 talking to Big Lottery after speaking to more than 20 groups. A map was projected showing the Neil Gray Park which is a parallel project, this now has planning permission and will become a new facility/playing field. Main project relates to a facility being built which would benefit football clubs, also providing a social and training space for able bodied and special needs. Sports Village has been a game changer in terms of timing. Focus will now redirect towards special needs and the Scolty Centre. Issue of a lease has been on the table for 2 years. Need evidence of support from Aberdeenshire Council. Rubber Atkins have provided a temporary replacement for existing changing rooms.

**BANCHORY FREERIDE TRAILS**

Chris Mutch explained the beginnings of the group. Purpose is for fun and increase bike skills. Meeting monthly. Explained how BDI have helped and showed the site above Burnett Park which has been selected, for various reasons including accessibility and suitability. Links in with path network, bus route and a road, close by Banchory. Approached the Forestry Commission and a trail designer Paul Masson, meeting next month to look at the design, lease will be peppercorn rent. There will be an easy blue route, an orange easy and an orange hard (if this is accepted by FC, then these would be amongst the first of their kind), plus a walk up trail and a learning 'pump' track. Trails will be weatherproof and sustainable. Planning is the current hurdle, would like to have the draft plan into FC for the end of October. Residents will be consulted/informed w/c 29 Sep, plans are also to improve the existing paths. £68k approx for the build plus planning/legal needed in fundraising. Promotion - there is an FB page which may need help.