

**HALKIRK DISTRICT BENEFIT FUND**  
**Registered Office: 28 Queensgate, Inverness, IV1 1YN**  
**Registered No: 281781**  
**Scottish Charity No: SC039254**

**MINUTES OF MEMBERS MEETING HELD IN THE ROSS INSTITUTE,  
HALKIRK, CAITHNESS ON 18 JUNE 2009 AT 7.10**

**PRESENT:** Mrs K Cartwright (Chairperson), Mr PJW Blackwood,  
Mr S Mills, Mr W Manson, Mrs J Mowat & 27 Members.

**In Attendance:** Mrs S Reilly (Secretary)

**Apologies:** Mrs L Levack, Mr P Cartwright.

**1. Most Recent Grant Aid Awards:**

Mrs Cartwright detailed the most recent grant awards that were listed in the Grant Aid Awards table.

**2. Criteria for Awarding Grant Aid to Individuals:**

Mrs Cartwright informed the meeting that individuals may apply to HDBF for grants as long as they are members or members applying for a minor or a vulnerable adult. If any member is reaching exceptional standards in sports, music, the arts or education, grant aid can be applied for. It was considered better for a letter to be sent detailing the reason for the request rather than a grant aid form.

**3. HDBF Website update:**

It was hoped that the website would be up and running by 1<sup>st</sup> September 2009. It would then be more cost-effective for information to be sent to members electronically rather than by post.

**4. Clarification of Voting by Representatives of Clubs:**

To ensure that voting is correct when there are proxy forms and people have an individual and a group vote we need to ensure that both votes are included and this means showing two hands not one to ensure that the proxy form has been ratified.

**5. Current Number of Members, Groups and Organisations:**

Membership has been creeping up for individuals but groups and organisations make up only 15-20, potentially probably only about half of the groups in the area. Grant aid forms will be available at Halkirk and Westerdale Post Offices shortly.

**6. Questions from the floor:**

**Q:** Is there a time limit on money allocated?

**A:** Yes. This had recently been a subject of consideration and in future there will be a time limit on large amounts. This will avoid large amounts of money being tied up for a long time when it could be better invested.

**Q:** How much does it cost to send the children to Fairburn?

Mrs Cartwright was unaware of the exact amount and suggested the member ask the school.

*There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.30.*