

Minutes of the Board of Midlothian Community Media Association held on Wednesday 29 April 2020 held by Google Hang Out @ 7.00pm. Present: Steven Horsburgh (SH), Carrie Campbell (CC), Kim Thomson (KT), Gordon Clayton (GC), Chris Mackrell (CM), David Aird (DA), Tony Conlin (TC), Addie Thomson (AT), Bob Miller (BM)

Technical Update at Station

CM confirmed everything currently working fine. Not been into station as yet but proposing to go on this week to check.

Had issues with webstream at start of lockdown, moved to different server, resolved and moved back with no issues since.

Programming

CM confirmed programming improving; 3 days in current week meeting Ofcom target. Saturday and Sunday also ok. CM presenting live from home and Denis Campbell also available for live presenting.

Finance

Paid Ofcom; by Direct Debit.

MSP for Midlothian, Owen Thompson, written letter on behalf of BDFM and Crystal FM to get some financial assistance.

Ofcom funding available for Community Radio relief to assist with funding over Covid lockdown. GC /CC to complete forms to apply for grant; cannot include Ofcom charge in what we intend to use the Grant for. To apply for £1500 to cover shortfall.

Annual running costs are circa £4,500. £2000 are secured from Midlothian Council grant. confirmed will lose out on not being able to hold fundraising events, attend gala day events and also through no advertising.

Halkerston Site/ Power increase

Agreed to put on hold the purchase of new equipment.

No power increase as yet - on hold until confirmation from Ofcom.

AOCB

AT is looking to host an internet radio station (hobby) and requested the use of BDFM webstream. CM confirmed no increase to his workload.

Board agreed this was ok and a charge of £10 per month (including VAT) was confirmed. CC to invoice AT £120 annual charge.

CM confirmed it was possible to host several internet stations. Capacity could be increased as required.

DA left meeting

KT to complete minutes of meetings and share with board

'Life after lockdown' raised ;

Board agreed there would likely be a slow return with fewer presenters in studio and large number continuing with pre-records.

Suggestion that all presenters clean the studio and then perhaps a 'deep clean' weekly.

CM suggested we consider purchasing new software to improve quality of recordings. Use remote voice tracking. potentially use Bill Prentice legacy to purchase. Cost around £3000.

Board will discuss further.

Wonderful website is now closed for Donations.

CM will request Aydan Butt update website to remind about other sites that generate revenue for BDFM

Next Meeting to be called as required