**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF THE ARISAIG COMMUNITY TRUST**

Wednesday 19 February 2014, at the Land, Sea & Islands Centre

**Present**: Hugh Cameron; Sam Foster; Maggie Kane; Heather MacDougall; Eve MacKenzie *-* Chair; Gordon Stewart; Joyce Wilkinson

Alison Stewart (LDO)

**Apologies**: Rosemary Bridge; David Buick; Martine Wagenaar

**Declaration of Interest -** none

**Minutes of last meeting –** approved with some minor amendments. *Appr. Hugh, seconded Maggie*

**Matters arising from the minutes:**

**Playing field** – applications submitted to the following funds:

Legacy 2014 – Active Places Fund

The Robertson Trust

Big Lottery – Developing Community Assets

**Toilets** – it was agreed to spruce up the paintwork and tidy the grounds. Painting will be weather-dependent, but we will try to fit it in before Easter. The work will necessitate all or part of the toilet block being closed, obviously for as short a time as possible. Might be a good idea to wait until the LSIC is open (end of March), as it could offer limited alternative toilet provision.

Sam to investigate the Community RePaint scheme (a scheme which recycles surplus paint for use in community projects).

Sam has measured up and will produce a floor plan of the toilets, with a view to their re-design.

***Action:*** *Sam – paint & floor plan*

**Playing field wall –** Hugh had received two quotes for the wall. Both were very similar, and it was decided to accept Tam Kinsella’s quote as it was felt he had more experience with dry stone walling. Wall to be rebuilt with no access point onto Rhu road. Some discussion took place about the possibility of using the wall repair as part of the crofting course which Joyce is co-ordinating locally, but it was agreed that there wasn’t a suitable section for this.

***Action:*** *Hugh to contact Tam to confirm*

**LSIC –**

1. Success of LSIC – LSIC is generating sufficient funds to support other small community projects – for example, the playing field wall rebuild will be paid for from these funds. This needs to be publicised more widely in the community.
2. **Neolithic stone** – display - plinth and lights have been ordered. Archaeologists from RCAHMS will be visiting the LSIC to photograph the stone for their records.

Alison gave an update on the progress made by the **Rhutling project**, and described the fascinating picture which is building up of the many settlements on the Rhu Peninsula. This is a very significant part of Arisaig’s history.

***Action:*** *Alison – email Rhu settlement map*

**Treasurer’s report:**

Gordon Stewart gave the financial update:

Unrestricted Playing field Toilets

Current balances: £2,427.12 £2,034.74 £5,592.61

**other:** HIE end of project phase 2 claim and report *–* submitted end of January 2013. Approved and paid in full. Final project report due before 31.07.2014

**Climate Challenge Fund application** – Sam outlined the CCF application process, and explained how the application had been put together in some haste because of changes to the timescale of the allocation of CCF funds. The application was discussed in some detail, including the need to widen the community project, beyond the energy efficiency upgrade of the LSIC, to include transport and food production elements. There was positive support for trialling the sale of local garden crop surpluses at the LSIC.

***Action*** – Alison to check on food regulations plus display stands (*Gadsby*)

**Renewable energy** – Alison had met with Tiina Heinonen (Morar Community Trust) to re-visit the possibility of exploring local options for a renewable energy scheme (see Feb West Word ACT article). The matter was discussed at length, and it was agreed that Alison should continue to progress the idea, and that ACT would help organise an information stand at the Morar Gala Day (5 May), to be followed by an exhibition and seminar at the LSIC. The Board expressed some caution about the prospects of a workable joint community energy scheme.

***Action*** – Alison to continue developing plan

**Date of next meeting:**

Tuesday 18 March, 7 pm at LSIC