**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**DIRECTORS OF ARISAIG COMMUNITY TRUST**

Thursday 10 October 2019, 7pm, LSIC

**Present:** Julie Gordon (Chair), Iain Macniven (Vice Chair), Peter Fleming, Jane Foster, Pamela King, Paul Sheard

Tiina Heinonen (Minute Secretary).

**Apologies:** Rosemary Bridge (Treasurer), Alison O’Rourke

**Attending**: Alison Stewart, Gary Reavell, Mungo Orr,

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** none

**MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:** Tiina expressed apologies for distributing the Minutes and Agenda late this month.

5th September Minutes were approved subject to minor changes.

Proposed by Julie and seconded by Paul.

**MATTERS ARISING:**

**Rubbish on shorelines:** How to tackle the rubbish along the shorelines and the increase in tourist numbers was still a current topic. It was agreed that a meeting with local community groups and local businesses may bring some ideas forward. *Julie* will contact VAL for advice and possibly help facilitate the event.

**Website update:** A fairly in-depth conversation took place between the Directors and Mungo Orr regarding how the website was envisaged to be updated. Topics discussed included making sure all links, such as the link to the membership application and e-mail, work correctly; reviewing and updating all content; including larger reports and documents on the website, particularly documents related to the Housing Project for example.

*Mungo* is happy to update the website. The most pressing content to be updated was related to Eco Project as the next funding application is due soon. *Alison O* will review this.

*Alison S* will review content related to the LSIC and *Pam* will forward information regarding the Housing Project. *All Directors* will liaise regarding overall content.

**Interpretation panels:** Mungo emphasised that when considering the interpretation panels, it was important to think of them holistically looking at the location, landscape, height, materials used, prevailing weather conditions along with what the content was going to be and the orientation of it. With trying to secure funding for the boards too the Directors agreed there was a lot to think about*.* As a starting point *Peter* will sketch & map out wishes and thoughts of the shorefront and the interpretation panels. *Pam* will contact other community groups for inspiration and advice. *Julie* will get a working group together.*Mungo* is happy to give feedback on the boards.

*(Mungo left the meeting at 19.45)*

**GOWER TRUST:** No applications received.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Peter noted that maintenance costs for the toilets have never been noted. It was agreed that for the records *Peter* should submit a statement for the costs of materials used and overall hours spent. He also noted that the cleaners’ wages could also be reviewed. *The Directors* will discuss this in due course.

Anticipating her absence Rosemary e-mailed the Treasurer’s Report ahead of the meeting.

**Toilets:** £2790

**Playing Field: -**£24.45 **Gower Trust**: £1976.80

**Defibrillator:** £990.11 **Station Adoption:** -£136.95

**An Seada:** -£1549 **CCF:** £1564.92

**HLF WW1:** £2488.54 **Community Housing Survey:** £2728.70

**Senior Lunch Club:** £263.67 **Car Charging Point:** £11,629.92

**Bank Balances at 30August 2019: LSIC 20,643.90 ACT £34,064.92**

**(£19,154.12 restricted)**

**EV CHARGING:** The season is clearly tailing off as only 14 charging sessions were recorded in September. Peter has been in contact with SSE regarding problems with the automatic reader which should be fixed as soon as.

Alison S observed that not everyone driving electric cars know how to use the charging points. *Peter* will look into getting instructions together for the LSIC and the volunteers so they can assist when/if needed.

Alison S raised a question regarding the payments and invoices from SSE as she had received a bundle of them. *Peter* admitted that the current billing system is slightly complicated seeing that the toilets and Bill’s Shed for example are on different contracts. He is looking into this in more detail and trying his best to make everything easier to understand and deal with.

**PLAYING FIELD:** The Rugby Club was pleased to have the use of the field; this sparked a short conversation on the importance of promoting the field for other groups and re-assessing the maintenance needs.

The grass has been cut for this season; the fertiliser can be added at any time.

**LSIC/ECO PROJECT:** Alison S was pleased to announce that the visitor numbers have been very healthy with an increase from last year. This has also reflected positively in the overall turnover.

The new card payment system is now up and running properly allowing donations to be received over the phone and making the online shopping easier to manage.

The fire extinguishers were serviced recently which prompted Alison to question the costs and insurance related to these. *Iain* will check the insurance for the extinguishers.

The shop has helped the Primary School sell around 200 cards and a number of ‘treasure maps’ over the season thus proving to have a wider community benefit.

It was agreed that Bill’s Shed could be used during the Bonfire Night.

What to sell at the fundraising stall at the Christmas Fair was brought up briefly; it was decided to have a good think about this before making any commitments.

Alison S agreed that finding a perfect solution for the parking by the LSIC can be tricky during the height of the tourist season. To spark some ideas, she passed on information she had come across for the Directors to have a look and consider. Alison S also noted that a total ‘no parking’ should be avoided as the Centre should be seen as welcoming to the visitors. This topic was noted as a possible discussion point for the community.

Alison S pointed out that during the Arisaig Games’ day a number of people had come off the train and down to the LSIC not realising how far it was to the Games Field. She suggested it would be worth thinking about solutions for this.

Willow craft workshop will take place in time to get decorations together for the 10th Anniversary party.

A potential break-in to the Centre was stopped in time thanks to vigilant surveillance.

CCF funding application is due 22nd November.

**ARISAIG PUBLIC TOILETS:** Cistern needs to be repaired again; *Peter* will have a look.

**COMMUNITY LAND:** Pam had received a quote from Duncan Currie on work needed to be done at the Orchard. The work included pruning overhanging trees and building a deer fence around the area. No decisions were made regarding the work yet. As a start, some rushes could be cleared; *Julie* will check if the equipment used for the field is suitable. Few volunteers have come forward offering help planting fruit trees.

Pam is still waiting to hear back from the Scottish Land Fund.

Few contractors who had expressed interest in getting involved in the Housing Project had sent promotional information. Pam has been looking at these, but no decisions has been made.

*Pam* is looking into the Rural Housing Fund application.

*Peter* will be working on the Shorefront drawing; a visual presentation of the aspirations will be good for funding applications.

Getting a working group together was also mentioned; Zoe Pritchard and Lindsay Kenning have expressed interest in helping.

*Pam* is still looking into sourcing a permanent Christmas tree for the village.

**ARISAIG STATION:** Draft of the terms of the lease has been circulated among the Directors; *Iain* continues to take this forward.

It was noted that funding for the project should be in place before the final lease agreement is signed.

*Jane* had purchased gardening tools to help keep the planters and the station greenery tidy.

**10TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY:** *Pam* is working on the poster for the party; these will be displayed in the village and next West Word.

Invitations will be emailed.

*Julie* is looking into what is required for the bar.

The cake is still to be decided; *Pam* will look at options.

The question of food was discussed in brief and *Julie* will have a think about best options.

Occasional licence is required for the Christmas Fair as mulled wine will be offered. The singers have confirmed they will come and perform at the event.

**POTENTIAL PROJECTS AND FUNDING:** *Pam* will continue to look into Crowd Funding.

*Peter* has had very positive comments from SSE Sustainable Development Fund. Following this he will try to get a quote from Toby as a springboard for a funding application.

*Julie* is looking into AVIVA Community Fund.

**AOCB:**

**Silver Sands Trekking sign:** It was noted that the current location of the sign can be misleading. *Iain* will look into this.

**Sack barrel** will be purchased for the LSIC.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** 14th November 2019 at 7pm, LSIC

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm.