**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS OF ARISAIG COMMUNITY TRUST**

Thursday 25 April 2019, 7pm, Land, Sea and Islands Centre

**Present:** Julia Gordon (Chair), Iain Macniven (Vice Chair), Rosemary Bridge (Treasurer), Peter Fleming, Jane Foster, Paul Sheard.

Tiina Heinonen (Minute Secretary)

**Apologies:** Pamela King.

**Attending**: Alison O’Rourke.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None presented.

**MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:** The Minutes (21 March 2019) are approved by Peter and seconded by Julie.

**MATTERS ARISING:**

**Seaweed Farming:** *Peter* will contact Scottish Seaweeds for an update on their activities.

**Senior Citizen Lunch Club:** A new date will be arranged for Shirley Buchanan’s (Community Partnership Officer) visit to discuss community-based care; *Julie* will contact her to arrange.

**GOWER TRUST:** No applications were received this month.

Heather MacDougall sent her Thank You to the Gower Trust and the support they provide.

**LSIC EXTENSION/WORKSHOP/CAR PARK:** The completion certificate is now in place for Bill’s Shed.

Peter gave a brief update on the final work and figures included in the LEADER’s milestones 3 & 4 funding process. To keep within the timescale, and terms & conditions, *Peter* will send the final information to Martin Culbertson (LEADER).

A brief discussion took place regarding plans for the disabled parking; *Peter* will complete the work for this.

**PLAYING FIELD:** A Thank You is extended to Hugh Cameron for fixing the mower.

The gate by the surgery needs to be fixed. *Julie* will take this forward.

There is one bag of fertiliser still in the shed to feed the field; *Paul* will take this job forward.

Notices will be put up regarding the approaching Festival of Running.

**LSIC/ECO PROJECT:** The Eco Project has been busy helping the Festival of Running become as eco friendly as possible. As the number of participants has already reached over 500 the event will provide good promotional and economic opportunity. LSIC will open slightly earlier on the day and Bill’s Shed will be used as a safe storage space for the runners. Loos will be available at the field during the festival; it was however suggested it may be worth keeping a closer eye on the Public Toilets during the event.

*Alison S* and *Alison O* will both be present to oversee that everything around the Centre runs smoothly.

The WW1 exhibition will continue until the end of April.

There are plans to hold a Seed Swap with the Gardening Club at the Village BBQ.

Arisaig Garden Trail (around the village) takes place on 22nd June, 12pm-5pm.

A lot of clearing and planting has been going on during the spell of glorious weather, thus the tool library has been slightly at the ‘back burner’ so to speak.

There are plans to do litter picking.

A trip hazard has been noted by the back of Bill’s Shed; *Peter* will have a look at a best solution to ensure safety.

**ARISAIG PUBLIC TOILETS:** Kyle Woolfenden has been appointed to help look after the toilets.

User numbers for the toilets are not available yet; *Julie* will see if they are available for next meeting. The numbers, total of donations received and charging for the toilets will be discussed at a later date.

Putting up additional notices inside the Public Toilets to further highlight the purpose and location of the donation boxes was suggested. *Peter* will come up with a solution.

*Peter* will check if it is possible to put an outside tap for gardening purposes.

A suggestion to keep the toilets open 24hrs has been put forward. Following a short discussion, it was decided the opening hours will remain as they are.

**COMMUNITY LAND:** Julie gave a brief update on the meeting held at the Arisaig Hotel. Topics and suggestions discussed included: extra car parking area along the shoreline, recycling and bins which was a big topic, how to highlight points of interests to the visitors, and location of a bus shelter within the centre of the village. It was great to get a range of views and ideas from members of the community and business owners.

The surveyor has now priced the land by the shoreline and the Playing Field; all information related to these two land areas will be submitted to the Scottish Land Fund. Pricing of the land earmarked for the housing project is still to be followed up.

Trip to Rum was a success as it gave a good insight on different elements related to a housing project and how to take these forward. The elements included looking at differences in houses built on- and off-site, working in partnership with a larger company, and choosing the contractor among other topics. Next trip will take the directors to Mull.

Consultation held on 5th April was well attended and a number of individuals already expressed interest in the proposed housing development.

Next meeting with Sam Foster and his landscape architect Marion Preez (Urban Pioneers) will concentrate on setting the benchmark for the housing project and have a closer look at plans for the shorefront.

**ARISAIG STATION:** Progress of the talks is ongoing but has proven to be quite slow. *Iain* will continue to monitor and take forward.

It was noted that the new electronic information boards have been incorrectly installed so that each gives information for the other platform, leading tourists and other passengers who are unfamiliar with the station to stand on the wrong platform while waiting for their train.  This is a serious problem which has been reported to Network Rail/ScotRail for urgent action.  *Iain* to monitor.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**

**LSIC**: £28,401.89 **Unrestricted:** -£595.34 **Toilets:** £1,559.65

**Playing Field:** £15.92 **Gower Trust**: £5,100.80 **Defibrillator:** £1,195.47

**Station Adoption:** -£136.95 **An Seada:** -£14,705.48 **CCF:** -£1,442.11

**HLF WW1:** £9,249.21 **Community Housing Survey: -**£2.11

**Senior Lunch Club:** £263.67 **Car Charging Point:** -£12,405.80

**Bank Balance:** £15,075.07 (at 31 Mar 2019; includes £17,384.72 restricted funds)

As the financial year has come to an end and the books need to be examined it was agreed *Rosemary* will explore possible companies to do this, and their pricing.

It was noted that the Defibrillator Fund is there to ensure the defibrillator is regularly serviced. *Iain* will check when the next service is due.

Rosemary wished to note that Judy had truly gone beyond her duty to ensure the ‘handover’ was smooth and as easy as possible; Rosemary expresses a great big Thank You.

**POTENTIAL PROJECTS AND FUNDING:**

Application for Calor Gas has to be in by 29th April. *Julie* is working on this with Pam’s assistance.

It was noted there may be funding available from Marine Harvest that ACT could apply for. *Iain* will look at this in more detail.

*Julie* will contact the SPAR Area Manager and make enquiries regarding their ‘carrier bag’ fund.

*Pam* is working on the Strengthening Communities Fund.

*Peter* continues to explore capital funding opportunities for the extension. He informed that to be realistic with the project he is only concentrating on funding sources that offer assistance in the region of £50,000 or over. He highlighted the Regeneration Capital Fund which has to be applied through the local authority. *Iain* will contact the local Councillors for further information.

*Peter* will contact Community Assets Team and start a discussion related to their new round of funding.

Angus MacDonald has shown interest in the Trust’s activities; *Julie* will invite him to one of the director’s meetings.

**VILLAGE BBQ:** *Julie* will contact the Games Committee to confirm the marquee’s availability for the day.

Marine Harvest has donated salmon for the BBQ. Exploring the possibility to offer a more American themed food was also suggested.

Plans for the annual football game was not confirmed yet.

**AOCB:**

**Station planters:** *Jane* will organise the compost and summer flowering plants for the station.

**Gas cylinder:** It was noted there is a large gas cylinder sitting unused; *Julie* will explore best use and storage for this.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Thursday 23 May 2019 at 7pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.40pm.