



SGOIL AN IOCHDAIR AGUS A'CHOIMHEARSNACHD

Minutes of AGM held on 21st July 2021 on Zoom

Present	Position	Status
Peter Bird	Vice - chair	Individual member
Ronnie MacPhee	Trustee	Individual member
Jemma MacVicar	In attendance	
Morag Ann Steele	Treasurer	Community Council member
Neil Johnstone	Member	Sgoil an Iochdair Parent Council
Kate Dawson	Secretary	Individual member

1. Presentations:

- Annual report & Treasurer's report:** were presented by SKD submitted and approved by MAS, seconded PB. Approved accounts noted. There was little activity during lock-down. In the previous year, maintenance continued in terms of grass cutting and rolling the pitch, and drains were maintained. Donations covered most of the costs incurred. Our current bank balance stands at £25,031.34
- Appointment of Accountants:** All voting members present agreed to appoint Campbell Stewart MacLennan and Co, Portree proposed PB, seconded RM
- Membership report and review of subscriptions:** presented by KD, all agreed proposal for subscriptions to remain at £1 for individuals and £5 for organisations per year.

2. Nominations and election of new trustees:

- Nomination of new Trustees:** We agreed that as DR MacRury and Stephen MacAulay have been unable to attend any meetings, have not been in contact, and according to the constitution, they will be stood down as trustees. Neil Johnstone agrees to nomination as a trustee, proposed Kate Dawson, seconded Ronnie MacPhee, agreed by all present.

We have a vacancy for one trustee who is an individual member, one trustee who is a member representing an organisation, and one trustee co-opted.

b. Nomination of new officers:

Margaret Ann Steele proposed Peter Bird as chairman, seconded by Neil Johnstone, all agreed. Peter Bird proposed Margaret Ann Steele as treasurer, seconded by Ronnie MacPhee, all agreed.

There were no proposals for the position of vice-chair, which can be addressed at a following meeting.

3. Projects for 2021

- Playgrounds:** Kate and Neil have reviewed the school and grounds. These areas are quite dry at present. Possible developments include:
 - A nature trail around the area planted with trees, including central seating area
 - Swing with disabled access and new play equipment at Cuidhe na Gamhne
 - Trim trail
 - Resurfacing of ball park
 - Repair of existing play equipment and resurfacing of play areas

There are issues with access to existing play areas. The council have padlocked the ball play area because of vandalism, and the playpark because of the need for repairs. The vandalism issue is being addressed with increasing CCTV. The maintenance and closure issue – we are awaiting a reply from the council (Norrie) about the standards framework.

We've also contacted North Uist Playpark group, who have asked for the play equipment company to do all of the planning. They are planning on using Hag or Timberplay. We have mostly used Kompan and Wicksteed in the past.

Kate and Neil will continue to seek the framework that we need to comply with for any works.

- b. Fundraising:** In the past, our fundraising has come from donations and legacies, grants, and fundraising events. Kate has undertaken most of the grant applications, with support from UCVO to find potential funders. For fundraising events, Morag Ann, Jemma and Neil are all happy to help. Jemma is a development officer for North Uist and Benbecula, and can provide additional advice and direction for project funding.
- c. Social media & website:** At the moment our website is looking dated. Our Facebook page doesn't have a lot on it, and although it was linked to a twitter account, this hasn't been checked for a while. We don't have an Instagram account. We could link our posts more effectively as well. Kate will speak to her daughter to come up with better links, strategies and ideas.
- d. Football pitch:** We agreed to delegate this to a subgroup. If we do this, and we are supporting any funding applications they will need to report to the trustees, and have a trustee on the subgroup. Archie MacDonald is the main contact. Kate will contact him to let him know what we have discussed.
- e. Football – mobile resource:** We agreed that this could be delegated to the proposed football subgroup.
- f. Trees, seating etcetera:** We agreed that this could be on the back burner for 2021-2022.
- g. Paths and cycle routes:** The paths and cycle route ideas are being developed by the community council. Ideas have progressed well, out to community consultation. They have a community cycling event coming up. We also have some ongoing contact with Storas to do with drainage around the path at Torlum. We also have some contact with our local councillor about the installation of bus stops locally. This could potentially enhance the path and cycle route project. We agreed that we could turn around a quick project to install bicycle racks with the new bus shelters. Kate will source racks and apply for funding.

4. AOCB:

- a. Sculpture:** One of the aspirations of funders has been to incorporate public art into project funding. We have a brief for a community sculpture, but this is not really the remit of this group, even though it will create a sense of place. Kate to meet with Morag Anna and Ann to discuss this further.
- b. South Uist and Eriskay Forum survey:** This survey is looking at how the communities in South Uist and Eriskay, and the various groups, charities and public organisations create a more coherent approach to development. The survey is available online and on paper. Morag Ann will forward to all to complete.
- c. Village in bloom:** This is run by North Uist and Benbecula Development company, to raise funds for community halls. If you have photographs of gardens and public planting displays, they can be posted to the Facebook page for the development company and the winning photograph will garner a prize of £500 for their community hall.

5. Next ordinary meeting: 6th or 13th September