

SGOIL AN IOCHDAIR AGUS A'CHOIMHEARSNACHD

Minutes of meeting of trustees 22nd June 2017

Present

Peter Bird (Vice-chair)
Ronnie MacPhee (Trustee)
Kate Dawson (Secretary)
Morag Ann MacAulay

Apologies

Mairi Bremner

Minuted by Kate Dawson

1. Welcome: Peter welcomed everyone to the meeting

ACTION

2. Approval of Minutes (March 2017): The minutes were approved as drawn (RM, PB)

3. New Items:

- a. **UCVO:** KD had responded to an online survey about support to voluntary organisations. This reached Sheena Stewart of UCVO who found the comments a little unfair as we are not members of UCVO. After discussion, we agreed that we would reply to UCVO, noting that the organisation does not have a clearly defined or accessible profile locally. Their consultations process is not easy to view, and their online presence is less than it used to be. KD to respond and arrangemembership, as this had previously been approved at a meeting.
- b. **Footpaths:** Two footpath projects running in parallel.
 - i. One is being progressed by the community council, to do with new paths around the area, especially a potential path from the rear of Rubha Doigeag to Talla an Iochdair, including a crossing for the main drain and a floating plastic ground stabiliser.
 - ii. The second project is some funding for the existing paths, which include the corner plot, the path at Griminish and the path at Loch Skippoort. The first path is on land owned by us, the other two we need written permissions. KD to identify who this might be. (Storas? Grazings committees?) Morag Ann will check with MacAulays Askernish regarding construction methods and unit costs. There are also opportunities to plant trees at the Griminish end of the path, to stabilise the wet ground and provide some shelter.
 - iii. Ronnie suggested a potential future project, of improving the old school path from the end of Ardmore heading out towards the track to the windmills. This would create a link in a developing network of paths.

4. Matters arising:

- a. **Benches:** We have several quotes for installation:
 - i. R J MacRury – £850 including bench fixings
 - ii. D MacKenzie – £500 including all materials
 - iii. MacInnes Bros - £200 – no detail re fixings etc
 - iv. MacAulays Askernish – £275 including galvanised fixings.We agreed that we would engage MacAulays Askernish, who gave us a more detailed bid including standards of installation. We agreed to apply to the ACE community fund to assist with installing the benches. KD to complete the application and to return to the community council ASAP
- b. **Community event/Citywise:** The team from Manchester were here at the start of June. During their stay, they assisted with a community clean-up along the causeway, as well as undertaking some painting around the school, and removing the torn windbreak netting from the fence at the front of the school. Not all of the projects were completed environmental restoration. The skip was also used by the hall committee to assist with some clearing up. We discussed undertaking more clean-up events, ideas include: undertaking this earlier in the year, doing more than one a year.
- c. **Fencing and repairs at Iochdar School:** The work at Iochdar School includes painting the fence around the playpark, for which we have quotes from Skinners and John Linich, we agreed to award the contract for the painting to John Linich. We have three quotes for fencing around the turning circle, the lowest of which is from MacInnes Brothers, although there is no breakdown of costs or materials. We agreed that KD should contact MIB for more information, as their quote is around 1/3 of the basic costs of the nearest quote.
- d. **Scottish Water:** The new pipeline has been installed without digging up the path. Scottish water did not reply to the letter asking about a bench; this was probably not received in time for a response before the work started.
- e. **Footpath email:** The old road path has been swept since we first contacted the council. Angus MacDonald has been in touch to suggest a site meeting at the old road to discuss traffic management options. We agreed that the key sites to install traffic management would be at Lovats, Talla and Cuidhe na Gamhne, as well as restricting vehicular access to the corner path. KD to contact Angus to arrange a date

KD

KD

KD,
trustees

5. Pitch:

- a. **Engaging other groups:** KD met with Ian MacDonald of the Uist Football Association. He is broadly supportive of the proposal to work with SAIAAC to upgrade the pitch to benefit all local teams and football enthusiasts. The next meeting of the Uist Football Association is on 18th July 2017 at the sports hub, Liniclate at 7pm. KD and any trustees to attend to discuss ideas and progress.

KD,
trustees

- b. **Fencing the pitch, ditching and drains:** We have received quotes on fencing the pitch and improving the drainage at the front of the pitch from MacInnes Brothers and from MacAulays Askernish. This includes replacing the field gate, and installing culverts under the access track, and draining water under the old road and into the existing roadside drains. The quote from MacInnes Brothers lacks detail and itemised costings, whereas the quote from MacAulays makes it clear what we will be paying for. We agreed to base our funding applications on the quote from MacAulays.
- c. **Improving existing surface:** We have not had any contact from DSL. The area has been reviewed by D Bagley, who has suggested revisiting the project after drainage works. J Linich has also reviewed the contract and provided costings for cutting and rolling the pitch in season.

6. Accounts:

We discussed a recent document from our accountants about cloud-based digital accounting. Morag Ann will follow up with them about whether this is relevant to us.

7. Fundraising:

- a. We discussed running a race night: Ronnie will ask Harry Luney, Kate will ask Donyards about previous events. Possible venues include Old Creagorry Bar or Talla an Iochdair. Morag Ann is costing out a race night package – these are all around £30, although equipment may be required.
<https://www.racenightservices.co.uk/how-to-run-a-race-night/>

8. Next meeting:

The next meeting will be at the end of August, date to be agreed.

MM