

# SGOIL AN IOCHDAIR AGUS A'CHOIMHEARSNACHD

Minutes of meeting of trustees 27<sup>th</sup> March 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 Bird welcomed all to the meeting. We noted that Mairi was unable to attend due to her husband falling ill; we wish them well.
- 2. Approval of Minutes (Feb 2016):** The minutes were approved as drawn (PB, RM)
- 3. Matters arising:**
  - a. Benches – delivered. Only one quote for installation, £850 per plinth, further quotes required.
  - b. Community event, environmental restoration. The group from Manchester University are coming this summer with a group of around 8, to undertake some environmental projects. Next meeting will discuss in more detail, once we know dates and numbers.
  - c. Qinetiq volunteering day: KD to contact Joan MacIsaac to see if this an option for this year.
  - d. Repairs at Iochdar School: The ground at the front of the school is unsuitable for a stone wall. KD to approach council and other contractors re fencing. (Council, MacInnes Bros, MacAulays). We will continue with the grass cutting.
  - e. Community council: we will exchange minutes as our activities are complementary. Relevant development projects for the community council include: roadside safety and traffic; polycrubs;
- 4. New items:**
  - a. We agreed to remain members of the Uist and Barra Sports Council.
  - b. Scottish water have written asking for permission to bury a pipe parallel to the footpath across the corner plot. We agreed to this. We also agreed to contact them to let them know of the plan to site a bench nearby, and to ask if they could contribute to siting the bench plinth.
  - c. We have received a copy of an email between Shona MacDonald and the council about maintenance and safety

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along the old road/footpath. We agreed to respond, copying Shona and the Community Council. We discussed the need to manage broken glass around the bottle bank, and to control traffic along the old road. We suggested using half-fences/gates across the road to maintain access but prevent cars and vans making free use. There are also no signs indicating that this is a footpath, not for cars.

- d. Email from Iochdar School: Money raised from the co-op fund can't be used for other activities. KD will respond to Iochdar School, who were looking for fence repairs (yes) and help with a school trip (no)

**5. Accounts:**

We have £39521.07 in the account. The annual accounts are being prepared by the accountants.

**6. Football Pitch:**

- a. We noted the lack of progress with a business plan and fundraising. KD explained that the size of the project and lack of input from the main users was the main obstacle to progress.
- b. SportsHub: We are now members of the SportsHub. However we can't regard our pitch as part of the hub.
- c. Letters of support: we have received some letters of support from local councillors.
- d. Engaging users: KD to contact Ian MacDonald, a key person in the Uist and Barra Football Association, to see what support and input we could garner there. This would include issues such as identifying users, demonstrate the need for a 4G pitch, development and demonstration of links between teams, especially between junior, womens, and senior teams. This discussion could also cover how local teams work towards the quality mark, draft usage plan. This could potentially include walking football, women's football, junior training, Iochdar School team, Donyard's youth team, referees group, youth club,
- e. Phased approach: Morag Ann proposed that we should start to work on the pitch, we could take a phased approach, applying for funds for each section separately. KD noted that the pitch would probably not get funding without addressing the need for changing facilities. The proposed order would therefore be: Fence the pitch; improve the current surface to enable casual use; build changing facilities; upgrade the pitch; install lighting. Morag Ann agreed to locate and forward details of a group that could undertake maintenance on the current pitch. KD to get quotes for fencing and maintenance. From J Linich, D Bagley and professional company referred to.
- f. Contacts: KD to make list of all coaches, referees, chairs of clubs for contacts list, possibly via Ian MacDonald

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Registered Office: The Old Schoolhouse, Iochdar, South Uist

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Company number: SC285959 Charity number: SC032387

**7. Fundraising:**

- a. We continue to receive small sums from the co-op to cover expenses of ongoing maintenance and small projects. This funding will come to an end in April 2017.
- b. The trustees proposed that we hold another New Year event in 2017-18. No lead fundraiser agreed.
- c. We are signed up with Mydonate (BT) and Localgiving for people who wish to use online fundraising.

**8. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be the AGM, in March 2017. To avoid 20<sup>th</sup> March
