

# SGOIL AN IOCHDAIR AGUS A'CHOIMHEARSNACHD

Minutes of meeting of trustees 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018

## Present

Peter Bird (Vice-chair)  
Morag Ann Steele (treasurer)  
Kate Dawson (Secretary)  
Ronnie MacPhee (Trustee)  
Donald John (DJ) MacDonald (UCVO)

## Apologies

Mairi Bremner (Chairwoman)  
Stephen MacAulay (Iochdar Saints)

Minuted by Kate Dawson

1. **Welcome:** Peter welcomed everyone to the meeting ACTION

2. **Approval of Minutes (21<sup>st</sup> August):** The minutes were approved as drawn

RM, MAS

3. **New Items:**

- a. **UCVO:** Donald MacDonald came to our meeting to introduce himself, his role and to brief us on his current evaluation of the third sector in the Uists. He has consulted with 21 organisations already, all members of UCVO, assessing them against key outcome measures, identifying examples of good practice and introducing some questions to ask of ourselves as an organisation. We had a useful discussion about our activities and structure. On re-reading the report, it is not clear if these key outcome measures are for ourselves to assess and return to UCVO, or for UCVO to complete.

SKD to check

DJ also let us know that if we are members of the Uist and Barra Sports Council, we are automatically members of UCVO as well, simplifying our membership subscriptions.

We discussed the UCVO newsletter; this will be produced regularly, separately from am Paipear. Articles for inclusion should be sent by email to DJ.

All

- b. **Xavier Bosch revisit:** We discussed Xavier's request that we apply for funding for him to visit again. This will prevent us from applying for other funds from awards for all. After the previous application, few of our objectives were achieved. We decided not to apply for funding for his visit. However, we will maintain contact to see if his team may be able to help us and partner groups when they come.

SKD

- c. **Path:** Peter updated the meeting about progress with the proposed paths around Iochdar. A tender document is being prepared by the council. The path is proposed to be the width of two wheelchairs, and will run from the school to the pitch at the hall. The proposal includes review of the bicycle racks at the school.

Com. council

#### 4. Matters arising:

a. **Maintenance at Rudha Chlachain:** SKD met with staff at HHP to follow up the proposal to maintain the tree planting at Rudha Chlachain. She was passed on to a support worker in Stornoway whose role it is to support the formation of community groups who support residents. She has passed us on to the woodland trust, who will give us some trees. SKD will follow up with Mr Linich re the maintenance. In addition, the woodland trust are now sending us 30 trees in March. The woodland trust will help us with tree planting and a survey of maintenance needs of existing trees.

SKD

b. **PRAEG:** A small amount of money has been raised through this scheme: <https://surveypraeg.com/naidheachdan/> - simple to register, complete a weekly questionnaire to raise around £1 per week for charity.

ALL

c. **Development of facilities at Iochdar School:** We met with members of the parent council (Thomas Fisher) David Bagley, members of SAIAAC and community council. The HT was not available. We identified the key problem with the site – it is low lying and easily inundated with water. Most solutions have been to install hard surfaces that are water resistant.

We identified a rocky area at the centre of the field that may be amenable to installing an area for recreation (seating, climbing, balancing etc) and a grassy area that could be levelled for ball play. The toddler play area was inundated with water, but the sand could be levelled up and grassed over. We looked at whether we could improve surfacing and drains. SKD has contacted the council for assistance with survey work for drains etc.

SKD

SKD has also contacted various play equipment suppliers who have confirmed that wet-pour play surfaces last better in wet environments.

d. **Repair of existing facilities/handyman contracts:** John Linich is already contracted for maintenance, mowing and painting. We agreed that Jimmy MacRury and his apprentice Uilleam Brass would be retained for minor repairs and joinery. SKD to update Jimmy and John. Playground paint - could we source this through Skinners paint shop?

SKD

e. **New Trustees:** We are still short of one trustee and we have two trustees that are not often at meetings. We discussed co-opting a trustee from the parent council– to be co-opted once discussed at parent council. Also, we talked about whether someone from the show committee would like to be involved on the board. (names that came up – Neillie MacPherson, David MacInnes, Lizanne Boyle, parent council members) – we did not agree on a name or who should contact them.

f. **Storas Uibhist:** No word of the grant program – KD will continue to monitor

g. **Benches:** The benches at Ardivachair are in need of paint. KD has contacted the joiner who made the benches concerning repairs. KD to contact J Linich for painting.

SKD

h. **Pitch:** SKD has contacted the hall committee who are happy for us to lead on an application to upgrade the septic tank, with possible facilities for camper van waste as well. SKD to apply to awards for all and the SCLF.

SKD

John Linich comments that mechanical peat cutting on the crofts to the west has led to an increase of water flowing onto the pitch area. He has been unable to roll the pitch again. He suggests a drain across the west end of the pitch, running along the fence line to the existing drains. KD to contact DJ at MacAulay Askernish re this.

- i. **Training trailer:** SKD has identified a potential supplier of training equipment in a trailer: this will require storage and funding. This could be used at the school and at the hall pitch.
- j. **Engaging other groups:** We have not been able to meet with the Uist and Barra Football Association.

**5. Accounts:**

- a. **Giftaid:** MAS to find out how we can claim this: we are registered for this at HMRC but claiming mechanism was not passed on at original hand-over.

**6. Next meeting:**

~~The next meeting will be 11<sup>th</sup> Feb~~

**SKD**

**MAS**