

SGOIL AN IOCHDAIR AGUS A'CHOIMHEARSNACHD

Minutes of meeting 6th March 2012 at 7:30pm at Kate's House

Present

Mairi Bremner (Chairwoman)
Norma MacIntyre (Treasurer)
Peter Bird
Kate Dawson (Secretary)

Apologies

Howard Warner (Vice chair)
Stephen MacAulay
Ronnie MacPhee
Angus Campbell

Minuted by Kate Dawson

1. Welcome: Mairi welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of meetings of AGM 2011 were approved. (PB/MB)

3. Matters arising:

- a) Pitch leases: KD has contacted the lawyers recently to update them about the details of the lease.
- b) New trustees: Peter Bird has been added to the companies register of trustees.
- c) Junior athletics club funds: The football club is currently not running, and the Junior Youth Club as asked us to retain the funds for our own use. KD to check that the junior football club has really folded, and to inform the accountants once details are confirmed.
- d) There are a few routine maintenance issues to be managed over the coming spring. This includes finishing the painting of the play area fence, raking and replacing the sand in the play area, clearing litter from areas managed by SAIAAC. We agreed that we would have another community volunteer day to help with the tidying up. We agreed that we would go for the oil-based paint for the fence painting. We will also need to cost out replacement sand.

4. Accounts:

- a) Draft accounts were sent out to trustees prior to the meeting. The accounts were approved, with corrections to dates. The signing pages were signed (KD, MB).
- b) The OSCR return was signed (PB).
- c) We discussed the option of becoming a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation. This would make the standards for our accounts simpler and cheaper. However, there would be considerable work and costs in changing over our constitution again. We decided not to pursue this without further information. KD to write to the accountants for guidance on costs

ACTION
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ALL KD KD
KD

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5. AGM preparation:

- a) Membership was discussed: current membership is fairly static. KD to email application forms to all trustees and members, also to put in public places to encourage new membership. In particular, it would be good to get representation from younger people, KD to contact the Duke of Edinburgh Award leader for ideas.
- b) Draft annual report reviewed
- c) AGM date confirmed as 29th March 2012, posters and papers to be prepared accordingly
- d) Norma has intimated that she will step down as treasurer and as a trustee, leaving a vacancy for an individual member.

KD/ALL

KD

KD

6. Fundraising:

- a) The Bingo last year raised over £900
- b) We were unclear as to whether the football club or any other group were going to help us raise funds, for example by organising a disco. Item rolled over.

7. Trees:

KD has been approached on a number of occasions by people looking for trees. We agreed that if we were ordering trees in the future, we would allow members of the community to add to a bulk order, reducing costs for us and increasing local biodiversity in one move. We could also sell on rooted whips as a fundraiser.

8. Benches at Ardivachair:

- a) HW and KD have been up to Ardivachair to look at the potential bench sites. The best spot seems to be in the lee of the cemetery wall, facing out to sea. We discussed picnic benches vs plain seats, camper vans and bins. We need to identify who owns the site, sort out a lease, cost out the benches, a plinth and a public bin.
- b) We also discussed and agreed setting up a fund to encourage people to put up benches in public places, aiming to fund one bench each year. KD to draft an application form for further discussion. The benefit of doing this is that people would be more prepared to volunteer sites, to undertake to organisation, and to look after their bench.

KD/HW

KD

9. Problems with the road into Iochdar

The road between the turning into Iochdar and Iochdar School is causing problems. Overgrown trees and hedges are obscuring the view up the road, which is narrow, with no passing spaces, and a double bend. There is no speed limit, and the warning signs about school pupils come after the hazards are passed.

Some of the visual obstruction is caused by the trees planted by the Junior Youth Club, and those trees closest to the road could be cut down or thinned. We could do this at the community clean-up day.

ALL

We also agreed to write to the council asking for improvements to road safety features along the stretch. This would include improved signage, a speed limit, and designated passing spaces. We discussed the possibility of developing a footpath away from the road so that pupils could walk safely to school. We will ask the council if they would consider working as a partner with us to develop a route to the school.

KD

10. School Playing Fields: Meeting with parent council and pupil council.

KD met with the parent council to discuss our projects. Main issues for the school include waterlogging of the playing fields area.

The meeting with the pupils included support for undertaking a clean-up, an additional public bin near the bus stop, replacement panels for the shelter (already completed), a dry path along the mown area through the trees, possibly including a footbridge over the drain, and the removal of redundant fencing. The pupils would also like a bell up at the top of the field, as it is hard to hear the school bell from there.

Additional developments requested included: a different roundabout, a climbing frame, a pond, activity trail and more seating. We agreed that we would look at developing seating, the activity trail and a climbing area, but not at replacing the existing roundabout. We also agreed that if the school wanted a pond, then this could be led by them, as the maintenance and safety issues would exceed our resources.

KD to cost out: climbing frame, dry path, footbridge, removal of broken fencing, additional bin, for possible future mini-projects.

KD

11. Meeting with Neil Campbell

KD met with Neil to go through our list of current projects to see which ones fitted with his remit for community development. He has a remit to develop footpaths and cycle routes, in particular using QR codes to help people download information from bus-stops (for example). The project would

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probably involve incorporating bicycle racks with the public transport network, with bicycle racks being installed at bus shelters. The shelters would then have a poster with a QR code leading to the walk information leaflet. The walk/cycle would be waymarked in some way, possibly with more QR codes. We discussed whether the waymarks could be fired on ceramic tiles, incorporating information. Neil also mentioned developing a community cycle project based somewhere in Linciate.

The initial plan would be for Neil to develop these ideas a little further, and for us to put in the funding bid to get the project moving. The first three routes to be looked at would be the loop round Iochdar and Carnan, Carnan and Ardnamonie, and Carnan to West Gerinish.

12. Community Energy Company:

We agreed not to renew our affiliation with this company for the time being.

13. Facebook:

We agreed that we would have a facebook page, since about half of our members are on facebook; this would be a good way of setting up event reminders and increasing publicity.

14. AOCB

a) There was no AOCB

8. Next meeting: AGM Thursday 29th March 2012 in Iochdar Hall. Next ordinary meeting will be the first Tuesday in June.

KD