



SGOIL AN IOCHDAIR AGUS A CHOIMHEARSNACHD

ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

In March 2015 we met for our ninth AGM, reviewing the 2013-2014 and setting our aims for 2013-2014. Our main aim in the year was to develop the plans for the football pitch.

Just to recap, our main object remains to support recreation and sport in the catchment area of lochdar School. We do this as follows:

1. To promote interest and participation in sport, and related recreation in the catchment area of lochdar School, especially in the interests of education, social welfare and health.
2. To assist in the coordination of various sports clubs and recreational organisations operating in the catchment area of lochdar school, both generally and in relation to specific projects.
3. To examine the available sports and recreation facilities in the lochdar area as against current and anticipated need and to make applications to the local council, local enterprise company and any other appropriate body in this connection.
4. To liaise with the councils sports development staff in furtherance of these objects.
5. To raise funds for such charitable purposes as the association may deem appropriate.

The people responsible for the company are the trustees. At June 2014, our trustees were:

M Bremner (Chairwoman, individual member)
Peter Bird (Vice chairman, lochdar School Parents' Council)
J H Warner (Treasurer, Individual Member)
R MacPhee (Junior Youth Club)
A Campbell (lochdar Saints)
S MacAulay (lochdar Saints)
D R MacRury (SUBAS)

For 2014-2015 we set ourselves the following objectives:

1. General maintenance of benches and tree planted areas.
2. To commission and consult on detailed pitch plans for the pitch at lochdar Hall
3. Liaison with the school, pupils and parents' council concerning the maintenance and development of the school playground.
4. Liaison with third parties
5. Involving other groups especially potential user groups
6. Fundraising

1. **General maintenance of facilities, benches and tree planted areas:**

We have agreement for the placement of amenity seating at the graveyard at Ardivachair and at the social housing at Rubha Doigeag. We have raised sufficient funds for the benches, which have been commissioned.

We continue to keep the path at lochdar road end clear from grass. We also cut back the trees at Rubha Clachain.

We agreed that any fence painting should be undertaken by a commercial painter.

2. **To develop the pitch plans for lochdar Hall**

We used funding for awards for all to commission plans for the football pitch. The plans are complete and we are developing a business plan and funding strategy. During the year, we agreed to apply for a 4g pitch with changing facilities and an option to provide floodlighting.

3. **Liaison with the school, pupils and parents' council concerning the maintenance and development of the school facilities.**

We have continued to keep lochdar School informed of our activities. We are also in contact with the council concerning general maintenance issues around the school and play areas, including drainage.

4. **Liaison with third parties:**

During the year we kept in contact with HIE and Storas Uibhist. The former is an economic development agency, and the latter manages the South Uist estate to the benefit of the community. Both groups are potential sources of support and advice for the football pitch development.

We also spoke to Emma MacSween of CnES (department of sport and health) who gave us useful guidance concerning similar projects in Lewis.

We also contacted the Lionacleit Sports Hub, in order to clarify our relationship with the hub. We cannot be considered part of the hub, but will maintain a close relationship with the hub, and will apply for

5. **Involving other groups and user groups**

The following groups were members of our organisation in 2014-2015:

- lochdar Junior Youth Club
- lochdar Saints Football club

We have maintained links with:

- SUBAS (South Uist and Benbecula Annual Show)
- Storas Uibhist
- lochdar Hall Committee
- Grazings committee

- Iochdar School & Iochdar School Board
- Iochdar Junior Football club

In 2016-2015, we were members of:

- Uists and Barra Sports Council
- Third Sector Hebrides. We agreed to rejoin UCVO when the two groups de-merged.

We continue to maintain a website and a facebook page. One of our trustees sits on the Local Advisory Group for the council's development office. Another trustee is a member of the board of trustees for Storas Uibhist.

6. Fundraising

During the accounting year, we continued to raise funds for recurring costs. Tragically, at the end of 2014, one of the Iochdar Saints Football Club died following a road traffic accident. This stimulated a range of fundraising activities in his memory, with funds being donated towards the pitch.

During the 2014-2015 financial year, the charity raised funds at a New Year's Dance. Fiona MacLachlan ran a fund-raising Bingo, Charlene Hannaway ran a quiz night and dance, Roddy Mackay undertook a zipwire challenge, and Ronnie MacPhee organised a charity football match

During the year, the charity raised over £11,321 from fundraising activities, received £3,488 in donations and grants totalling £3,100 from local authority ward funding towards the new football pitch.

For the purposes of our fundraising and projects, we clarified once again that we cannot claim VAT back on the pitch.