



SGOIL AN IOCHDAIR AGUS A CHOIMHEARSNACHD

ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016

In March 2016 we met for our tenth AGM, reviewing activity for 2014-2015 and setting our aims for 2015-2016.

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

1. To promote interest and participation in sport, and related recreation in the catchment area of Iochdar 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 Iochdar school, both generally and in relation to specific projects.
3. To examine the available sports and recreation facilities in the Iochdar 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 council's 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 2015, our trustees were:

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

For 2015 to 2016 we set ourselves the following objectives:

1. General maintenance of benches, paths and tree planted areas.
2. To raise funds and develop a funding strategy for the pitch at Iochdar Hall, and garnering support for the project
3. Liaison with the school concerning the maintenance of the school grounds.
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. The benches have been purchased and await installation.
 - We continue to keep the path at lochdar road end clear from grass. The community council have undertaken some cutting back of the trees at Rubha Clachain.
 - We have successfully applied for funds for a clean-up and maintenance event planned for the summer of 2017

2. **Raise funds and develop a funding strategy for the pitch at lochdar Hall, and garnering support for the project**
 - Some early work on this has been done, but slow progress has been made.
 - We have successfully re-applied for planning permission.
 - We have several letters of support from local councillors and the Sports Council.
 - We discussed undertaking a repeat survey concerning the pitch, but this has been superseded by a similar survey undertaken by the sports hub.

3. **Liaison with the school concerning the maintenance of the school grounds.**

lochdar School continues to keep in contact concerning maintenance issues around the school. The plans for a stone wall at the front of the school have proven to be impractical. A replacement swing has been sourced. 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 have been supported by a development worker from Storas Uibhist.
 - We have been in contact with the Lionacleit Sports Hub and the Sports Council, who have been supportive, and have provided useful feedback about our plans.
 - We have signed up with SportEd, a charity funded by SportScotland to support community groups.
 - We have developed close ties with the newly reformed community council.
 - We liaised with Qinetiq about joining their community charity fund and volunteering day.
 - We liaised with Storas Uibhist concerning ideas for a community benefit fund to balance the impact of the turbines on the communities living in and around Loch Carnan.

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
- lochdar School & lochdar School Board
- lochdar Junior Football club

In 2016-2015, we were members of:

- Uists and Barra Sports Council
- Uist Council of Voluntary Organisations.

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:

- We cut our ties with JustGiving, and signed up with BT Mydonate
- We clarified again that we cannot claim back VAT on the pitch, as it is not a building.
- During the 2015-2016 funds were raised through sale of crafts, from awards for all, and from a Quiz and Curry night in Talla an lochdair.