



SGOIL AN IOCHDAIR AGUS A CHOIMHEARSNACHD

ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010

In April 2010 we met for our fourth AGM, reviewing the year 2008-2009 and setting our aims for 2009-2010. Since then, we have made quiet progress towards our aims for the year of upgrading the pitch, and maintaining existing facilities.

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 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 2010, our trustees were:

J H Warner
M Bremner
N J W MacIntyre
R MacPhee
A Campbell
S MacAulay

For 2009-2010 we set ourselves the following objectives:

1. Tree planting, fencing and general maintenance including tree thinning
2. To clarify the ownership of the pitch at Iochdar Hall
3. To raise funds for drafting the lease for the football pitch
4. Keeping user groups involved in our projects
5. Website maintenance

1. **General maintenance including fencing, clean-up and painting**

We used the MADL funds to pay for strimming the grass along the shortcut, and for equipment and costs for organising a clean-up and to paint fences.

The Iochdar Youth Club team cleaned round the school and along the road to Cuidhe na Gamhne, while the Croileagan an Iochdair team painted the fencing around the play area. In only two hours we painted the fence exterior, and cleared 25 bags of rubbish.

We also used the school playing fields money to pay for regular strimming of a trail between the trees at Iochdar School, to see whether this would add interest for the children at the school.

2. **Iochdar Hall Football Pitch: Ownership**

We clarified the ownership of the pitch. After a prolonged search of the National Records, copies of the deeds show that the pitch belongs to Iochdar Hall. Planning permission has been awarded, with stipulations about access to crofts to the rear of the pitch.

3. **Iochdar Hall Football Pitch: Lease**

We applied unsuccessfully to several funds for money to pay for Duncan Burd, solicitor to write a draft lease for the football pitch plot. In the end, the football club raised enough money for us to engage Mr Burd. In addition, we contacted Mr MacPherson, who owns the croft to the north of the pitch, to see if we could re-locate the pitch further north to ensure the viability of the annual cattle show.

4. **Involving other groups and user groups**

Maintenance of links with other groups, including informal meetings with members of other groups, invitations to our meetings, and offers to attend their meetings. The following groups were members of our organisation in 2009-10:

- Iochdar Junior Youth Club
- Croileagan an Iochdair
- Iochdar Saints Football club
- Lionacleit School Board

In addition, we have maintained links with:

- Griminish residents association
- SUBAS (South Uist and Benbecula Annual Show)
- Storas Uibhist
- Iochdar Hall Committee
- Grazings committee
- Iochdar School

In 2009-10, we remained members of:

- Uists and Barra Sports Council

We have also maintained our website. We participated in consultation exercises about the locality plan for the council, and the draft Local Outcome Agreement. One of our trustees sits on the Local Advisory Group for the council's development office. Another trustee has been elected to the board of trustees for Storas Uibhist.

5. **Website maintenance**

The website continues to be our main public record of our activities and has been kept updated through the year.