

SGOIL AN IOCHDAIR AGUS A'CHOIMHEARSNACHD

Minutes of meeting 30th September 2008 at 7:30pm in the Hall

Present

Mairi Bremner (Trustee)
 Kate Dawson (secretary)
 Stephen MacAulay (Trustee)
 Iain MacDonald (Hall Committee)
 Donald MacInnes (Hall committee)
 Donald Manford (Councillor)
 Marie Campbell (CnES)

Apologies

Ronnie MacPhee (Trustee)
 Martin Taylor (Councillor)
 Gerry MacLeod (Councillor)

Minuted by Kate Dawson

1. **Welcome:** Mairi welcomed everyone to the meeting, and thanked the hall committee for the use of the hall.

2. **Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes of meeting of July 2008. No amendments were noted, the minutes were proposed by MB, seconded by SM and approved

3. **Treasurer's report:** NM was not present for the meeting.

- a) **Current balances:** We have a current balance of £28,370.64 Balance after liabilities is approx £3263.
- b) **Awards for all:** We have a grant of £9,000 from Awards for All for tree maintenance and windbreak fencing. This grant is due to close. We have had no reply from West Gerinish Amenity trust, so we agreed to wind up the grant.
- c) **Debits:** We will be due to pay the council the balance of the fees and maintenance over the next year. This will come to £14311 approx. In addition, remedial work to drains and surface projected to be £5767 plus VAT (£6776.25) No reply yet from Robert Stubbington clarifying the additional costs.
- d) **Accounts:** These have been submitted to the accountants

4. **Football Pitch:**

- a) **Lease:** Stephen, Donald and Mr MacIver have met and discussed the site available to lease for the pitch. This is just sufficient for the project. The feu plan for the show ground was available, showing clearly where the show ground boundaries are. The office bearers of the hall committee are happy with the proposed lease site. Mr MacIver will draw up a feu plan based on this meeting.

Current searches of the land court and sassines indicate that there is no formal or documented feu, assignation or other lease or donation for the land we are proposing to lease. KD has checked with Anderson Banks, who suggest that we clarify this with a feu plan and lease with the Estate, based on the land agreed with the Hall Committee. We would also

ACTION
KD

need to clarify land use with the grazings committee, even though there has been a pitch on the site for more than 25 years. KD and MB will make an appointment with the estate office to discuss this further.

KD/MB

KD to check further with the crofter's commission concerning apportionment

- b) **Project Brief:** MC suggested that we clarify a couple of points in the brief, such as who is responsible for applying for planning permission and arranging the legal work. Also, we need to clarify in the brief what action is to be taken by the consultant if he feels there is additional work to be done which is not included in the brief.

KD

- c) **Funding for consultancy/getting documents ready to tender:** We have been turned down by the Big Lottery Investing in Ideas program, as they felt our project was specifically aimed at sports, which was outside their remit. KD to apply to Awards for All/RIAS etc for funding

KD

- d) **Applying for planning permission:** At present, it is not clear what the fees will be for planning permission, and whether we will need planning permission for just the changing rooms, or for the pitch as well. KD is in discussion with the council re this. We need a site plan for the planning permission. We agreed that we would go for the basic plan already available to us from elsewhere. The Hall committee is already in receipt of grants for running public facilities, so we agreed not to duplicate this work.

KD

- e) **Program of use:** This has been circulated, Stephen will forward additional information about pitch use during the year, to be incorporated into the project documents

SM/KD

- f) **Advice:** KD has contacted West Side football club secretary Dan MacPhail, who has been very supportive. SM and AC will visit West Side club in the near future, to have a look at their facilities and get more ideas about how to get the project underway.

SM/AC

5. Woodland Maintenance:

- a) Tree thinning will continue this winter. The new trees at the school seem to be putting on a spurt of growth. The trees at the hall have not been re-fenced; most of the tree areas will be affected by the new work, including additional planting.
- b) KD to submit all invoices and final project report to close the Awards for All grant. We will need to return the balance of the grant as well.

KD

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6. Play area:

- a) The drains around the school have been cleared by the council. We have had no further feedback about this
- b) KD has received a reply from RS indicating that there had been a problem with ordering the new play surface, so the work has not yet been undertaken. The reply does not clarify why this work incurs an additional cost. KD to check again.

KD

7. AOCB

- a) Community regeneration fund: Marie Campbell informed the group about the changes being made to the way that the council disburses funding to community groups. This is a change that is occurring across Scotland. It replaces the Better Neighbourhood Services funds and the ACE grants.

What will happen now is that each council area will be required to set up an advisory group, consisting of the chairs of the community councils, councillors, and members of development groups. Iochdar will be disadvantaged as we do not have a community council. Our group is a locally based development group, and may be the only input that the Iochdar area will have.

The advisory group will advise re budget to be spent to develop the local area, with grants being minimum £10,000, which will be maximum 50% of a funding package. The total budget will be £100,000 spread over four years funding projects in South Uist, Barra, Eriskay and Vatersay. (Max 2 projects per year)

Marie asked the meeting whether or not we would consider being on the advisory group. We agreed to do this. However, it is not yet clear how we will manage to meet.

ALL

We also agreed that we would apply to the fund for assistance: KD to contact MC for an application form to have on file for when we get underway with the football pitch.

KD

8. Next meeting:

The next meeting of the trustees will be notified to the trustees and members of the association. The meeting closed at 9:00pm.