**MEETING OF SGOIL AN IOCHDAIR AGUS A’CHOIMHEARSNACHD**

**At 19:30 on 27th Feb 2024 in The Old Schoolhouse, Bualadubh**

1. **Welcome**
	1. Present: Peter Bird, Kate Dawson, Robert Currie
	2. Apologies: Ronnie MacPhee
	3. Minutes: Kate Dawson
2. **Minutes of last meeting:** Not available
3. **Intimation of AOCB:** Benches, picnic tables from community council – taken with our cycle rack project.
4. **Accounts**
	1. Bank balance £13,095.63
	2. Accounts being finalised by accountants; we will arrange approval with online meeting.
	3. Bill for fencing to send on to Morag Ann
	4. Account with DFDS for transport of cycle racks – we approved creation of an account with DFDS.
5. **HHP Playparks**: Discussion on paper presented to the meeting. We agreed unanimously to go ahead and ask for a lease of the playparks. Our next step will be to assess and repair fencing, drainage, and salvageable play equipment. Any equipment beyond repair will be removed. Our preferred contractors will be local.

The second phase will be to raise funds to replace equipment. The focus will be on accessible play equipment. Our strategy will be to approach will be to create a brief, and appoint a play equipment company to design a solution, and cost this out with their equipment and expertise.

The third phase will be to raise funds for the installation of new equipment. There is also scope to install activity equipment along a route as a future project.

Robert Currie and Peter Bird suggested contacting Al Nobles for support with installation of equipment, and Uilleam Brass for remedial carpentry, once we have sorted out the leases.

1. **Trustee vacancies:** We agreed that we would tackle our issues with trustee vacancies by raising our profile through the local press and social media. Kate will contact am Paipear in the first instance. This would include updating progress with current projects as well as outlining our future plans.
2. **AGM:** Accounts will be published soon, we approved the draft report on our activities to June 2023.
3. **Tree planting:** The bill for the fencing for the new tree planting areas has been submitted for payment, and will be forwarded to Morag Ann. We also discussed the quote for £3,000 to repair the path at the tree planting in Rubha Chlachain, and to cut back the trees. We approved the project. Kate will confirm funding and work to be undertaken with the contractor.Peter highlighted that the tree plantation at Rubha Chlachainn can be included in the community councils ‘Places for all’ project.
4. **Cycle racks:** 8 cycle racks are on order, and will be delivered by DFDS once we have an account. Four will go to Talla an Iochdar, two to Hebridean Jewellery, and two to Griminish Surgery.

Peter raised the ‘Places for all’ project. This will include a green cycle store at Iochdar School, as well as picnic tables and benches. Many of our wooden benches are suffering from exposure to the weather and require replacing. He suggested that these could be recycled plastic benches. We have two benches at each of the following sites:

* Ardivachair
* Rubha Doigeag
* Rubha Chlachain
* Road end path
* A potential to replace the bench at the play park ad Cuidhe na Gamhne once we have the lease
1. **Sculpture:** Kate presented a summary of the project outline for installing a community sculpture. The proposal breaks down the project into two steps. The first part of the project is to consult with the community and come up with a proposal. The second step will be to commission the sculpture. We agreed to make a start on this by applying for funding for the first step.
2. **Football pitch:** This is now in use in the summer for some training for Iochdar Saints. However the pitch becomes waterlogged very easily. Adding drains will disrupt the terram support. Robert agreed to research the possibility of installing drains, adding a plastic grid and resurfacing with topsoil.
3. **Maintenance:** We agreed that we would continue with our existing maintenance agreements, with John Linich maintaining the pitch, and David Bagley maintaining the footpaths.
4. **Next meeting:** We will meet online to approve the annual accounts and start preparations for the AGM. This meeting will be at the end of March.