Minute of meeting 25/10/2021 (Zoom meeting)

**Present Apologies**

Morag Ann Steele (Treasurer) Peter Bird (Chairman)

Kate Dawson (Secretary) Iain MacNeil (Councillor)

Neil Johnstone

Jemma MacVicar

Minuted by Kate Dawson

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| 1. **Welcome:** All present welcomed to meeting. KD chaired the meeting, as Peter was unable to come this evening | ACTION |

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| 1. **Minutes of AGM**     Minutes reviewed – Morag Ann’s name to be corrected in the minutes. Otherwise approved as a true record |  |
| 1. **Matters arising:**     1. **Social Media Accounts and website:** KD to meet with someone (SB) who manages some other social media accounts, to clarify how best to manage cross-posting and linking accounts. No progress with updating the website.    2. **South Uist and Eriskay Forum:** Good response to survey, awaiting news. Morag Ann will update the next meeting | **KD**  **MAS** |
| 1. **Fundraising and accounts:**    1. We have just under £25,000 in the account. The books have been sent on to the accountants for review. We are expecting a bill from John Linich for pitch maintenance. We have had money come in from WIDT for cycle racks, and this money has gone out again to buy cycle racks.    2. Fundraising: we have been applying for funds for projects, but we are paying out money each year for maintenance: this should be covered by general funds so we need to do a bit of fundraising. We discussed running a bingo – this would need to be covid-safe (liaise with hall) combination of cash and prize bingo, also JM to find out from Ann Marie Johnson about who calls bingo games at the moment. NJ to lead, all present expressed willingness to help. | **NJ**  **KD**  **JMV**  **MAS** |
| 1. **Cycle racks:**    1. The first set of four cycle racks have been delivered, 2 installed in Drimsdale and 2 passed to another group further south.    2. Funding for a further 4 has been received from the Western Isles Development Trust, and these are on order. 2 will be installed at Iochdar road end. We agreed to offer two to the Co-op in Creagorry.    3. We are awaiting news from the CalMac community fund for four more cycle racks. Suggested sites include the Loch Carnan road end bus stop (will need a concrete plinth installed, permissions etc) and Griminish Surgery.    4. The Community Council are planning on installing a cycle shelter at Lovat’s shop, which will include the two racks that we had previously installed. The trustees approved this suggestion. | **KD** |
| 1. **Sculpture** 2. Initial costings for a competition-style project indicate costs of around £25,000 including a £10,000 competitive commissioning phase and a £15,000 installation phase (will also require around £270 planning permission) 3. Consultation with potential funders: ArtRoots (Sustrans) would be able to fund £2,500 (or £5,000 for exceptional projects). Sarah MacIntyre of Creative Scotland suggests breaking the project down and starting with a research and development phase, engage a project manager, work with someone who has experience of commissioning work, etcetera. This makes the project considerably more complex and costly. We decided to shelve this for now. 4. Jemma suggested an art trail or similar, allowing us to develop a range of smaller art-works around the area. |  |
| 1. **School & Playparks** 2. Gordy and Iain MacNeil have both been looking into this. At present, the council seem unclear about the area that is part of our lease and what area they control. As we can’t undertake any new work, apply for funding or be indemnified for an area we don’t control, we need to contact the council’s lawyer to sort this out. The easiest way may be to set up an additional lease for the ball court, swings and croileagan play park. KD to contact the council’s lawyer to clarify. The best option may be to apply for a new lease. 3. Playpark funding: The council have been allocated a very small sum of money for all playparks, which is alongside some money held in trust, probably by UCVO. Jemma says that she is hoping that there will be a meeting between various groups hoping to revitalise playparks, to discuss how to share resources and use the money to best effect. We would hope to be at that meeting. We would need to sort out the legal issues before applying for funds. 4. Main repair issues at the school: play surfaces for swings, ball court, playpark, sandblasting, wood repairs and repainting. Also, possibly add something accessible for example out-door sound play. 5. Trim-trail, fitness trail, nature trail – we are meeting with school pupils at 10:15 on Friday to discuss – Kate has been in contact with Robin Sutton who is a retiree who used to work in Environmental Education, and who lives opposite the school. He is willing to help, Kate will invite him along. 6. Other play areas locally include Ford Terrace and Cuidhe na Gamhne. They both mow come under the control of HHP. Neil will contact HHP to see if they would be willing to hand them over to us on a lease basis for upgrade. The playpark at Cuidhe na Gamhne requires repair of climbing frame, sand-blasting and repainting of climbing frame and seesaw, removal of sand-pit (could be replaced with other play equipment) and addition of new hammock-style swing at site of old swings. NJ will contact Katie Walker at HHP to see what she thinks. | **SKD**  **JMV**  **SKD**  **NJ** |
| 1. **Football pitch**   Kate has contacted Archie MacDonald to let him know that we have approved the sub-group idea, but would require a member of the subgroup to be a trustee. There has been no further contact. Morag Ann will contact Archie to request this. | **MAS** |
| 1. **Membership**   Jenna nominated as the co-opted trustee, MAS and NJ approved |  |
| 1. **AOCB**    1. Quorum – Calmac pointed out that we could, in theory, have a quorate meeting with only two people, if we go by our mems and arts – to make the quorum a minimum of three people at our next AGM.    2. Christmas lights – Jemma updated the meeting – this year there will be a Christmas tree installed at the Iochdar School turning circle. We discussed whether there was any scope for additional decoration. We don’t have any additional unallocated funding, so this would need to be new funding. We discussed how this might be part of an annual light design project. | **SKD** |
| 1. **Next meeting**   Proposed next meeting January 2022 |  |