

SGOIL AN IOCHDAIR AGUS A'CHOIMHEARSNACHD

Minutes of meeting of trustees 20th September

Present

Mairi Bremner (Chairwoman)
Peter Bird (Vice-chair)
Ronnie MacPhee (Trustee)
Kate Dawson (Secretary)

Apologies

Morag Ann MacAulay (treasurer)
Stephen MacAulay (Iochdar Saints)

Minuted by Kate Dawson

1. **Welcome:** Mairi welcomed everyone to the meeting ACTION

2. **Approval of Minutes (22nd June 2017):** The minutes were approved as drawn

3. New Items:

a. **The People's project:** Following the successful completion of our Citywise community clean-up grant, we have been invited to apply for a further £50,000 to continue our work. We discussed whether we should apply for this money for paths, or for the pitch, or for other projects. We opted for applying for the footpaths. KD to complete first round application form, and seek additional information about costs. The additional funding would allow us to develop the Ardmore path. Once we have the specifications for path installation we agreed we would seek quotes from MacAulays, MacInnes Brothers, JJ MacDonald, and possibly James John MacDonald.

b. **Storas:** We had a general discussion about how Storas gather views from the community about development priorities. KD to re-establish links with Storas, and update them concerning our current projects.

c. **Telescope:** Peter suggested that a coin-operated telescope at Ardivachair and possibly at other sites would allow people to watch the stars and the wild-life. A quick search finds that they are around £4,000 each, not including interpretative signage or maintenance. PB to find out more

4. Matters arising:

a. **UCVO membership:** KD will visit Morag Ann at the weekend to get membership cheque signed. Reply sent to UCVO re their online presence and publicly available information. They have replied to say that the website issue is being worked on.

b. **Footpaths:** Several footpath projects running in parallel. We were unsuccessful in our 'paths for all' application.

i. Community council potential path from the rear of Rubha Doigeag to Talla an Iochdair, including a crossing for the main drain using floating plastic ground stabiliser. We agreed we would keep a watching brief.

ii. Maintenance of existing paths – Griminish to Torlum. No reply from Hugh MacCormick. Sandra MacSween is the clerk for Griminish, KD to contact her.

iii. Maintenance of existing paths – Loch Skipport. Danny Rafferty is not

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<p>so keen on a hard path out beyond its current end, an invasion of a truly wild walk. The existing path has some exposed and broken culverts, and some of the gravel requires replacement, particularly at the further ends of the path. There is scope for a bird hide at the far end of the path. The crofts grazing this area include Colin Morrison and D R MacRury. KD to chase up original email.</p> <p>iv. New path at Ardmore – we would need to liaise further with the grazings committee, clerk is Ian Campbell, Balgarva. Ronnie will discuss with crofters re-route of path if upgraded. There are already signs to the path, but they don't point out the path correctly.</p> <p>c. Benches: The bench plinths have been installed but the benches are not yet fixed down, KD to ask contractors re this. We received a cheque for £1417 from the community council challenge fund towards the cost of bench installation.</p> <p>d. Fencing and repairs at lochdar School: John Linich has completed the fence and bench painting. One of the benches requires some repair work. We agreed to award the contract for the fencing at lochdar School to MacAulays Askernish (no reply from MacInnes Brothers re specifications associated with their bid)</p> <p>e. Old Road Footpath: The path has been swept, and Angus MacDonald has details of our proposed traffic management solution. We discussed the lack of path onto the old road from Ardmore roadend, so that walkers on the Hebridean Way are forced to walk along the main road before reaching one of the turnings into Ardmore. KD will raise this with Peter Coldwell at the council. We agreed we would keep a watching brief.</p>	<p>KD</p> <p>KD</p> <p>KD</p> <p>KD</p>
<p>5. Pitch:</p> <p>a. Engaging other groups: KD and any available trustees have not yet been able to attend a meeting of the Uist Football Association. The next meeting will be on the 26th September, when KD is not available. The aim of the discussion is to make the pitch project into a UFA project, with us providing the lead. KD has now got Kevin Morrison's email contact details for sorting out the date of the next meeting.</p> <p>b. Fencing the pitch, ditching and drains: We have received quotes on fencing the pitch and improving the drainage at the front of the pitch from MacInnes Brothers and from MacAulays Askernish. This includes replacing the field gate, and installing culverts under the access track, and draining water under the old road and into the existing roadside drains. The quote from MacInnes Brothers lacks detail and itemised costings, whereas the quote from MacAulays makes it clear what we will be paying for. We agreed to base our funding applications on the quote from MacAulays.</p> <p>c. Improving existing surface: We reviewed the quotes from John Linich and David Bagley. John's quotes were more reasonable, with better detail of the work to be undertaken. We agreed to award the contract to John.</p>	<p>KD, trustees</p>
<p>6. Accounts:</p> <p>After discussion with the accountants, Morag Ann has informed us that our turn-over is too low to consider cloud-based accounting at this time. There is little change in the current balance, which is £39,999.01 (does anyone have 99p handy?)</p>	<p>MM</p>
<p>7. Fundraising:</p>	<p>RM</p>

- a. We discussed running a race night again: There's been little progress with this, Ronnie will look into this further.

<https://www.racenightservices.co.uk/how-to-run-a-race-night/>

8. Next meeting:

The next meeting will be at the end of August, date to be agreed.

