

Minutes of meeting held on Thursday the 9th of November 2023 at the Fountain,
Lesmahagow

1. Present and Apologies

Present Committee Members

Catriona Arthur-Inch (Co-Secretary), Ailsa Lorimer (Co-Secretary), Margaret Craw (Chair) James Brownlee,

Present Non Committee Members

Councillor Ross Gowland, Rabb Murray and Ronnie Hodes

Apologies

Mark Waugh (treasurer) and Gordon Lennox

2. Previous Minutes

The previous minutes were adopted by Ailsa and seconded by Margaret.

3. Fireworks

Margaret advised the fireworks night was a success and we raised over £1000 selling glowstick, which goes to the highland games.

4. McKirdy Park

Ailsa advised we can now apply for planning. We currently have 100000.00 for the park fund and we could apply to use £50000.00 from the Brokencross fund. Bringing our total up to £150000.00. Ailsa advised we should ask Brokencross if we can get it in writing that we can use £50000.00 to go towards the park fund. Ailsa also advised we should have an open day to the public, once plans have been sorted.

5. Auchrobert Wind Farm

Ailsa advised we would get £3000 that we have to spend in one year. It was suggested we would use this for raised flower beds. Their fund is now closed until February 2024 and they would prefer it to be used for more environmental projects. Ailsa suggested the PTA could apply from Milton primary to go towards an outdoor learning space.

6. Hagshaw Wind Farm

James advised that there is a delay with construction and the first turbines will not be ready until May 2025.

7. Kypemuir

Ailsa advised there is a meeting on Monday and that we have about £90000.00 unused from previous years. There has been an expression of interest from Milton PTA Drama club for £5000.00 for new headsets and speakers. There has also been an enquiry from Liz Montgomery on behalf of Woodpark primary on the application process, as looking to apply for £5000.00 for various school items. Rabb advised we should approach Lesmahagow Juniors if they are interested in applying as they are looking to do up changing rooms. Ailsa said she would ask at the meeting if they would be eligible to apply. James said he would ask Eric from the juniors if they would come to our next meeting.

Rabb advised we could apply to use money to pay for a miner's memorial for the top of Lesmahagow. Ailsa said she would also bring this up at the next meeting.

Margaret suggested we could also use money to buy better Christmas decorations for the village and the decorations we currently have can go to the top of the village.

8. Microgrants

Catriona will advertise microgrants and we will set a deadline for the 31/12/2023 and will aim to get approved grants issued by the end of January. We have already approved £500.00 of the microgrants to go towards the fireworks display.

9. Community Action Plan

Ailsa advised that our community action plan is coming up for renewal and we will need it redone. We could apply to the REF to fund this. We will look at this in January 2024.

10. Community Toy Swap

Ailsa advised our community toy swap will be on the 2nd of December from 10.00am to 13.00pm at the masonic hall. Any toys not swapped will be donated to charity.

11. Finance Report

Mark emailed the finance report a head of our meeting. The report is as follows:

Balance at previous meeting: £7574.54

Income since last meeting: £5000.00 microgrant

Expenditure: £106.89 – Highland Games material

£65- projector and screen hire

£38.40 – poppy wreath

£500 – pre- approved micro grant for fireworks

£250 – contribution to fireworks

Balance- £11506.25

12. A.O.B

Colin's Bus- Margaret advised could look at reinstating this.

Council survey – Ross advised the council have a survey that we can access online regarding budget consultation.

Bus franchise- Ross advised that from December the council will be able to create their own bus franchise and will be a publicly owned bus network.

13. Date of next meeting

Thursday the 14th of December at 7.30pm at the Fountain, Lesmahagow