

DRAFT AND SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT NEXT ADCC MEETING ON 15 APRIL

ARISAIG AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
DRAFT Minutes of the meeting of the Arisaig District and Community Council
Monday 18 March 2024 at 7.30pm
Held in person and as a Zoom meeting

Present in person: I Macniven, G MacDonald, S Kingswood

Present on-line: A Whittaker, Liz Saggars (Councillor), H Waterston (part), Megan Milligan (part)

Apologies: V Stuart-Orchard, Angus MacDonald (Councillor)

1. **Minutes** of meeting held on 20 February 2024 were approved.

2. **Matters Arising from Last Minutes:**

-Arisaig's Got Talent

Arisaig's Got talent has been postponed due to lack of 'talent' sign up. A fundraising event will be held in the near future in replacement for this postponement but will be under a different guise.

-Christmas Lights Update

The current string of lights outside of the hotel have been inspected. The lights were plugged in at the Marina but tripped the power supply. They are wet and will need dried out before testing again. It has been suggested that 2 new lamppost lights be purchased and put up near the Spar car park.

-Bonfire Night

Financing options for Bonfire night were discussed as the money from last year's Bonfire night is still available to use but considerations were made as to whether the CC should apply for further funding or top it up with another gofundme.

-Bank Update

The CC is close to getting online banking approved which will make payments easier in the future.

-40mph sign at Back of Keppoch

The sign at the Back of Keppoch needs to be removed. Roads dept to check.

-Local Area Phone Book update: Apologies to Anne Lamont - the statement regarding the Local Phone Book in last month's Minutes should have read: "Information is awaited from various sources in order to complete the exercise and is complicated by the fact that many people no longer use landlines."

3. **Swing Park:**

How to fund the playpark is still uncertain. The plan is to extend the current playpark up the hill behind it and replace the current playpark with new equipment as the current park is too small and equipment is old. It is estimated that a new play park would cost in the region of £70-90K. Councillor Liz Saggars mentioned the Lochaber Playpark condition report which denotes the condition of existing and prioritisation of funds for new playparks.

4. **Mackintosh Centre:**

Recruitment still proves to be a challenge, despite reports of plenty applications for the job. There is now a concern that the Centre may not re-open. An urgent meeting at the highest level will be sought, possibly involving local politicians.

5. **Burial Ground:** Land required is owned by MacMillan Trust. David Lamont (H.C.) is to take this forward.

6. **Local Place Plan:** It was reported that Mallaig CC are keen to discuss progressing a LPP and agreed that a meeting should be organised, possibly involving Community Trusts and Road to the Isles Facilities Group. Regular joint CC meetings to be re-established. The question of timing and funding were touched on. Liz Saggars thought the Discretionary Fund is a possibility, but most of this year may be accounted for - to let us know. Also the Community Regeneration Fund.
7. **Meeting with Arisaig Community Trust:** time-frame to be established for this.
8. **Hospital Monthly Meeting attendees:** IM to continue attending when possible.
9. **Gower Trust approval requests:** This year's requests were approved.
10. **Zoom vs Teams for online meetings:** It was decided not to renew Zoom Pro in June due to cost and to try Teams (free) instead.
11. **Approval of Accounts for AGM:** It was agreed that Becky Donald be appointed to scrutinise the accounts.

12. Reports

-Treasurer: It was reported that there is £1,609 in the bank account, £205.13 of which is due for immediate payment, leaving £1404. Of this £617.54 is ring-fenced for Firework Display and associated expenses, having been raised for this purpose by MM. £300 is ring-fenced for Secretarial Honorarium. It was questioned as to where funds should come from over and above the HC discretionary annual allowance of £473, e.g. for insurance, hall hire, wreaths, Christmas lights maintenance, entertainment license etc. Liz Saggars suggested we need an income, such as from wind farm, as other CCs do. It was suggested we find out from A.C.T. if there is any future provision for Defibrillator expenses when we meet. There was some discussion about future provision for Bonfire night expenses. It was felt that GoFundMe fundraising was the best way to achieve contributions from the local and wider community who benefit from the display. MM volunteered to organise this again when required.

-Police: no report

13. Planning Applications: Nothing of concern

14. AOCB:

- Newspaper delivery times: Jane at Spar to be spoken to.

-Church of Scotland Community Buyout: a report was given on the content of the meeting, outlining suggestions and potential difficulties.

-Squirrel signs: Due to limited funds held by ADCC it was suggested that perhaps the people who introduced the squirrels could provide the signs and we would take up Richard Lamont's offer of erecting them. Alternatively Anne's suggestion of raising funds by putting collection boxes in various places could be acted on. The fact that many people no longer carry cash was an issue raised.

-Angela Hardman to be removed as signatory from the bank account.

-Karen-Ann Wilson's email re NHS strategic plan – it was noted that she only requires attendance from a few people Highland-wide. Val Stuart and Dave Newnham have already put themselves forward.

WI-FI FAILED ON THREE OCCASIONS AND THE MEETING WAS RE-STARTED. MEGAN AND HANNAH LEFT AT 8.30 AND THE MEETING CONTINUED WITHOUT THEM.

Date of Next Meeting: 15th April 2024 in Astley Hall and online at 7.30pm

All meetings are open to local residents to attend. The meetings can be joined on Zoom or in person. Please contact the Secretary for joining details at info@arisaigcc.org.uk