**Minutes of a Meeting of the Shieldaig Community Association**

held at 7pm on Monday 9th May 2022 in Shieldaig Village Hall

**Present :**

Lynn Cameron (Chair), Pauline Stephenson, Jim Alexander, Janene Waudby (Secretary), Phil Collins (Treasurer), Viv Rollo, Keith McNicoll. (Apologies for absence: Tom Tindale, Andy and Fiona Moyes, John McGregor). In attendance, Frosty, John O Neill, Kalie Wilkinson, Lachlan Cameron, Fraser Frost, Ruairidh MacLennan, Bailey Dacker, Lyndsey Dacker, Rod Gillanders, Kenny Livingstone.

**Pontoon:**

Lynn started by welcoming those present and referred to the pontoon, noting that it is a valuable resource for everyone in the community. It was noted that the pontoon is owned by the community as a whole (via the SCIO) and would be missed if it was no longer in the village. Lynn summarised the repairs to date, including a hinge repair four year’s ago, a further hinge repair two years ago, which also included cleaning and replacing risers, a float and renovating the legs. John MacGregor also periodically relays the anchors. Lynn said she wanted to examine ways in which the community could prolong the life of the pontoon given the recent wear and tear, partly attributable to how it is being used, including another broken hinge. It was noted that due to Covid and the lack of visitors only £1000 is in the accounts from pontoon receipts to effect the new repairs. Kenny then summarised how the pontoon should ideally be used to avoid excessive wear and tear, namely:

1. No boats lying along the hammerhead for more than short stops and definitely not overnight; and
2. No boats other than light tenders such as Pioneers lying alongside the pontoon – ideally to be moved to leeward in bad weather; and
3. No boxes to be hung off the pontoon as it creates excessive drag and weight.

After discussion, it was agreed that Rod Gillanders would keep an eye on the pontoon for wear and tear. All users of the pontoon would take responsibility for ensuring appropriate use of the pontoon. Phil Collins would invoice year round users £200 and summer occasional users £100 per annum. The letter with the invoice should ask users to help prolonging the pontoon’s life. Kenny agreed to look at the broken water pipe and hinge. It was also agreed that chains between the hammerhead and pontoon could be added in the winter to prevent excessive movement. Phil would also check if the Hebridean Princess cruise ship had recently paid any fees. If not, Lynn would ask the Bursar to arrange a contribution of £100 per visit.

A donations box for water at the pontoon was also discussed as campervans are collecting water here. It was agreed that this was not advisable as the water tap is the property of the Highland Council and the harbourmaster would likely not approve of this.

**Fete**

It was agreed the fete would be held on Saturday 6th August. It would be a scaled down event without a full regatta (or possibly no regatta). Fraser agreed to arrange a raft race on the Saturday. Frosty agreed to arrange music and the lorry as usual. It was agreed that burgers could be served during the day and Linas could serve food in the evening. A kids disco in the hall could take place early evening and the usual games and possibly a football tournament could be held in the day. It was agreed that details of these would be agreed at the next meeting.

**Hall**

It was noted that Wi-Fi Broadband should be up and running in the hall by the end of the month. Andy Moyes was approved as caretaker on a fee of £50 per month to check weekly and an additional hourly rate for any repairs. It was noted that Ann Barton had agreed to take care of the public entertainment license. It was agreed a new music system which would enable streaming from smart devices should be purchased and installed. Viv Rollo noted that the shed alongside the hall needed sorting and she agreed to liaise with Andy and to arrange with John Napier collecting anything to be discarded. It was noted that the funding application for the library had been submitted and the result is expected in May. If the funding was forthcoming the school would take the lead in choosing and buying books.

**Playpark**

It was reported that the new playpark equipment would hopefully be signed off by the Highland Council during this week and that a playpark opening celebration was planned for 3rd June. It was agreed that ice cream for the event could be funded from the playpark fund which was still in credit.

**AOB**

It was noted again that the Village Council is in abeyance and the question was raised whether the Council and Association entities could be combined (as perhaps it would encourage participation). After discussion it was noted that, even if it was practical, the two entities have different legal constitutions, powers and purposes so combining them is not possible. The Secretary asked if it was possible for the Association to use the Council’s Noticeboard outside of the hall. It was noted that a key is held by Ann Barton.

**Close of Meeting:**

There being no further business, the meeting closed.

Lynn Cameron (Chairperson).