**Dornie Community Shop Steering Group**

**Meeting 1st March 2022 (via Zoom).**

**Present**: Lynne Macsween, Alison MacRae, Fay Mackenzie, Christine Finlay, Mary Robb, Jane Reynard.

Aplogies: Alison Jack, Michelle Barron,Matthew Baron and Eric Spencer

Guests: Johnny Bell, Judith Eele

**1 Agree Minutes from previous meeting**

The previous meeting minutes were agreed by all as a true representation of the meeting held via zoom on 22.02.22

**2 Update from Johnny Bell - Solicitor**

Johnny has now received titles for the property these are copies and have been obtained from the Land Registry as he believes the originals have been lost at the bank when there was a mortgage on the property.

From going through these he cannot see anything that stands out as an issue. There are no restrictions in the titles. For building, land and out buildings. The lane at the side is not part of the property and believes this still may be owned by the Estate but there are full access rights.

Question: As the property is now empty it will require insuring, Mrs Jenkins has asked for how long this should be done for.

Response: At present we are not sure on length of time as there is still so much work to do.

Discussion followed on the grant going for under or over £100K and how this would affect the timescales/insurance etc.

Question from Steering Group: What would happen if Nicola takes on the lease?

Response from Johnny: Only Executors could lease the property for Post Office use. However we should say to Brodies that the lease should be no more than 6-8 months as if longer could cause issues going forward. We should also speak to Mrs Jenkins to discuss the lease.

There is a meeting with Nicola next week and we will know more then. Johnny advised to wait until after this meeting before approaching Brodies/Mrs Jenkins. Fay and Matt meeting Nicola on 11th March 2022.

Johnny reiterated that he is happy to support us FOC.

**Action:** Johnny will contact Christy at Brodies on 02.03.22 to advise that the Community are very interested in acquiring the property and to bear with us but to also include us in everything.

**3 Survey questions and Action Plan**

Workplan – Judith ran through work to date and the majority of the baseline work is now done. They have received the necessary information from Kyle and Lochalsh Community Trust. Require a copy of the property valuation.

The market research is currently being undetaken.

**Action:** The valuation report to be emailed to Judith – CF. Christine to contact John McDonald regarding ways to obtain funding for a full structural engineers report.

Alison Jack to put meeting information on Facebook and the survey link.

Judith to contact Highland Free Press regarding placing an advert with them.

Survey – The pontoon questions have now been added to the survey and Judith went through them with everyone. She believes that this project will be beneficial to ours rather than a risk.

Beer/wine and spirits added to survey as well as café and community growing.

Mary asked about the pontoon questions, Judith said if they answer not interested then they will not be prompted with further questions on it.

Hard copies of the survey will be printed on 02.03.22 and sent to Christine. Once completed they can be dropped at Jane’s house.

Fay was asked for a quote for the West Highland Free Press the contact there is Jackie MacKenzie.

**Actions:** Fay will provide Judith with Jackie MacKenzie’s contact details.

Christine to speak to Johnny regarding the contact at Brodies to obtain keys for the shop as Judith needs to visit.

Judith to organize a call with Ali to go through how things used to work with the shop, staffing requirement what were the good sellers etc.

Judith to provide weekly/bi weekly updates, Christine will confirm date of next meeting.

We must promote the event of 22.03.22

**4 Response to Mrs Jenkins**

The whole group agreed that they are happy to go back to Mrs Jenkins with the valuation update.

**Action:** Christine to ask Alison Jack to respond.

**5 Interview with Kyle and Lochalsh Community Trust**

Christine and Fay will do the interview together.

**Action:** Christine to contact the Trust to arrange a date and time.

**6 Email Trail**

Christine raised the point that there are so many emails at the moment it is very hard to follow the thread. Suggestion is that when replying to emails create a new thread with a specific naming convention Response/Comments to xxxxxx email dated.

**7 AOB-** Ali has tried to visit Kyle Post Office but Rob was not available. Decision taken not to arrange anything until after Nicola’s visit next.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**- Tuesday 8th March at 7pm via Zoom- link to be sent by email from Alison Jack.

Meeting closed at 8.34 pm.