

Fernaig Community Trust

Minutes of Meeting – 14th February 2017

Achmore Hall

Present: Colin MacAndrew, Georgie Grimson, Dave Mockett, Roddy McPherson, Duncan Gibson and Lizzie Bird

1. **Apologies:** None
2. **Minutes of January Meeting** – Approved. Proposed by Georgie and seconded by Dave.
3. **Finance - update**
 - a) Invoice to FCT for Hall use - Lizzie has spoken to Hall Chairman and invoice will be issued.
 - b) Expenses were £105 for fence posts for the riverside of Andy's field. Colin Parsons is replacing the posts. There is a need for barbed wire and this will be sourced.
 - c) Georgie has sent out reminders for allotments rents as three are outstanding.
 - d) Georgie has sent the Annual accounts to Lochaber for OSCR Audit which will then be submitted on-line.
 - e) We have received no invoice from CLS which is usually received in January. George will chase.
4. **SDRP Footpaths Application - update**
 - a) Colin contacted SNH to confirm receipt of letter regarding delay in the sending out of the contract which was due to issues with an IT upgrade. We should receive the contract 4th March
 - b) Colin checked with Highland Council regarding planning permission and it was confirmed that we do need this. Colin went onto the Scottish Planning portal and has nearly finished the application under Section 7C, Paths, Roads etc. Maps and certificate of ownership need to be provided and FCT tenants need to be formally contacted. The strip of land required for the path will require a change of use from agricultural to public access and tenancies affected will need to be re-measured for future rent assessment.
5. **Land issues**
 - a) **Field 6** – The meeting considered Martin Irving's application for the tenancy and agreed unanimously to offer this to him. Lizzie will email Martin to confirm this and Colin will be in touch with him with a copy of the lease which will run until 2019
 - b) **Fences** – Crisdean – fencing replacement on allotment road still to be done. Colin will contact Crisdean to enquire if quotes received so we can consider.
 - c) **Small Stock of posts and wire** – Dave suggested that the Trust hold a small stock of posts and wire in case of emergencies. All agreed to this proposal and they will be sourced.
6. **Work Plan 2017**

Colin has prepared a working draft and had circulated to the board for further input. Top of the draft is the need to develop the Paths Project Plan and timetable. It was agreed that a sub-group is needed to take this forward.

Other main issues were -

 - a) The need to issue new allotment leases on a common renewal date and to hold a meeting with allotment holders mid-April, perhaps on a Saturday.

- b) Maintenance of the hay field with rush/docken control. It was suggested that improving the ditch will help with drainage.
- c) Defining and agreeing Trust Membership.

7. AOB

- a) Absentee Directors - As Andy Bone has not attended meetings for some time it was agreed that Lizzie would contact Andy to see if he wishes to remain a director.

Date of next meeting : 14th March, Achmore Hall at 7.30 pm

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm