

## Fernaig Community Trust

### Minutes of Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023, Achmore Hall

**Present:** Colin McAndrew, Neil MacRae, Lizzie Bird, Martin Irving, Duncan Gibson, Roddy MacPherson and Colin Parsons

**Apologies:** Georgie Grimson

	<i><b>Action</b></i>
<p><b>1. Welcome</b></p> <p>Colin McAndrew welcomed everyone to the meeting, our first of 2023 and with the new board.</p> <p>He reminded all to remember to declare any conflict of interests at our meetings and to respect the confidentiality of our discussions.</p>	
<p><b>2. Minutes of Meeting 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022</b></p> <p>Proposed by Colin McA, seconded by Martin and agreed.</p>	
<p><b>3. Matters arising and any correspondence</b></p> <p>a) A bill had been received from SSE re the office and information concerning the Government discount scheme on tariffs. The tariffs will reduce from 84p to 54p but go up again in March. It was noted that a quarter of the bill is the standing charge. Georgie will respond.</p> <p>b) Letter received from NFU with a credit on our insurance of £16.99. Cheque was posted to the old Forestry Office a few months ago and Georgie will check if this still in date</p> <p>c) Colin McA had received email from Lionsaidh confirming she has moved out of the Forestry Office and thanking the Trust for its use., Colin replied thanking her sincerely and offering all our best wishes for the future.</p> <p>d) A letter and form were received from TV Licencing and the form will be completed to confirm it does not apply to the Trust.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i><b>Georgie</b></i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i><b>Georgie</b></i></p>

<p><b>4. Finance</b></p> <p>Colin McA reported on finance as George unable to attend the meeting.</p> <p><b>December</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Income</td> <td>£378.08</td> <td>(£135 office rents, £215 Hay field rent, £28.08 wayleave SSE)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>One office rent outstanding</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expenditure</td> <td>£13</td> <td>(Companies House Annual statement)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>One office rent outstanding</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance</td> <td>£8,531.98</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><b>January</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Income</td> <td>£135.00</td> <td>(Office rents)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>One office rent outstanding</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expenditure</td> <td>Nil</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance</td> <td>£8,566.98</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Income	£378.08	(£135 office rents, £215 Hay field rent, £28.08 wayleave SSE)			One office rent outstanding	Expenditure	£13	(Companies House Annual statement)			One office rent outstanding	Balance	£8,531.98		Income	£135.00	(Office rents)			One office rent outstanding	Expenditure	Nil		Balance	£8,566.98		
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<p><b>5. Membership Update</b></p> <p>Colin P has been working on membership registration forms which he passed around and there was also discussion on the data protection information that will be on the website. Some alterations will need to be made to this and Colin P will do and circulate and Lizzie will post to the website. With regard to the forms, it was noted that for junior members a parent/guardian will have to sign on their behalf.</p> <p>Martin asked how the information will be held by the Trust and it was agreed that the register will be held on computer by Colin P as Membership Sec., by Colin McA as Chair and Lizzie as Co. Sec.</p>	<p><b>Colin P</b></p> <p><b>Lizzie</b></p>																											

<p><b>6. Office Update</b></p> <p>There was a problem with frozen pipes but Liondsaidh turned off the water and has now moved out. There are items of furniture left so we need to find a home or donate locally such as chairs, a large table and bookcases which may be of interest to the hall. With all the remaining detritus a skip may have to be arranged.</p> <p>With regard to the filing cabinet, Lizzie has been liaising with Mary MacBeth and she will ask the Hall Committee if this can be located in the hall and have shared use between the FCT and the CC. It has no lock so a locking bar will need to fixed.</p> <p>Colin McA has not heard back from FLS so will re-contact. However, we are planning to have the building vacant by the end of April.</p>	
<p><b>7. Land Issues</b></p> <p>We need to set out our priorities and a workplan for 2023 but work we have already highlighted is</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Install the kissing gate by the burn</li> <li>2. Work to improve the entry to the allotment</li> <li>3. Provision of a simple water supply to the allotments</li> <li>4. A small length of board walk at the top of the Braeintra path to cover exposed tree roots. Martin said this will need shuttering and filling, probably using some of the fill that will be used on the work on the allotment entry.</li> </ol> <p>Colin McA reported that the erosion to the banks of the burn by the bridge seems to be static but will keep monitoring.</p>	
<p><b>8. FLS Concordat, Carbon Credits and potential income</b></p> <p><b>Concordat</b></p> <p>Following our discussion in August with Becky Milne (FLS) Colin P had been in contact with her and informed the meeting that Becky is changing her job to Harvesting and Marketing Forester and her role will be taken over by Sandra Reed. Becky suggested that prior to future discussion regarding the Concordat and the new FLS Community Strategy that we make a list of what we want, for example community firewood.</p> <p>Colin P then discussed carbon credits and potential income from FLS land that could benefit the Trust and local community. He informed the meeting he had heard about peatland restoration at the top of Glen Udalain. Colin McA said that this was not in the current FLS local plan which runs up to 2030. He also confirmed that the FLS activities were centralised in the past but are now devolved back to a re-drawing of the regions.</p> <p>There followed some discussion re carbon capture, green washing and how costs/benefits would impact a local community.</p>	

Colin P also mentioned Glengarry and their woodland plans and will forward information to the Board	<b>Colin</b>
<b>9. AOB</b> Lizzie confirmed Colin P now registered as Director with Companies House. Martin asked about FCT membership votes and Colin McA confirmed that these only take place at an AGM or EGM	

**Date of next meeting: 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023, 7.30pm Achmore Hall**

Meeting closed at 8.55 pm