

Fernaig Community Trust

Minutes of Meeting 9 April 2024, Achmore Hall

Present: Colin McAndrew, Colin Parsons, Kate Biss, Georgie Grimson and Lizzie Bird.

Apologies: Chris Cartwright, Roddy McPherson, Neil MacRae and Martin Irving

Action

<p>1. Welcome</p> <p>Colin McA welcomed all to the meeting.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of Meeting 9 April 2024</p> <p>1. Matters Arising – mostly covered by Agenda</p> <p>2. Correspondence</p> <p>a) Colin McA had circulated another email from CLS re conference in Perth.with more details.</p> <p>b) Colin McA thanked Colin P for circulating the FCT newsletter.</p> <p>c) Communication from Community Energy Scotland. More of a circular and contact probably goes back to when FCT where looking at the Hydro scheme.</p> <p>Minutes proposed by Kate and seconded by Colin McA and agreed.</p>	
<p>3. Finance</p> <p>Georgie presented the March accounts.</p> <p>Income £ 115.00 (Small holding rent) Expenditure £ 101,52 (Sand from Jewsons)</p> <p>Balance £10,213.66</p> <p>Georgie has issued all small holding lease invoices.</p> <p>Georgie has received draft accounts 2022/2023 from Nevis and sorted out queries. She received final accounts tonight and they will go off to OSCR.</p> <p>Colin P asked if the accounts could be circulated. Georgie said they are 16 pages long and quite difficult to understand but will try to circulate to the Board once she has sorted her computer system. Colin McA said that if we become a SCIO the accounts will be a lot simpler as it works on an ordinary payments and receipts account system.</p>	<p>Georgie</p> <p>Georgie</p>

<p>4. Review of meeting with FLS</p> <p>Colin McA felt it was a constructive meeting. Lizzie said good to put faces to names.</p> <p>Re contact with their civil engineer regarding the damaged bridge and contacting Duncan, nothing heard back yet. Colin McA will contact Alex at FLS for advice. Colin P had looked at Beaver Bridges website, suggested by Martin Irving, at possible replacement bridge.</p> <p>Colin P had made notes at the meeting and asked about action on the Concordat. It was confirmed that FLS would come back to the Trust and Lizzie referred to their suggestion to look at the FLS website re existing agreements with other communities.</p> <p>Colin P referred to firewood and what options FLS could offer. Lizzie suggested Colin P contact FLS regarding supply method and availability to communities.</p>	<p>Colin McA</p> <p>Colin P</p>
<p>5. Shed Update.</p> <p>Joe's Sheds had called this morning and will deliver and erect on Thursday mid-morning this week. Colin McA and Joe Grimson will attend and anyone else welcome.</p> <p>Shed working party on the Sunday the 18th March to prepare the site was Colin McA, Martin, Chris and Donald his son. Colin McA mentioned once the shed erected there is a need to look at the ramp entry into the shed and Colin P has breeze blocks for a ramp if necessary.</p> <p>Colin P needs to photograph and do break down of erection timing and costs incurred with the shed build with regard to the agreement with from Awards for All.</p>	<p>Colin McA & Joe G</p> <p>Colin P</p>
<p>7. Office Update</p> <p>Colin McA had heard from our solicitors with 4 questions. The answers were</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Yes - to there is a water supply. 2. Yes - re the septic tank is the responsibility of FLS. 3. No - re neighbouring disputes or any litigation. 4. No - to receiving any notifications re housing, wind farms. <p>Colin McA will respond to solicitors.</p>	<p>Colin McA</p>

<p>8. Land Issues</p> <p>1) Allotment Road Bridge Damage/ Repair Ongoing – as discussed earlier.</p> <p>2) Footpath Georgie said brambles need cutting with brush cutter in far corner of hay field. Colin P agreed to have a look. Georgie referred to the ongoing dog poo problems on the path. As it is near to grass cutting/strimming time this will be unpleasant and Colin McA will put more doggy bags on top and bottom gates.</p> <p>3) Small Holding Leases Done.</p>	<p><i>Colin P</i></p> <p><i>Colin McA</i></p>
<p>9. SCIO Process</p> <p>Lizzie asked about feedback on the draft Constitution document Colin P had sent round. Although not studied in detail, she queried the proxy statement stating they could be used from people outwith the FCT. Agreed this should be deleted and proxies only can be submitted by FCT members.</p> <p>Colin McA said Plockton Development Trust are a SCIO and their constitution is on their website.</p> <p>Colin McA said we need to maintain numbers re directors/quorum as agreed at last AGM meeting. Lizzie mentioned that time frames for serving on the Trust were raised at the AGM. Perhaps the 2-year period was a bit short and Colin P referred to elections/standing down at AGMs.</p> <p>Colin McA referred to the Trust's 'purposes' at the beginning of the Constitution document and would delete the reference to housing and he and Lizzie felt the draft purposes were a bit repetitive as currently laid out. Colin P referred to 'recreation' as being important in inclusion in the purposes.</p> <p>Kate raised issue of community involvement in the 'purposes', and Colin P suggested we put out a bulletin. Lizzie clarified that what we are talking about tonight is only the beginning of the proposed Constitution and 'purposes', not the whole document. She suggested using the existing Mem and Arts 'purposes' as an initial communication to the community to prompt feedback.</p> <p>Colin McA said, as a Trust, the directors need to have a separate meeting to agree a draft document of the whole Constitution to put out to the community before an EGM. Georgie asked about the timeframe and it was agreed it would be over the summer.</p> <p>Colin P said he would prepare an email for feedback on the Trust 'purposes' only. It was also agreed not to include FLS and firewood as we need to hear back from FLS before doing this.</p>	<p><i>Colin P</i></p>

<p>10. AOB</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Colin McA had sent out the Work Plan inherited from last year for the Board to look at and raise any other items/suggestions to finalise the plan at our next meeting. 2. Colin McA confirmed we now have a new Community Council. 3. Colin P mentioned the Trust have a photocopier currently stored in a Hall cupboard and they need the space. It still works and Lizzie suggested putting on the Community WhatsApp and Colin P will do. 4. Lizzie wants to put the old Trust files in the filing cabinet now in the Hall. The question of a lock needs to be answered but generally felt for the Trust this is not really required. She said that as the cabinet is shared with the Hall Committee could Colin P check if they need a lock. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>All</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Colin P</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Colin P</i></p>
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Date of next meeting: Tuesday 14 May 2024, Achmore Hall, 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 8.55 pm.