

Fernaig Community Trust

Draft Minutes of Meeting 13 February 2024, Achmore Hall

Present: Colin McAndrew, Georgie Grimson, Colin Parsons, Martin Irving,
Lynn McLaughlan, Neil MacRae, Kate Biss and Chris Cartwright

Apologies: Lizzie Bird, Roddy MacPherson

Action

<p>1. Welcome</p> <p>Colin McAndrew welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies from Lizzie and Roddy as virtual connection set up did not appear to work.</p>							
<p>2. Minutes of Meeting 23 January 2024</p> <p>Minutes proposed by Georgie and seconded by Chris.</p>							
<p>3. Matters arising</p> <p>Mostly covered by agenda.</p> <p>a) AGM Actions</p> <p>OSCR have been back in touch within 15 working days to confirm consent to changes made to M&A at AGM. So with Companies House approval also obtained, this business is concluded</p>							
<p>4. Finance</p> <p>Georgie presented accounts for January</p> <table><tr><td>Income</td><td>£ 0</td></tr><tr><td>Expenditure</td><td>£479.90 (£150 Hall Hire; £19.50 Website Share of annual sub; £65 CWA Conference Expenses; £245.40 Paving Slabs</td></tr><tr><td>Balance</td><td>£10,838.18</td></tr></table> <p>Following previous discussion about online banking which had not been available for the Trust in the past, George had followed up with RBS. They agreed that this facility, and the issuing of a debit card to Georgie and Lizzie, should be provided via our existing account and has since been arranged. Colin McA thanked Georgie and said this would make day-to-day business much easier.</p>	Income	£ 0	Expenditure	£479.90 (£150 Hall Hire; £19.50 Website Share of annual sub; £65 CWA Conference Expenses; £245.40 Paving Slabs	Balance	£10,838.18	<p>Georgie</p>
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Balance	£10,838.18						

<p>5. Shed Update.</p> <p>Sand has been ordered and delivered to Riverside. Duncan will be contacted to ask if he could uplift and take down to the site.</p> <p>Joe's Sheds would be emailed for an update on progress with the shed and a possible delivery/erection date.</p>	<p>Colin Georgie</p>
<p>6. Office Update</p> <p>Following the letter of complaint to our Solicitors in Stornoway, a formal response, with an apology and note of actions taken, has been received and circulated. It was agreed this represents progress and we look forward to completing the deal soon.</p>	<p>Colin</p>
<p>7. Land Issues</p> <p>a) The annual NFU invoice to the Trust for insurance has been received with a quote of £536 which is acceptable. .</p> <p>c) Lizzie had contacted Chris and Ewan in Strome regarding installation of the kissing gate and they will undertake in due course.</p> <p>d) Colin McA confirmed that the renewal lease date for the small holdings is end of March. He will now contact small holders to find out who wish to renew but it was agreed to freeze the rents for renewal.</p> <p>e) The work to improve the entrance to the allotments is ongoing and waiting for good weather. Duncan will be contacted, it was suggested it could be incorporated into bridge repair work</p> <p>Allotment Road Bridge Damage/ Repair</p> <p>Following impressive flooding damage after exceptional rainfall, road/vehicle access is currently out of action. Most of the bridge remains intact with most damage to the central culvert. There was a full discussion on options and it was agreed that we should pursue a 'temporary' fix while a longer term solution was sought. Colin would also contact daughter Ruth for any advice FLS civil engineers could offer. Hardcore would be sourced to back fill the damage and reinstate bridge use and future options included new culvert pipes, a bailey bridge, steel and timber bridge, or sourcing walkways. Whatever, it is likely to take some time and costs could be prohibitive.</p> <p>There is also some flood damage at the end of the footpath that requires repairs (materials at Fank). A workparty should be organised.</p>	<p>Lizzie/ Georgie Lizzie</p> <p>Colin McA Lizzie</p> <p>Colin McA</p> <p>All/Colin</p> <p>Martin/Chris</p>

<p>Colin would circulate the 2023 workplan so all can offer suggestions for 2024.</p> <p>8. Meeting with FLS, 12 March</p> <p>Representatives of FLS will attend our next meeting. Colin McA suggested they are invited for 8pm, so we can conclude other business first. Colin P will circulate copies of the Concordat as reference.</p>	<p>Colin</p> <p>Colin P</p>
<p>9. SCIO Process</p> <p>It was agreed that converting to a SCIO should be pursued as it is clear that there are benefits. No-one could find any arguments against this action. A new constitution has to be drafted and a members' consultation and EGM held and an application process to OSCR followed. As a next step, Colin P offered to source example constitutions from other community bodies with SCIO status to help us assess the task ahead.</p>	<p>Colin P</p>

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 12 March 2024, Achmore Hall, 7.30pm
Meeting closed at 9.05 pm.