

Fernaig Community Trust

Minutes of Meeting 14th May 2024, Achmore Hall

Present: Colin McAndrew, Roddy McPherson, Martin Irving, Chris Cartwright, Colin Parsons, Georgie Grimson and Lizzie Bird.

Apologies: Kate Biss

Action

<p>1. Welcome</p> <p>Colin McA welcomed all to the meeting.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of Meeting 9 April 2024</p> <p><i>Matters Arising</i> – covered in Agenda</p> <p><i>Land Issues</i></p> <p>a) Thanks to Colin P for cutting brambles but more need cutting back at top section of path.and Colin P agreed to do.</p> <p>b) Colin McA had replaced dog poo bags end of path but already used so will replenish.</p> <p><i>Review of meeting with FLS</i></p> <p>a) Colin P had spoken to Becky re firewood. Need to find out quantities etc. Colin P will continue to chase re quantities required, price and where collection site etc.</p> <p>b) Colin McA had tried to contact Alex McLeod re damaged bridge and structural engineer but not heard back.</p> <p><i>AOB</i></p> <p>a) Photocopier had been advertised but no reaction. Need to dispose of, possibly at Portree tip.</p> <p>b) Lizzie has put old Trust files in filing cabinet in Hall. Asked Colin P he could ask Hall Committee, also using the cabinet, if they need a lock for the cabinet – the Trust do not require one.</p> <p>Minutes proposed by Georgie, seconded by Colin P and agreed.</p>	<p><i>Colin P</i></p> <p><i>Colin P</i></p>
<p>3. Correspondence</p> <p>a) Letter received last night from Footpaths group and will be discussed under AOB.</p> <p>b) Monthly Newsletter from CLS and CWA..</p>	

<p>4. Finance</p> <p>Georgie presented the April accounts.</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Income</td> <td>£ 362.69</td> <td>(Small holdings rent)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expenditure</td> <td>£1,431.00</td> <td>(£6 website domain contribution, £300 Nevis Accountancy re accounts, final payment of £1,125.00 re Shed.)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance</td> <td>£9,145.35</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Georgie has received accounts 2022/2023 from Nevis and sent to OSCR and Companies House. Thanks to Georgie for accounts preparation.</p> <p>Re the accounts being circulated, Georgie said she had had computer/broadband problems and couldn't send out. She has printed off a couple of copies. Colin McA said when problem resolved electronic copy could be sent to Lizzie and also put on the website.</p>	Income	£ 362.69	(Small holdings rent)	Expenditure	£1,431.00	(£6 website domain contribution, £300 Nevis Accountancy re accounts, final payment of £1,125.00 re Shed.)	Balance	£9,145.35		<p>Georgie</p>
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<p>5. Shed</p> <p>The shed was delivered on the 18th. May It was delivered at the end of the allotment and sections carried up to the site. Erection was completed early afternoon. Colin P had put down longer planks for the ramp and Colin McA had bought a padlock for the shed. Chris mentioned that a piece of fascia was missing and the Trust will find something to insert.</p> <p>Colin P said we had spent £2698 so far on the shed including sand, slabs etc. Georgie asked that the Board make a list of necessary or replacement tools required for our next meeting that we can store in the shed and Colin P can then complete the paperwork for Awards for All grant. With break down of erection timing, costs and photographs, Colin P will do photographs and ask about a plaque from Awards for All to put on the shed.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>Colin P</p>									
<p>6. Office Update</p> <p>Colin McA had responded to our solicitors with the 4 questions they had raised and discussed at the last meeting. They will send answers to FLS solicitors and we wait for them to come back.</p> <p>From the tone of our Solicitor's emails it looks as though we should receive a takeover date soon.</p>										

<p>7. Land Issues</p> <p>1) Allotment Road Bridge Damage/ Repair</p> <p>As mentioned in Matters Arising, Colin McA had not heard back from FLS re structural engineer. However, Martin proposed that as a permanent solution he and Chis could repair the damaged bridge by using shuttering filled and with fibre reinforced concrete. Preparing the area would need a clean out before pouring the concrete.</p> <p>After further discussion and to delay work being done, it was agreed by all that Martin and Chris would get costs but all agreed that they should go ahead with the work and be included in our work plan.</p> <p>Colin McA mentioned that there was a crack across the track but felt it was cosmetic. Martin and Chris will look at but felt clearing around it would resolve the problem.</p> <p>2) Allotments</p> <p>a) Georgie asked about the water supply and Martin said he has most of the equipment to lay the pipe with a reasonable fall from the pool identified in the burn.</p> <p>b) Colin McA mentioned that Jane Stevenson had ordered a shed which was delivered and erected on her allotment but the company had then asked for more money. She had refused and she has arranged for a new shed to be delivered in the next couple of weeks.</p> <p>3) Footpath</p> <p>Georgie said that Joe is retiring from grass cutting and all agreed that we should give Joe a big vote of thanks for all his support in the past.</p> <p>Colin McA asked if we need to create a grass cutting rota and Colin P said he will put out request for volunteers in the next newsletter. We will need to offer training and Colin P will prepare a risk assessment.</p>	<p><i>Martin/Chris</i></p> <p><i>Martin</i></p> <p><i>Martin</i></p> <p><i>Colin P</i></p>
<p>8. SCIO Process</p> <p>Colin P had sent out an email on the 21st April for feedback on the Trust 'purposes' only. He had received five responses including keeping them brief but concise.</p> <p>Colin P suggested putting a heading for each purpose which was agreed and re housing to delete the word 'provide' but keep the word promote. Agreed it was rather vague but would cover liaison with other organisations if contacted. Other changes suggested were wording but remembering that the purposes refer to Trust land. Some discussion was held re suggested wording about the environment and protecting it for 'its self' as well as for the benefit of the community. The Trust will review wording.</p>	<p><i>Colin P</i></p>

<p>Colin P will thank responders for their input.</p> <p>In conclusion the bullet pointing was approved and Colin McA said we should all read and bring comments, highlight points for amendment to our next meeting with the aim to agreeing final draft..</p> <p>Colin McA said we are approaching a special meeting with the members with two objectives. The first is to gain approval of the meeting to convert to a SCIO and secondly to approve the adoption of the new Constitution. We must carry out this to then notify OSCR of our actions in writing. Then we would make an application to become a SCIO.</p>	<p><i>All</i></p>
<p>9. AOB</p> <p>Letter received from the ASP group 13th May in the evening. Although discussed in the past, Chris said the matter of a Trust sub group had been raised again following a meeting with the local access officer – Stewart Eastaugh.</p> <p>At our meetings in November and December last year and at the AGM in January this year the Trust said they did not wish to form association with this group. Colin McA said we came to a considered decision, wished the group well and had offered help and advice. There was discussion again about liability out with the Trust owned land and the Board's responsibility for the group's finances including being a guarantor for grants if applied for. It was also felt that Colin P's comments were making the case for the group to set themselves up as a properly constituted company, which Lizzie had suggested at previous discussions.</p> <p>The majority of the Board said, as they have three times before, that they did not wish to have a Paths sub group.</p> <p>Lizzie will draft a response reflecting the majority of the Board's decision not to have a sub-group.</p>	<p><i>Lizzie</i></p>

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 11 June 2024, Achmore Hall, 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 9.35 pm.