

Minutes of Meeting 12th November 2024, Achmore Hall

Present: Colin McAndrew, Georgie Grimson, Roddy MacPherson, Neil MacRae, Martin Irving, Lizzie Bird. and Colin Parsons

Apologies: Kate Biss who will attend later and Chris Cartwright

Action

<p>1. Welcome Colin McA welcomed all to the meeting.</p>										
<p>2. There was no meeting in October due to not being quorate. Minutes of Meeting 10th September 2024 <i>Minutes proposed by Neil, seconded by Georgie and agreed.</i></p>										
<p>3. Correspondence Monthly Newsletters received from CLS and CWA. Correspondence from Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA) re change in regulations about poultry. All poultry, even one kept in a back garden and aviaries, must now be registered. APHA are also notifying on regular basis about 'blue tongue', thankfully not yet present in Scotland. Notification from CC regarding Tilhill proposed work. Email from Colin P regarding notification of his absence on item 7 of agenda for this meeting regarding Hayfield. This will be last item to be discussed at this meeting.</p>										
<p>4. Finance - Georgie presented the September accounts. Business Current Account</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">Income</td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: right;">£ 562.83</td> <td style="width: 75%;">(£80.00 Allotments, £372.84 Duck Race, £109.99 Pole Saw refund)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expenditure</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 323.96</td> <td>(£34.00 Co. House, £129.97 Pole Saw and hard hat replacement, £109.99 original payment for pole saw, £50.00 CLS membership)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 9,443.80</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>35 Day Liquidity Account £60,000.00 £ 99.95 interest</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> <p style="text-align: right;">£60,099.95 Balance</p>	Income	£ 562.83	(£80.00 Allotments, £372.84 Duck Race, £109.99 Pole Saw refund)	Expenditure	£ 323.96	(£34.00 Co. House, £129.97 Pole Saw and hard hat replacement, £109.99 original payment for pole saw, £50.00 CLS membership)	Balance	£ 9,443.80		
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<p>Georgie presented the October accounts.</p> <p>Business Current Account</p> <p>Income £ 160.00. (Allotments)</p> <p>Expenditure £ -</p> <p>Balance £ 9,603.80</p> <p>35 Day Liquidity Account £60,099.95 £ 157,41 interest</p> <p style="text-align: center;">—————</p> <p style="text-align: center;">£60,257.36 Balance</p> <p>Georgie checked regarding paying tax on interest. As far as she understands, if used for charitable purposes, no tax is required. Colin McA confirmed that there is an online form covering this from HMRC and we can apply for a Letter of Recognition as a charity which then needs to be sent to the bank.</p>	<p>Georgie</p>
<p>5. New Shed update</p> <p>Colin P has completed all paperwork for the Awards for All grant and a copy of official paperwork is now in the filing cabinet. Security of the filing cabinet was raised and agreed that a chain and lock would secure the cabinet drawers.</p> <p>Georgie said she would have to show in audited accounts receipt of the grant and, although shown in our bank statement, it was agreed that Colin P would send Georgie copies of any relevant emails concerning this should it be required.</p>	<p>Lizzie</p> <p>Colin P</p>
<p>6. Land issues</p> <p>a) Allotments</p> <p>Colin P had been approached by a couple from Ardelve, Andrea and Rob Edins, re an allotment. They would also like to erect a small shed and polytunnel. A lease and invoice will be issued.</p> <p>This now leaves one allotment plot which is large. There was discussion about maximising its potential by rotivating the ground and looking at smaller divisions to perhaps increase interest.</p>	<p>Colin McA</p> <p>Georgie</p>

<p>b) Update on Allotment Road Bridge Damage/ Repair</p> <p>Martin had looked at the old fish farm walkways in the FLS quarry but reported they are well past sell by date.</p> <p>Martin then confirmed that Paddy Munroe had got back to him regarding stone and he will deliver type 2 stone at some point in the future.</p> <p>Colin McA said that Duncan’s fix on the bridge was holding up. Roddy said that future work would be as that proposed at our August meeting.</p> <p>c) Bench below Kissing Gate – ongoing</p> <p>d) Top field (10a) – will become vacant in April 2025 and will be advertised. Needs some mowing/work but Martin has done the fencing.</p>	
<p>Kate joined the meeting</p> <p>7. SCIO Process – Constitution (final) draft – next step for members</p> <p>Lizzie raised the issue of a date for the EGM. Lizzie had emailed Jackie re available dates for the hall but has as yet not heard back. Colin McA said we must remember the 21 days’ notice to members. Queries were raised about when we should have our AGM and Colin McA said that the EGM should be the priority to get the Constitution agreed and approval to become a SCIO so we can submit the necessary paperwork. If our application gets delayed, we can then hold our AGM as normal. Queries then arose regarding elections at the AGM and Colin McA confirmed that the SCIO application includes the names of the current board. Aware that the FCT would be in transition we will look at further information and the possibility of having an AGM later in the new year.</p> <p>We therefore will aim to have the EGM early December or January and Lizzie will confirm dates with Jackie re booking the Hall. Lizzie mentioned that Kate does not want a Tuesday and Lizzie a Wednesday. Lizzie asked that if there are any other dates Board members cannot make could they please let her know. . Date to be confirmed at our next meeting.</p> <p>Colin McA confirmed that following the consultation process with members and sending out the draft consultation there was one response saying ‘thank you’.</p> <p>A little later we received an email from Geoff Harrington with two points. The first was that we shouldn’t have the word ‘The’ in front of the Fernaig Community Trust. The initial reasoning for including ‘The’ was that it was a different name on the SCIO application to our existing name. It was agreed after some discussion that the ‘The’ be dropped and the SCIO application goes in as ‘Fernaig Community Trust’. If we get a query back from SCIO we can deal with it then. Geoff’s second point was regarding text for nomination of a trustee. After discussion Colin</p>	<p>Colin McA</p> <p>Colin P</p> <p>Lizzie</p> <p>Lizzie</p>

<p>McA suggested that with regard to clause 74 we add 'This applies also to retiring trustees should they wish to be re-appointed' and this was agreed.</p> <p>Colin P will amend the Constitution by deleting 'The' and adding the above to clause 74 and circulate to the Board.</p> <p>Lizzie confirmed that following an email from Colin P she had made the necessary correction in sending the correct M&A amended in 2002 by special resolution and not the original M&A to Companies House when paperwork was submitted following our AGM this year.</p>	<p><i>Colin P</i></p>
<p>8. Hay Field</p> <p>As agreed, this item was the last on the Agenda and Colin P left the meeting.</p> <p>Colin McA confirmed in 2014 the Trust introduced Short Duration Limited Tenancies for all the holdings on the land. Colin first applied in 2016 for such a lease, which is for 5 years, but the Board turned it down on the basis that the Hay Field is a special case for the community. However, the Board agreed he could have a grazing and mowing lease, a legal document which is for 364 days. On the 365th day you have to vacate but can apply to re-new for another year's lease. It is a proper strict agricultural lease but flexible, i.e. over past years allowing Colin P to permit access to his ponies for Dec, Jan and Feb only. However the concern of the Board was the ongoing deterioration in the state of the hay field and in past years the lack of docken control despite the Board's requests.</p> <p>With the Board's concern about being able to produce good quality hay for the community and an income stream it was agreed that the Trust would have to invest money to improve the field's soil quality. However, it was unanimously agreed that we grant a three month lease for Dec, Jan and February to Colin P for grazing the ponies but continue our discussions, including Colin P, regarding improvement to the Hay Field.</p>	<p><i>Colin McA</i></p>

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 10th December 2024, Achmore Hall, 7.30pm
Meeting closed at 9.45 pm.