

Craignish Community Company

Minutes of Board Meeting 7.30pm 11th January 2023 at Craignish Village Hall
with Zoom option for those unable to attend in person

Present:

Vicki Burnett (Chair), Christian Smyth (Treasurer) Jane Smee (Secretary), Laura Leslie-Sherwood, Siobhan Healy, Iain Saunders.

Visitor: Annie Loughlin, to discuss the possibility of a Community Action Plan for Craignish.

1. Apologies: Angie Bird, Mark Hampton. Vicki reported that Rory Day had asked to stand down as a Director and his resignation was accepted, and the board thanked Rory for his long and helpful contribution over the years. The vacancy on the board will be advertised.
2. Minutes of Board meeting 14th December 2022: a draft had been circulated and these were approved. There were no matters arising that were not to be covered later in the meeting.
3. Community Action Plan: Annie explained that she was keen for C3 to consider a Plan for Craignish; she had been inspired by hearing of a particularly successful one at Dalavich, which had resulted in a hydro scheme that was raising good money for their community. She outlined the process, for which grants were available if backed by a community body, but crucially involved getting the views of the whole community, which she acknowledged is very hard work. Also a Plan typically looks only about 5 years ahead, and then the exercise should be repeated. But this might be a very effective way to unite Craignish, especially Lunga/Craobh/Ardfern. In the following discussion various points were raised including: the need to also make the best use of the community efforts we already have (including C3); the Galley purchase and its additional uses (such as a garden) could be a key part of any Plan; the difficulty of raising interest in overall schemes rather than things that were of immediate personal interest to some, like the Seawilding initiative. Iain pointed out that a Plan was once completed, back in the early 2000s. Despite it being extremely thorough and seen as a 'model' for developing such a plan at the time, it did not have much effect on what actually happened, though it was aimed specifically at land development rather than the many other possibilities. Overall it was agreed that the idea was worth considering further. Antonia Baird and Mark Hampton were both involved in the earlier Plan, and it was agreed that Annie would speak to them, and then come to the February meeting with more detailed ideas.
4. Finance: Christian had provided copies of the latest quarterly report. There was not anything of great significance to highlight. There was some discussion about the various 'pots' of funding that are still available and Vicki will chase Rory Day and Will Goudy re the Cromach funds. Jane asked if we had now abandoned the Boat Jumble as a fund-raiser; it was agreed that this was really more suited to the Boat Club, who ran it last year, and that at the moment we did not need that income. When we do, there will be other ways to raise it. Jane will contact the Boat Club to find out if they are thinking of running the Jumble this year. Christian had also circulated a draft Risk Assessment, and we will all look at this and let Christian have comments in the next two weeks, with a view to finalising it at the next meeting.
5. Galley of Lorne, application for registration of interest, update: Laura confirmed that the application was now in; nothing had been received in response as yet. She will be meeting others who have made successful applications and will give a presentation of ideas to the next meeting.
6. Healy Arts Charity: Siobhan confirmed that the visit and workshop planned for Wednesday 18th January will go ahead although facilities at the new building are still limited. She has secured 15 engraver pens so that visitors can try them out on glasswork. Several board members and others have said they will be there. She was hoping there would be a bigger event later in the year. Vicki will promote the event via Facebook.

7. Kilvaree Stones: Vicki has been given the date of 21st January for volunteers to help clear vegetation and has advertised this on Facebook.
8. Craignish Arts Collective: Vicki reported on the move to alter the purpose of the page on the Craignish Information site from selling to showcase. There is £140 still available which we could pay to Tiziana Tedoldi for her work on this, but Vicki will check that she or Di Oliver does not still have any unpaid invoices so that we don't have duplication. Suggestions for monitoring and updating the craignish.info site were considered, including trying to attract a younger person for whom this might be a good CV point, and seeking a token donation from those whose work was advertised. The site is currently run by Tiziana so Vicki will speak to her about it.
9. Talamh an Righ: Iain reported that Christina Saunders has successfully organised the planting of some fruit trees; otherwise all was quiet.
10. Invasive species management volunteer group: Christian has heard nothing further from Angus Bevan as yet.
11. Date of next meeting: 8th February 2023 at 7.30pm via Zoom.

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Chair

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Date