

Craignish Community Company

Minutes of Meeting 10th November 2021 via Zoom

Present: Iain Saunders (Chairman), Vicki Burnett, Rory Day, Mark Hampton, Siobhan Healy, Christian Smyth, Jane Smee (Secretary)

1. Apologies: Angie Bird, Robin Stephen
2. The minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 2021 were approved.
3. Finance: Christian summarised the Q3 finance report which had been circulated previously. The highest expenses were for Talamh an Righ and for the First Responders. The Craobh defibrillator had been called into action and so needed some replacement accessories. There were insufficient funds in the Craobh First Responders account but Ali Macleod was happy for us to fund the balance out of the Ardfern First Responders account.

We had been due a further £2000 for CRI online selling when Highlands and Islands withdrew this support. It was suggested that the project could be tidied up using the Art Festival funding which is not being used at present. Tiziana Tedoldi has also secured just under £3000 from the Corra Foundation for a separate project featuring creative workshops for e.g. upholstery and repairs, and would be willing to try to include the photography workshop from CRI so that it could be completed and students would be able to display their work. The other half-delivered CRI workshops were briefly considered and it was felt that there might not be much enthusiasm for these now as there were more activities being offered at the Village Hall. Vicki offered to try and find out if there was still any interest.

Christian also reported that a donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, has offered a substantial sum to the school, mainly to fund an electronic whiteboard, with any excess to be used for the general benefit of the school. They had asked if the payment for this could be made via C3 as charitable umbrella. It was agreed that this would be appropriate and that we would like to be on record as having enabled the funding.

The final accounts for this year are completed and will be circulated to the Board and posted on the website.

4. Lunga track: Iain reported that there was not much to add since Colin Lindsay-MacDougall's response had been circulated. It was agreed that we would not want to be involved in the issue of a possible closure of the track to vehicles unless this actually happens. There has not been much more discussion on Facebook and it appears that the forestry company will not need to use very much of the road for their planned operations. Iain had updated the track residents and had received some thanks.

5. Lord of the Isles and Galley of Lorne: Mark reported that credit was due to the owners of LOTI for keeping it open. (Kerry-Ann Lindop from Lunga House is now running it for three nights a week.) Rory reported that there was no real progress on the Galley; Tom McCardel has advised that from the planning point of view a change of use would have to be put to the Community Council and their views would be very influential. It was thought that there would be very strong community opposition to the loss of either venue.

6. Communications: Vicki asked that the recent recruits to the Board provide some details for the website.

Jane reported that we had been asked by the Argyll Third Sector Interface, who create volunteer opportunities for young people, if we wished to remain on their database. Having consulted with Iain she had confirmed to them that we did, and had updated the contact details to hers. Rory pointed out that ATSI are a good source of useful funding information, and Jane will monitor.

7. Companies House: Jane and Christian have agreed that Jane will take over responsibility for updating our information at Companies House and she will be contacting those whose details are needed for this.

8. Any Other Business: A resident has suggested that a dog exercise field should be established locally. It is not clear how C3 might help with this but Vicki will investigate.

Rory expressed concern that the school children are not making use of Talamh an Rìgh during their breaks, when one of the main aims of providing it was to give them extra space. There was some discussion and it was felt that the issue is most likely the question of supervision. The original plan had been for C3 and the school to share responsibility for this and there were some negotiations with the education authority, but things have come to a halt and C3's aims have been lost sight of. The PTA, who were involved in the negotiations at one stage, are very keen for the space to be used and might also be willing to help with supervision. There may even be some funding for this if the donation for the whiteboard leaves an underspend.

It was agreed that we need to pursue the matter and find out what the problems are and work out solutions. Iain will contact the headteacher and suggest a meeting, and Rory will contact the PTA and canvass the idea of parents possibly supervising and see if it is possible to find the original correspondence with the education authority so that we can pick up where this was left off.

9. Date of next meeting: December 8th at 7.30pm, via Zoom.