

Craignish Community Company

Draft Minutes of meeting 13th October 2021, Craignish Village Hall

Present: Iain Saunders (Chairman), Vicki Burnett, Rory Day, Jane Smee (Secretary)

1. Apologies: Angie Bird, Mark Hampton, Siobhan Healy, Christian Smyth, Robin Stephen (There were problems with the Zoom link for those unable to attend in person).
2. Siobhan's application to join the Company was welcomed and she was appointed to the Board, proposed by Vicki and seconded by Rory.
3. The minutes of the meeting held on 15th September 2021 were approved.
4. Finance: as Christian was unable to attend the meeting, Iain gave a brief update on the only changes since the last report, the purchase of a lawnmower and strimmer for Talamh an Righ at a cost of approximately £800.
5. Talamh an Righ: Iain and Vicki reported on the 'Thank You' party. This was very convivial and well-attended and the speeches given made sure that everyone who had contributed was thanked. The heavy rain did not dampen the occasion but the leak from the roof is something that will need attention. Rory reported that children are already making good use of the playground. Thanks were extended to Iain for all the planning and to Angie for providing excellent refreshments.
6. Lunga Track: There was a long discussion about the proposal by the owner Colin Lindsay-MacDougall to upgrade the track and seek adoption by Argyll and Bute Council, and the responses from the community. Although there were some well-considered responses in favour, and it is clear that the state of the track is a real barrier between the two sides of the community, the majority of residents both on and off the track were against an upgrade, mainly because of the likely increase in speed and volume of traffic. Tom McCardel has now advised that ABC would not agree to adopt the track because it is not the sole means of access to Lunga and Craobh. There was almost unanimous agreement on the need for better maintenance of the track, not just for vehicles but to make it bicycle-friendly and easier for walkers, and as it is a 'Core Path' there may be funding available, subject to negotiations with the owner. Iain will go back to Colin and find out if he would be prepared to support improved maintenance if such funding could be obtained.
7. Craignish Parish Church: Iain reported on an approach by Georgina Dalton, Session Clerk of Netherlorn Churches, to discuss the possibility of C3 helping to save the Church for the community. The small congregation have to decide towards the end of this year/beginning of the next whether to join another group, such as Netherlorn, or go their own way. Either way the Church building will have no future role, and will be sold. It needs some very expensive restoration and while there is plenty of Church funding for this it would only be forthcoming if the congregation ask for it and are prepared to go through a very long and convoluted process. As it is less than 5.5m above sea level other development of the land would not be permitted. Possible uses for the building within the community were considered and it was agreed that it was hard to see what these might be as we already have the Village Hall, though use by the Landmark Trust for holiday rentals, or by a nature organisation, were briefly considered. It was agreed that as the building is not yet for sale no action is possible but once it is, we can reconsider.
8. Galley of Lorne and Lord of the Isles (LOTI): Rory reported that work on the possibility of a community buy-out of the Galley was still at an early stage; a formal approach has still to be made to Andrew Stanton. The Galley is not yet actually for sale. LOTI is, but while it was encouraging to see the progress made by other communities e.g. Inverie and Port Bannatyne, Iain pointed out that a lot of work is involved and while C3 could be the vehicle

for the process we would need others with enough enthusiasm to actually see it through. There was some discussion about the competing merits of the two venues, and where local support would go, very likely depending on which was sold first. Vicki pointed out the considerable interest of the marina in saving LOTI as a hospitality venue. She will contact Mark and suggest that he speaks to Holt, the owners, and find out their opinion. Rory will contact Tom McCardel for his opinion on the likelihood of ABC approving a change of use of the building to residential.

9. Creative Project: all going well, nothing new to report.
10. Communications: Vicki was thanked for her work on Facebook and the website, which has raised awareness of C3 and given it a more positive profile. There was some general discussion about the need to continue this and to canvass the community for ideas with a view to building a strategy for the whole peninsula and minimise the divisions apparent from the items already discussed.
11. Venue of future meetings: Agreed that quarterly meetings (with financial reports) will be in the Hall and those in between on Zoom.
12. Any other business: Jane reported that our information held at Companies House needs to be updated. It was agreed that she should contact Christian to see if he would like her to take over this task.
13. Date of next meeting: 10th November at 7.30pm via Zoom

.....
Chairman

.....
Date