

Craignish Community Company

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
Monday 10th June 2024 at 7.30pm at the Roundhouse, Talamh an Righ

Present:

Board: Vicki Burnett (Chair), Mandy Clarke, Christian Smyth (Treasurer), Ben Weaser, Jane Smee (Secretary).

Visitors:

- Ken Taggart, who will be taking over as Treasurer from Christian, and joining the Board, in July

Actions required:

- Ben to email Blair Duncanson to ask that the leak in the Roundhouse roof (which we experienced first hand!) be fixed
- Jane to email Christian suggested amendments to the draft accounts
- Ken to contact Ali MacLeod re the "Terns" fund
- Vicki to contact Gordon Gray Stephens re Corranmor woodland

1. **Apologies:** Mark Hampton, Siobhan Healy, Laura Leslie-Sherwood.

2. **Minutes of the meeting on 8th May 2024** were approved. Matters arising not covered under other items:

- Noticeboards: Vicki reported that the information about the funding applications had been advertised, and Mandy reported that one result had come back, a refusal.
- craignish.info website maintenance: Vicki reported that the advertisement had been redrawn and re-publicised, and that there had been two responses. The tender document had been sent to them, and a closing date of 1st July 2024 set.
- Knotweed: Vicki had reported our decision to step back from this to the member who instigated the scheme, and they are happy to allow us to retain the remaining funding (£647) and use it as we wish
- Kilvaree Stones: the cheque for £3,000 had been received from NHASMA and was handed to Christian. The signed Agreement and covering letter were handed to Jane to file.

3. **Finance:**

- Treasurer handover: Ken joined the meeting and was welcomed and introductions made. It was agreed that his formal appointment as Treasurer and to the Board would be postponed to the July meeting, as it was more appropriate for Christian to address the AGM.
- Accounts for AGM: Christian had provided copies of the draft prepared by RA Clement Associates and briefly went through the Financial Review paragraphs which summarise our position. He offered to go through the whole document in more detail with anyone who would like this. He pointed out some minor changes that he will be requesting. Jane said that there were one or two amendments in the introduction she would like to suggest, and she will email these to Christian. Once the draft is agreed, Jane and Christian will sign it and it will then be available to the AGM.
- 2024 accounts: Ken circulated a note showing the changes in levels of funds to 31st May 2024 from 31st December 2023, and a Cash Book showing receipts and payments for the same period. He also suggested that we should have a budget, and this was agreed. The "Terns" fund is now obsolete, but still contains £990 which was raised by Ali MacLeod, and we should account to him for it. Ken will contact Ali to discuss this.

4. **Talamh an Righ and the Chelsea Flower Show Garden:**

Following on from the May meeting's agreement to a combined site visit (the designer Ryan McMahon, Will Goudy of Cromach, and C3 representatives), Ben had agreed this for Saturday 15th June.

He is still talking informally to the parents of the children who use the playground, and some of them will also be going to the meeting on the 15th. (Unfortunately most of the other board members will not be available, but Siobhan and possibly Mandy may be able to be there.) The parents are keen to keep as much open space as possible and there is also some enthusiasm for taking over the maintenance, depending on funding being available.

There was some discussion about the advantages and disadvantages of a designed garden, and it was clear that the meeting on Saturday would have to address the need for open space, and the extra maintenance a designed garden might need. It was agreed that we would reconsider this at our next meeting, when Ben will report back.

Ben had also suggested that a completely different site for the garden would be a better solution, in particular the Mid-Argyll Youth Development Service in Lochgilphead. They have an outdoor area that they are trying to develop with limited funds, and there is a much larger catchment of children to take an interest in it. It was agreed that this could be an acceptable solution.

It was agreed that we should postpone any further consideration of an event at the Roundhouse until the issue of the future and maintenance of the playground is more settled.

5. **Corranmor Woodland:** Vicki reminded the meeting of the background to this, and that when we originally declined the offer of an option to purchase this was taken to be solely on the grounds of the short timescale. We have now been offered the possibility of a longer timescale. It was agreed that this was still a project that was far too complicated for us to take on, and that we should decline again. Vicki will let Gordon Gray Stephens know.
6. **AGM and constitution of the Board:** Jane reminded the meeting of the requirement in our Articles for members of the board to retire on rotation at each AGM. Our present number of directors requires two to step down. Christian volunteered to do so. The required notice for the AGM will go out to members this week and will include a request for nomination of new directors. Depending on whether any nominations are received, we can then consider what elections/re-elections and co-options will need to be covered at the AGM and subsequent Board meeting.
7. **Date of next meeting:** This was noted to be Wednesday 10th July 2024 at the Village Hall, immediately following the AGM.

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Chair

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Date