

Craignish Community Company

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday 13th November 2024 at Craignish Village Hall and via Zoom,
following 6:30pm public meeting

Present:

Board: Vicki Burnett (Chair), Mark Hampton, Siobhan Healy, Ben Weaser, Ken Taggart (Treasurer), Jane Smee (Secretary).

Actions required

- Jane to contact Alex Tweedly re the old website
- CAP spending limit to go on the agenda for the next meeting
- Ben to speak to Will Goudy about the £400 we still hold for Cromach
- Healy Arts funding to go on the agenda for the next meeting
- Mark to add a financial (cost and likely future cost) element to the support eligibility matrix for the next meeting.
- Vicki to put a request for a volunteer for Chair out to the community
- Jane to ask Sarah Whittle about a better microphone for use at Zoom meetings

1. **Apologies:** There were apologies from Laura Leslie-Sherwood.

2. **Minutes of the meeting on 9th October 2024 were approved. Matters arising not covered under other items:**

- Healy Arts Funding: this was deferred to the next meeting when Siobhan can be there in person.
- Ken reported that he had now heard from Chris Booth on the question of funding for the First Responders and this was in hand. The Gift Aid claim is still a work in progress. It may be necessary to excavate the wall to gain access to the Kilvaree Stones donation box. It is not in a very attractive spot and the best solution would seem to be to get the old box out and fund a proper donation box in a better location.
- Vicki reported that Alex Tweedly is making good progress with the new website, and the backlog of minutes and the 2023 accounts have been sent to him. Jane will ask Alex to remove access to or put a warning message on the old site.
- Mark has made contact with Anne Smart at Kilmartin Museum, and hopes to have some advice about publicity for the Kilvaree Stones to bring to the next meeting.
- Talamh an Righ: the quotations for the shed roof and fence posts were for later discussion. On the question of insurance and storage of fuel, this must be stored outside and Ben is happy to keep it at his home for the time being.

3. **CAP discussion following on from public meeting:** It was agreed that this had been another very positive exercise and Vicki was thanked for chairing it so successfully and setting the foundations for a steering group. It was agreed that we need to “keep a foot in the door” and that it would be a good idea to co-opt one or two from the steering group to the Board, but to wait and see how it developed before deciding whom. Also the funding implications needed to be considered though these were likely to be small amounts, hall hire etc. Discussion of a possible spending limit for this will be on the next agenda.

4. **Finance:**

- Ken had circulated an up-to-date report and budget before the meeting, and there were no questions arising.

- Bank Mandate: We are still waiting for the current signatories to be removed.
 - New deposit account: Signatures and identification are needed for this, and this is in hand.
 - Individual budgets:
 1. Wildlife: Ali MacLeod has plans for all the funds we hold, and if more is needed he will raise this himself.
 2. First Responders: Chris Booth is now looking after this and there is a very healthy balance.
 3. Roundhouse: The costs proposed by Ben for the shed roof replacement can be covered.
 4. Cromach: This still has £400 allocated and has become dormant. Ben will speak to Will Goudy about this.
 5. Kilvaree Stones: this will be discussed once Mark has had a chance to talk fully with Anne Smart. It is likely to be 6-9 months before it is spent.
5. **Talamh an Righ:**
- Repair of the shed roof: after some discussion of the options it was agreed that the for now the cheapest possible repair, to stop the leaks, should be made (possibly with community help). The whole question of the continued existence of the shed should be brought into the CAP consultation and decisions made once we know the community's ideas.
 - Repair of fence posts: Ben explained that this simply required timber posts, no metal work. He will try to arrange the provision and installation of these, again possibly with community help.
6. **Support Eligibility Matrix:** Mark had circulated a draft before the meeting, and it was agreed that this would be very helpful aid to decisions about requests made to us. It was agreed that it did need to include a financial (cost and risk of likely future costs) element and Mark will revise it for the next meeting.
7. **Blister Pack Recycling:** Following the decision to finance this for a year at the last meeting, Sarah Whittle had been in touch again to explain that the bag system we had envisaged would not work in practice because there was no provision for collection. She had also underestimated the number of bags/boxes that were likely to be used over a year. She asked if we would now consider financing a box system at a slightly increased cost, 2 boxes a year, a total of £192 including collection. It was agreed that we would fund this for a year.
8. **Healy Arts (Sculpture Trail):** Siobhan gave some more details about the issues we would need to consider at the next meeting, including provision of information panels next to the existing sculptures and adding the Seawilding garden sculpture. She will check the practicalities to see if the available funds will cover them.
9. **Succession Planning:** Vicki will have to stand down from the Board at the AGM next year as our Articles now impose a total time limit of 6 years' service for directors. This also means she will have to stand down as Chair, as this position can only be held by an elected director. As none of the other present directors has the time to take this on, it was agreed that we should look outside the Board, possibly to someone from the CAP steering group. Vicki will put this out to the community.
10. **Meetings 2025:** Jane will have to book these with the Hall and it was agreed that we would continue to meet in person every month, but with an earlier starting time of 6:30pm.
11. **AOB:**
- There was some discussion about the Corranmor woodland purchase project, and it was agreed that it was best to keep this outwith C3. But we should continue to take an interest, and possibly help facilitate, and Ben and Vicki will attend the meeting on 25th November.
 - Christian's request for funding for equipment for Craignish Conservation Volunteers was confirmed as approved (up to £400, at the Board meeting 4th June 2023).
 - Following on from the agreement at the last meeting to invite a representative from the First Responders to some board meetings, it was agreed that everyone we hold funds for

should be similarly invited. This would start with the AGM and could then be every few months afterwards. It was important that we feed back our appreciation of what they are doing as well as getting updates from them.

- The Zoom facility for meetings made a great difference but the microphone provided with the Hall's equipment was not really adequate and a lot of what is said is missed. Jane will ask Sarah if a better microphone can be sourced.

12. **Date of next meeting:** This was noted to be Wednesday 11th December 2024 at 7:30pm at the Village Hall.

13. The meeting ended at 9.20pm and Vicki thanked everyone for attending.

.....
Chair

.....
Date