

**MINARD COMMUNITY TRUST**

**Minutes of AGM Meeting held in Minard Hall**

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2016 at 7.30pm**

		<b>ACTION</b>
Present	Brian Barker, Margaret Moncur, Alison Hay, Liz Taylor Feeney, Jeannie Whittingham (committee members)	
Apologies	Toni Calam, Bob Dickson, Lenny & Catherine McNeill, Sarah Calderwood, John & Anne Paterson, Mike Masters  Becs Barker, Kim Cogan, Colin Moncur, Steve Thompson  Brian Barker advised the meeting that in Kim's absence that he had been asked to stand in as Chair for the meeting.	
Minutes of Previous Meeting	Minutes of last AGM were proposed by Margaret Moncur and seconded by Lenny McNeill.	
Matters Arising	The meeting was advised that progress on some actions highlighted at the last AGM had been slower than hoped for because the capacity of the committee was limited and so certain matters had to be prioritised over others.  Lenny McNeil queried whether committee member attendance records were being kept as suggested by him at the previous AGM. He was assured that it was being done.  Brian confirmed that the change in structure of the MCT had not yet changed to a SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation) structure as proposed at the previous AGM.	
Chairpersons report	The Community Trust had focused attention in the last year on the buildings owned by the Trust with some of the regular community activities continuing as in previous years.  The Committee is working on two bids for the Hall; a large grant application for Hall renovation is nearing completion and will be submitted by January to try and access funds from the A'Chruach wind farm; and a rework of an earlier unsuccessful bid to the Climate Challenge Fund. These larger bids would also be complemented with a regular stream of smaller bids.  The Climate Challenge Fund bid will see the MCT working in partnership with Home Energy Scotland, West Loch Fyne Community Council and Furnace Community Council to improve the insulation of the village hall and enable energy efficiency drives to be facilitated by a project officer who would engage directly with households on energy saving and driver training for those interested in reducing fuel costs.  There was some discussion about the Trust taking on an	

	<p>employee and Brian informed the meeting that this is not unusual as he has worked with several communities around Argyll &amp; Bute that had employed project officers on a similar short term basis. The Trust does not have a potential employee in mind because the post would be advertised locally, which is a condition of grant funding.</p> <p>A suggestion was made to ask James Hilder for advice on employing a member of staff. Brian advised the meeting that rather than go directly to James that the committee would seek advice as appropriate, which could be James but also others with relevant knowledge and experience.</p> <p>Brian advised the AGM that a small grant had been approved from the A'Chruach wind farm fund for the shop covering new doors, windows, gutters, down pipes, fascia and soffit boards. Repairs had also been made to the shop roof earlier in the year and the priority repairs made. The shop roof had been in a worse state of repair than expected and that this would have to be addressed in the future.</p>	
Treasurers Report	<p>Margaret Moncur presented the audited accounts 2015/16 financial year: At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 the charity held £16248 at the bank including £5445 ring-fenced monies from the former Minard Playgroup and £6000 earmarked for a property repairs contingency. The Trustees consider this appropriate to allow them to fund ongoing activities.</p> <p>Trustees report was also read out to all present for approval.</p>	
Hall and Grounds Report	<p>Lenny McNeil asked about Hall cleaning.</p> <p>Margaret advised that this was in hand and that a professional cleaner will be contracted to clean the Hall. Initially a very thorough clean to be followed with regular cleaning at intervals to be determined.</p> <p>“Minard Village Hall Conditions of Use” to be reviewed and re issued to ensure that users abide by the rules. Mainly, that the Hall was left clean and tidy after use and all rubbish removed.</p>	
Shop Report	<p>Mike Masters advised the AGM that the shop turnover had dropped by some 30%. Due to this he would have to either close the shop or reduce opening hours to two hours a day, 9 to 11am, week days. Weekend hours would remain as at present. New opening hours would be implemented from Christmas week.</p> <p>This was discussed at length with members coming up with various ideas. It was suggested that a public meeting or by some other means (eg fliers, emails, questionnaires) all the</p>	Committee to look into

	<p>residents of the village be made aware of the precarious position of the shop.</p> <p>A suggestion was made to hold a public meeting to highlight the services available in the shop and to also gather ideas and test the interest in these as ways to help ensure the future of the shop.</p>	this with Mike.
Woodland Update	<p>It was noted that the Brainport walk was in a bad state and not well maintained. In view of this it was suggested that a sign that all walkers do so at their own risk should be attached to the walk notice board.</p> <p>The Forestry Commission and private landowners are responsible for the woodland and following the last AGM the Trust contacted Reynold Gayre and Forestry Commission about this. Some fallen trees had been removed, but work in the woodland had caused other problems.</p> <p>Following a suggestion made by a member of the community, the meeting agreed that a sign should be placed at the start of the walk to indicate that certain parts of the walk are hazardous.</p> <p>There was general agreement that the woodland walk is an asset to the village and that efforts should be made to bring the walk back into a good state of repair, whilst also acknowledging the limited capacity of the Trust to do this at present.</p>	
Fund Raising	<p>Regrettably some of the smaller fund raising activities had not happened this year but that a better effort would be made in the coming year.</p> <p>He went onto say that however the Hall is fairly well used at present, generating funds, by the Art Club, Council for election purposes, regular coffee mornings, craft fairs and school use.</p>	
Nomination & Election of Committee / Trustees	<p>Steve Thompson and Kim Cogan had both indicated that they were resigning from the Trust management committee.</p> <p>It was noted that Alison Hay has resigned as a Director of the Trust (on the register at Companies House) but was available to continue as a committee member.</p> <p>The Chair mentioned that with two members of the committee having stepped down new members were needed and would any one consider joining the committee. There were no takers.</p> <p>The remaining committee members with Brian as Chair agreed to continue for the coming year and were appointed.</p>	

Over 65's Xmas Tea	It was agreed to change the name of the Senior Citizens Christmas Tea to The Over 65's Christmas Tea. This will be held on 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2016 at 5.30pm for 6.00pm. The arrangements as per previous year with meal to be catered for by Alison, Real Stovies Company, Inveraray.	
A.O.C.B	<p>It was brought to the committee's attention that the footbridge over the stream at the top end of Achagoil is in need of maintenance but no one was aware who is responsible for or owns the bridge.</p> <p>In his closing remarks Brian commented that the Trust relies on the work of volunteers. He highlighted that a lot of hard work had been contributed to the MCT by Kim Cogan and Steve Thomson over several years for which the Trust was very appreciative.</p> <p>The meeting also acknowledged the significant contribution that Sandra Orr had made to the community over many years and noted with sadness her death earlier in the year.</p> <p>Lenny McNeill was also thanked for his work to refurbish the war memorial.</p> <p>It was also noted that Colin Moncur contributed much time on an ongoing basis with very little recognition for his efforts which were much appreciated. Brian also thanked the other members of the management committee for the contribution they make throughout the year.</p> <p>The meeting closed with thanks to everyone for making the effort to attend.</p>	
Date of Next Meeting	No date set for next AGM	