

MINARD COMMUNITY TRUST

Minutes of AGM Meeting held in Minard Hall

Monday 4th December 2017 at 7.30pm

		ACTION
Present	<p>Brian Barker, Margaret Moncur, Alison Hay, Liz Taylor Feeney (committee members)</p> <p>Steve Thompson, Anne Thompson, Sarah Calderwood, Lenny & Catherine McNeill, D McTaggart, Fred Bruce, Jan Williams, Jan Allison-Norman, John Hay, Jason Copestick, D Berndt, A Berndt, Elizabeth Hay, David Hay, John Hay, Andrew Hay, John Paterson, Toni Calam, Becs Barker</p>	
Apologies	<p>Karen Taylor, Craig Feeney, Kim Cogan, Anne Paterson, Colin Moncur</p>	
Minutes of Previous Meeting	<p>Minutes of last AGM were proposed by Toni Calam and seconded by Alison Hay. (After a small change to improve the language in one item.)</p>	
Matters Arising	<p>Lenny McNeil queried whether committee member attendance records were being kept as discussed at the previous AGM. Details of attendees and location are recorded on all minutes and shared via the Trust's web site www.minard.org.uk. Margaret Moncur provided a summary to the meeting.</p>	
Chairpersons report	<p>Activities organised by the Trust</p> <p>Beach Clean and the Christmas meal are regular events that have continued.</p> <p>The Management Committee made a conscious decision not to organise other activities and has focussed attention on facilities so that others can organise activities.</p> <p>Unfortunately, we were unable to organise event for children this year. We are keen to see the restricted fund and happy to report that Karen Taylor has volunteered to do this.</p> <p>Village walks</p> <p>Made two bids to try and progress works – to replace the bridge over Auchgoyle Burn and to develop a plan for the Brainport Trail. This was more complex as issues with land ownership for the bridge and complexities of Brainport Trail slowed progress. Still investigating, but much more of a challenge than expected. Suggestions were made by members of the community with regard to land ownership and these will be followed up by the committee.</p>	

Village Shop

Following news of the shop business going up for sale (not the building) the Trust worked with Mike and Syb to see if there was local interest in taking the shop on. There was one initial expression of interest, that faded once they had spent some time with Mike looking at the accounts for the shop. The shop business is still up for sale.

Community Trust approach A'Chruach Community Fund managed by Foundation Scotland for funding to make the shop look more attractive – new windows, doors, repairs to the roof. The Trust has paid for external decoration and Mike is talking with the Post Office about new signage. The Trust is very appreciative of this new source of funding – in this case approx. £5k.

The shop is an important resource for the community, but if support does not increase it continues to be at risk.

A suggestion was made to see if Londis in Inveraray would take on the business and the Committee will make enquiries to see if this is a possibility.

Village Hall

Tried two attempts at CCF bids to improve the village hall and work with communities locally. Reworked the bid and submitted to the A'Chruach Community Fund managed by Foundation Scotland – successfully awarded £27,500 for reroofing the hall. Currently completing paperwork and hoping work will start in the new year. Will be looking for other sources of funding to progress other works.

Based on feedback from hall users – we've engaged an occasional cleaner for the hall, and more recently accessed a small wind farm grant via WLFCC to repair the hot water.

There are new groups using the hall, e.g. Tai Chi, but overall income is down as the School is no longer using the Hall.

Communication

The Committee has responded to concerns re communication made at the last AGM. Trust now has a web site where minutes of all meetings are published.
www.minard.org.uk also e-mail info@minard.org.uk

Minard Community Noticeboard – online on Facebook and also welcomed the donation from a local business of a new noticeboard for posters.

	<p>Village survey conducted with regard to the shop – results published online and shared with Mike as operator. Results available on the Trust web site.</p>	
Treasurers Report	<p>Margaret Moncur presented the audited accounts 2016/17 financial year:</p> <p>At 31st March 2017 the charity held £21,261 at the bank including £5,265 ring-fenced monies from the former Minard Playgroup and £7,000 earmarked for a property repairs contingency. The Trustees consider this appropriate to allow them to fund ongoing activities.</p> <p>Approx £3,600 of the funds at the bank were reserved for the final payment on the works at the shop funded by et A'Chruach wind farm fun.</p> <p>After the end of year, the Trust also secured a grant from the A'Chruach Wind Farm Fund to replace and insulate the village hall roof. The two grants secured by the Trust from the fund account for approx 30% of the funds allocated so far.</p> <p>The Trust has also secured approx. 11% of the wind farm fund disbursed via West Loch Fyne Community Council.</p>	
Nomination & Election of Committee / Trustees	<p>One third of the committee members are required to stand down each year and if they wish can stand again. One member had to stand down this year.</p> <p>Brian indicated that he had stood down and was willing to stand again. He was proposed and seconded by Alison Hay and Margaret Moncur.</p> <p>West Loch Fyne Community Council have one space reserved on the committee that they can fill. Fred Bruce indicated that he was the representative chosen to fill the vacancy.</p> <p>There were no other nominations made before or during the meeting and so all appointments were made and confirmed.</p> <p>There are 5 vacant places on the committee. If someone is interested in joining the committee during the year there is scope to co-opt new members if required.</p>	
A.O.C.B	<p>The condition of the deer fencing on the Brainport Trail was raised by Mike Skelton. The Forestry Commission had committed to remove this after 10 years, which is now 2 years past. Unfortunately, there is no documentary evidence that records this, but the fence is now in a state where there is a real health and safety risk.</p>	

	<p>The fence is on Forestry Commission land. The Trust had tried to deal with the Commission's Lochgilphead office, with no progress. Fred Bruce indicated that there is a footpath officer based in Oban, Elaine Jamieson, and that he had some contact with her over this matter. With Fred joining the committee this is something that hopefully can be progressed in the next year.</p> <p>Becs Barker volunteered to help with the annual Christmas meal for retired residents.</p> <p>A question was asked about whether the e-mail list used by Lenny could be made public. Lenny indicated that this would not be possible as he has assured people that details will not be shared.</p> <p>The Facebook noticeboard (https://www.facebook.com/MinardCommunityNoticeboard/) and noticeboard near the shop are alternative more public ways to share notices and are used in conjunction with Lenny's e-mail list, so that important notices should reach the widest audience.</p> <p>Liz indicated that there will be a more detailed survey soon looking at how people use paths around the village. This will be used to provide more detail to support bids for funding, e.g. to the wind farm fund. Community members are urged to take part in the survey as a larger response will help to demonstrate that there is a need for improvements.</p> <p>Thanks</p> <p>In his closing remarks Brian commented that the Trust relies on the work of volunteers. Volunteers who are essential for making things happen. Thanks were offered to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colin for minor repairs/works on the hall/gardening • Jack for his efforts to keep the Brainport Trail open • Ailsa for cleaning • Jeannie Whittingham as secretary – who stood down in February. • Fellow committee members who served all year <p>If you are keen to get more involved either as a volunteer on a particular activity or as a member of the Management Committee please get in touch.</p> <p>The meeting closed with thanks to everyone for making the effort to attend.</p>	Committee
Next Meeting	No date set for next AGM	