

MINARD COMMUNITY TRUST

Minutes of AGM Meeting held in Minard Hall

Tuesday 4 July 2023 at 7.30pm

Present	Brian Barker, Margaret Moncur, Becs Barker, Paul Lomas
Apologies	Abbie Barcelona, Ailsa Crawford, Jen Deane, Maria Lomas, Colin Moncur, Anne Paterson, John Paterson, Keith Potter, Kirsten Rennie, Jan Brown, Maggy & Bob Perrin, Gail Cook, Liz Taylor-Feeney
Minutes of Previous Meeting	Minutes of last AGM were proposed by Margaret Moncur and seconded by Paul Lomas.
Matters Arising	None
Chair's report	<p>Activities organised by the Management Committee</p> <p>As in previous years, the Management Committee organises a limited number of activities and has focussed attention on providing facilities at the hall, shop and foreshore so that others can organise activities.</p> <p>A group of volunteers collated stories, designed and printed a newsletter for distribution around the village. The Trust paid for the production costs and posted an electronic version on the village web site. The time required to produce this was significant and the volunteer team were thanked for their efforts.</p> <p>The annual panto has become a regular feature and the Trust part funded the event again this year with additional contributions from the wind farm fund.</p> <p>The storage sheds at the village hall had reached the end of their life and were hazardous in some areas with rotting timbers. The Trust was able to secure funding to replace the sheds and these have been put to good use by regular users of the hall.</p> <p>The shed fire on the foreshore caused some damage. The Trust was able to support the owner of the shed, with volunteer input, to get the debris removed. The damaged trees will have to be cut down and the site where the shed stood will be allowed to regenerate naturally.</p> <p>Once cleared the foreshore was developed into a garden area in time for the Queen's jubilee celebrations. Thank you to Alastair, Colin and Donald for the work upgrading the foreshore area and to the various volunteers looking after the planters at the shore. The Trust paid for the materials with some support from the wind farm fund. The BBQ and refreshments for the jubilee event were funded by the Trust.</p> <p>The First Aid training provided by Andy Craven in the village hall was well attended and feedback was very positive. The Trust will arrange another session during the 2023/24 year.</p>

The annual beach clean and litter pick was very well attended again. The BBQ that follows the beach clean is also very popular and the combination of the two works well.

The Trust organised the firework display on the shore with support from local firefighters and funding from the small grants allocated by the Community Council.

The Trust jointly funded the panto in the village hall using the restricted fund for children's activities. The balance of the cost was covered by a small grant from the wind farm fund.

Work started to clean up and refresh the area around the war memorial on the foreshore – thank you to the volunteers working on this. The Trust secured funding for materials.

The Trust continued to work with the Post Office to ensure a post office service is still available in the village.

Other activities

Following a public meeting the Trust made improvements to the village web site to include a booking facility for the village hall, shop and foreshore area. This enables people to book these facilities and is also a handy public note of what's on in the village.

The hire rates for the village hall were kept at the same favourable rate and usage of the hall increased significantly during the year with events organised by the Trust and others in the village.

Village walks

The Trust secured funding to replace the bridge over Auchgoyle Burn on the 'circuit' walk around the village and this work was completed during the year. Thank you to the volunteers who extended the stone chipping path.

Village Shop

There was no progress during the year on the shop. Converting the shop to a flat will bring in extra income for the Trust, but does carry a risk with the liability for Council Tax if the flat were empty.

The Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) is appointing an empty homes officer to support efforts to find accommodation for staff. The Trust will follow this up as an opportunity to earn income and support the HSCP locally.

Communication

The Trust web site has minutes of all meetings at www.minard.org.uk also e-mail info@minard.org.uk

The Trust also acts as admin for the Minard Community Noticeboard on Facebook.

The noticeboard for printed posters etc is also available on Brian & Becs's house.

<p>Treasurers Report</p>	<p>Margaret Moncur presented the accounts for the 2022/23 financial year:</p> <p>For the financial year up to the end of March 2023 the Community Trust made a loss of £2,383. This is largely due to electricity costs increasing by 300% and spend of resources built up in previous years.</p> <p>Approx two-thirds of the Trust's available funds are held in restricted funds and the Trust also maintains contingency funds for insurance and building repairs.</p> <p>As a note of caution the underlying spending of the Trust still slightly exceeds day to day income. This has been the case since the shop closed and rental income ceased. This continues to be a focus for the management committee.</p> <p>Accounts were adopted by the meeting.</p> <p>The meeting expressed thanks to the Ventient Energy A'Chruach Wind Farm Community Fund for funding major grants for the bridge and path over Auchgoyle Burn and the renewal of the sheds at Minard Village Hall. Thank you also to West Loch Fyne Community Council for approving small grants from the wind farm fund for the hall booking system on the village website, contributions to the panto and fireworks, printing of the newsletter and the benches on the foreshore.</p>
<p>Nomination & Election of Committee / Trustees</p>	<p>There were no resignations and no new nominees for the management committee so the committee will remain the same as for the past year.</p> <p>Brian and Margaret are named as directors at Companies House, the minimum number required.</p>
<p>Discussion on points raised during the meeting</p>	<p>Village Walks</p> <p>Comment was made about the need for maintenance works on the Brainport trail. None of the current management committee have capacity to lead on this. Efforts will be made to see if something in the village is willing to volunteer to do this.</p> <p>The work would involve liaising with landowners and volunteers.</p> <p>Village Hall</p> <p>The hire rates for the hall are currently at very favourable rates and encourage community activity. There may be a need to increase these in future and they will be kept under review.</p> <p>Minard school</p> <p>The Council has started the consultation on the future of the school. The community response has been muted so far and the Trust will maintain a watching brief on developments.</p> <p>Ventient Energy A'Chruach Wind Farm Community Fund</p> <p>The original community plan to prioritise funding allocations from the wind farm fund was agreed in 2016 following a consultation exercise organised by Foundation Scotland.</p>

	<p>There have been a lot of changes in the village since then and the meeting agreed that now might be a good time to review and update the plan as many people in the village were unaware of its existence. Agreed to approach West Loch Fyne Community Council as the representative organisation on the funding panel to ask for an update of the plan.</p>
A.O.C.B	<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 and he thanked everyone who has contributed their time and skills throughout the year.</p> <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>
Date of Next Meeting	<p>No date set for next AGM. A Saturday may help increase attendance</p>

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