

Fernaig Community Trust

Minutes of Meeting – 14 November 2017, Achmore Hall

Present: Colin McAndrew, Martin Irving, Duncan Gibson, Dave Mockett and Neil Macrae

Apologies: Georgie Grimson and Lizzie Bird

	Action
<p>1 Minutes of 14 October meeting – Approved. Proposed by Martin, seconded by Duncan.</p>	
<p>2 Finance – monthly update (Georgie not present) a) Expenses nil. b) Income of £20 from allotment rents due 2017 to 2018 c) Donations towards footpath, see below. d) SIS loan arrangements, see below.</p>	
<p>3 SRDP Footpaths</p> <p>Progress to date - Colin reported that the contractors had not been on site, as working elsewhere (peatland restoration for SNH). The kit bridge was ready and would be delivered from Yorkshire on Tuesday 21 Nov. and would be offloaded at the fank. It will then be installed and work on the riverside path begun.</p> <p>Funding and Finance – Colin reported</p> <p>17 Oct, Interim Invoice received from Highland Conservation for £18,216 (£15,180 + VAT). Payment due within 30 days.</p> <p>18 Oct, Claim to RPID prepared £15,158 (as per Schedule of Works)</p> <p>19 Oct, Claim handed in to RPID, Inverness and advised 'payment within 3 months'. To call 5-6 weeks for update. Meantime, invoice has to be paid.</p> <p>20 Oct Social Investment Scotland (SIS) approached for possibility of bridging loan.</p> <p>21 Oct, Directors informed of the situation and all agreed to proceed with bridging loan application.</p> <p>Began loan process Mon 23 Oct, originally for £71K and costs of £3.5K. then revolving facility suggested and agreed (15K Nov, then 13.2K Jan, then 43.5K March, total £71,700 (amount of RPID grant) and all signed off 9 November. 4K transferred from FCT reserves to c/a, and £15k drawdown in bank. Invoice paid by cheque.</p> <p>Arrangement fee £870, monthly interest by direct debit. Initially £57 Nov, £89 Dec, £89 Jan. (Awaiting full schedule). Estimated total loan</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Colin</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Colin Georgie</i></p>

<p>cost £1900.</p> <p>It was noted that a number of conditions apply to the loan:</p> <p>Board adoption of statement in Secretary's Certificate as follows:</p> <p>"After due consideration of all of the circumstances and on being satisfied that it is for the benefit of, and in the interests of the Company for the purpose of carrying on its business to enter into the Loan Agreement in the form now produced (the "Loan Agreement").</p> <p>IT WAS RESOLVED that the Loan Agreement and all documents and notices to be signed or dispatched thereafter should be executed on behalf of the Company by any one or both of Colin McAndrew or Lizzie Bird. Proposed by Neil, seconded by Martin.</p> <p>Board Minutes to be provided to SIS within 5 days monthly.</p> <p>Monthly bank statement to be submitted.</p> <p>Evidence the project fully funded before second drawdown (Jan).</p> <p>Drawdown three available when one and two paid off (est March).</p> <p>Colin indicated that a large number of documents and been provided and a cash flow projection developed and wished to thank SIS for their very helpful approach to a very detailed and demanding process and for the outcome achieved in such a short space of time.</p> <p>Outcome of Ward Fund £5K application and £2K from CC expected by end Nov.</p> <p>The crowdfunding page had been extended to 16th November. £540 (£504 net) had been donated, in addition a further £450 had been received as cash or in cheques, so £994 in total. Dave indicated he would give £46 to bring the overall to £1,000, and thanked for this. While the crowdfunding had not realised as much as hoped, the generosity of those who had supported the Trust was acknowledged.</p> <p>A further discussion on funding would be an important agenda item for the next meeting, when it would be confirmed if personal loans would be required.</p>	
<p>4. Land issues</p> <p>Hayfield – Colin Parsons had requested a Grazing/Mowing lease for 1 Year, including grazing ponies for Dec – Feb which he has done annually. Following discussion and recognising this year was a 'special circumstance' due to weather, this request was agreed to on the basis that there would be no Option to Renew clause in the lease. The agreement would be reviewed, possibly advertising the field for 2019.</p> <p>Damaged bridge – top corner on nursery field. Oliver had looked at it and deemed the problem is collapse of the headwalls. It is repairable</p>	<p><i>All/ Colin</i></p>

<p>but we had no further details as to cost yet. It was agreed to carry this item forward as Lizzie had contacted FCS re obtaining old fish farm walkways (as a possible deck solution) and is awaiting a response.</p> <p>Woodland Trust – run a ‘Free Tree Packs’ scheme for schools and community groups. An application had been submitted and if successful the Trust would receive 420 mixed saplings (rowan, silver birch, wild cherry, common oak, field maple, grey willow). Some aspen could be added, sourced from Alba Trees. This would form a shelterbelt alongside the new path on the east boundary of the hayfield. If unsuccessful, other opportunities would be pursued.</p>	<p><i>All/Lizzie</i></p> <p><i>Colin</i></p>
<p>5. Preparation for AGM</p> <p>Confirmed as Tuesday 12 December at 7.30, with Board meeting to follow. In Lizzie’s absence, the AGM was not discussed. Colin and Lizzie had arranged to meet the following day to do the necessary preparation (agenda, notice, advertising etc).</p>	<p><i>Lizzie/Colin</i></p>
<p>6. AOCB</p> <p>Martin reported that he had removed the inner of the two fences on the river side of his field and cut back overhanging branches. Discussion followed on the river section of Crisdean’s field and Martin and Neil would work on that to stop cattle crossing the river accessing the field and the new path.</p>	<p><i>Martin/Neil</i></p>

Date of next meeting: 12 December, Achmore Hall, AGM at 7.30 pm and Board meeting to follow.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm