

SHIELDAIG COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Newsletter No.1

Open meeting 28th October 2013

Welcome to the first newsletter for the new community association.

Although it won't formally exist until 1st April 2014 there are a lot of decisions being taken now that will start the process.

There have been two public meetings. The April meeting saw members of the community, The Sports Association and Village Association get together to here the solicitor, Corra Irwin, explain what a SCIO is and what it would mean for the community and the existing structure of the main associations.

At that meeting it was agreed by all that we should go ahead and form the new association and the name for it was agreed :

The Shieldaig Community Association.

NO1, 6 NOVEMBER 2013

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A "SCIO" – What is that?

A *Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation* is a new legal form for registered Scottish charities. The SCIO is a legal entity able to enter into contracts, employ staff, incur debts, own property, sue and be sued.

The governing document of a SCIO is a *constitution* which must contain a number of basic elements in relation to its governance and other key matters.

The SCIO must also:

Why are we becoming a SCIO?

A huge number of activities and projects go on in the village:

- Maintenance tasks to keep the village attractive and clean, maintenance of the swimming pool
- Community events such as the bonfire party, fete, Christmas party
- Specific projects e.g. all weather sports court, pontoon

All this relies on a small number of people who carry a disproportionate responsibility.

The community thinks this new organisation will allow more people to get involved. The meeting agreed that there were many tasks and activities that were important to keeping Shieldaig a vibrant community and a place tourists would come back to.

The main benefits of forming the SCIO are :

- to bring together a number of smaller organisations within the village
- put them under the statutory and regulatory framework of the appropriate legislation and OSCR the charities regulator)
- it will limit liabilities of those involved
- reduce expenditure on bureaucratic processes
- provide an open and transparent process for pursuing future village projects for the benefit of the community
- manage the numerous village activities more efficiently as everyone will know who is responsible for what.



Get Involved

Become a Trustee or a member and get involved with running the Association and/or helping to do the activities - See page 3

What has been agreed

- The meeting unanimously approved a Draft Constitution for the new SCIO namely Shieldaig Community Association
- The meeting unanimously agreed the statutory charitable purposes for the new SCIO should be:
 - A) The advancement of education,
 - B) the advancement of public participation in sport,
 - C) the provision of recreational facilities, or the organisation of recreational activities with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended.
- The meeting unanimously approved the Resolution to convert Shieldaig Sports Association, a charitable company, to a SCIO and the Resolution to adopt the proposed Constitution of a SCIO under Section 56 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.
- The meeting proposed the date of 1st April 2014 as the date of conversion to a SCIO.

Get Involved – the Community Association needs more people

The Association is here to organise and run community activities, to look after the facilities we already have, such as the Sports Field and Court, and to plan and manage new projects which the community wants to see happen.

If you aren't involved in the conversation we won't know what you want to happen.

You have lots of ways to be involved :

As a Trustee

Trustees look after the financial and legal side of the organisation

They are there to make sure that the association meets all its legal and administrative requirements and stays financially viable.

There will be three Trustees who will act as Office-Bearers : Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Board of Trustees can have up to 12 Trustees.

Trustees can serve for three years and then must stand down and, if they wish to, can put themselves up for re-election. They need to have a 12 month break too so fresh faces can come on board with new ideas.

As a Member

Members are those who get on and do the work, organising and running activities such as the Fete and the Christmas Party, looking after the sports court, the benches and pathways, maintaining the swimming pool.

They also run the new projects that the community wants to happen.

Membership of the new organisation is open to

everyone resident within the Shieldaig Community Council area as well as those who normally reside in the SCC area but for reasons of work or education are not resident full-time, or those with a strong local connection.

Of course, if you don't want to be a member you can still be a helper!

Sub-Groups

The Association is going to have 3 main sub-groups. Each sub-group will be made up of a number of members with at least one Trustee supporting it.

Each sub-group will have its own budget to manage. This means that the finances of the new association and its work will be open and transparent to the whole community and everyone will see what profits are being made and where the money is being used.

The three Sub-groups are:

- a) **Management and Maintenance of Village Assets** e.g. Playing Field, Pontoon, Sports Court
- b) **Activities** e.g. Village bonfire, Fete, Whist Drives, information Booklet
- c) **Projects** – gathering ideas and running future projects for the village.

Members can decide for themselves which sub-Group(s) they want get involved with.

What happens next?

The application to become a SCIO is being finalised by the solicitor.

The final Constitution, as agreed at the meeting, will be drafted.

There are a number of legal procedures to go through

In the meantime the Sports Association and Village Association will carry on working together.

The Directors of the Sports Association will become the first Trustees and act as caretakers for 12 months until the first AGM of the new organisation. They will

then stand down and apply for re-election, if they wish.

In the interim, we hope that people will come forward to become Trustees as soon as the new Association is in place.

And, whilst we wait for that, we hope you will get involved and help to shape the new Association and the work and activities it will undertake for the community.



Get Involved

and be part of the conversation

CONTACTING THE ASSOCIATION

To get in touch

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Feedback page