

Shieldaig Community Association SCIO

Minutes 7th Apr '16

Present: Pauline McNeil, Jim Alexander, Ann Barton, Nommie Cameron, Nick McNeil, Alan Milne and Kerry Smith.

Apologies: None

Approval of Minutes for 7th January 2016

Treasurers Report

£645.75 in additional invoices received for the kitchen project - this reduces the amount we can transfer as surplus to the Hall project. There is a bill yet to come in from David Seel for putting in the shelf at the serving hatch. The total spend on the Hall is £2332 so far.

The skiff project's fund raising events have generated £971 since Feb. There has been £790 in donations.

Maintenance report

Pontoon - The welding on the pontoon hinges tends to come apart. We have a spare set of brackets that Ewan at kishorn yard re-welds, which get swapped for the next bracket needing repair. It is thought this is down to poor bracket/hinge design. Kenny organised new bolts which now have lock nuts, this reduces the play which has a detrimental effect on the brackets. The bolts need regular checking & tightening. Colin Stevenson has volunteered to bring an airgun to tighten next time he is in the area with a compressor.

Pool - Jim Alexander kindly dismantled. Phone John Napier to remove the scrap metal. There are some lumps of concrete which might be useful as hardcore to someone. The fencing belongs to Highland Council who've been asked to remove.

Hall - the toilet needs painting. Toilet seat reported as being unstable with rusty hinges (Jim A will buy replacement).

Footpath maint - Nick McNeil volunteered to take over from Nommie spraying the verges and footpaths round the whole village with weedkiller twice a year (late May & Aug). The bracken on the back road needs cutting back by 4' with a brushcutter.

Seats & benches - there are a few that need attention Kerry S will ask Jo (who is a carpenter to look at & attend to).

Green bins - the back road has no refuse bin. Ask the council for a rubbish bin for the back road (site close to bench) which will also take dog poo - it is a long walk to the nearest bin to dispose of. It was commented on that the back road footpath is unpleasant to walk on due to the amount of sheep poo on it. The pier green bin blew away again in the last storm look into cost of replacing (the bin men do not tie the bin up again after emptying).

Pier - there are 2 un-seaworthy boats at the pier. Ask John Napier to take them away.

Activity Report

Booklet - Ann B is retiring from the Booklet after 8 years of production - her role recruiting advertisers, managing payments & artwork, proofing and distribution is the equivalent of a fulltime job for 1 month spread over several months from Sept. It is likely that Les Dominey will also retire from designing and putting the final product together. There was a general discussion about Booklet production - software, the standard, time input, printing of and who might be suitable replacements etc. We need new volunteers to take over these roles. Alan Milne has computing skills & offered to look at a Booklet to see what would be involved.

Fete - next meeting in 3 weeks. Struggling to find a band for Sat eve as our event clashes with Balladrum again. We are seriously considering moving the Fete for 2017 forward 1 week and announcing at the fete this year. Talk to Viv R about the alcohol licence.

Visitor moorings - The Smith Commission has stopped the Crown Estates activities. The funding that was available to put in moorings is no longer available. Each mooring costs upwards of £2000 to put in, largely due to the cost of hardware. The cost is prohibitive in relation to installing, on-going maintenance costs and the limited income from a short sailing season, based on £10-£12 per night. It was decided to wait to see what happens as we could lose money putting in moorings that the SCIO are responsible for.

Youth Club - Kerry S to talk to Tom Tindale and discuss with the primary/secondary aged children as to what they want to do. In the past the Shieldaig Hall proved too small so they went over to Torridon Hall.

Toilet Block - Sarah W was going to talk to Robbie Bain about us keeping the toilets open in the winter. A low level heating tube would keep frosts at bay. Will the NorthCoast500 provide any funding, especially as they are developing a business side to this project and are driving more visitors through the area.

Correspondence

Insurance - the insurance renewal documents were sent out by email (around mid Feb) rather than physical documents sent by post. They were sent to Steph's redundant SCIO email (which would have bounced). We pay by monthly direct debit so there was no lapse in the insurance. Colin Mackenzie at Highland Council has now been asked to send the insurance renewal to 3 email addresses of Trustees to prevent this happening in the future. We are still waiting for the paperwork. The skiff has added to the insurance to the value of £3000 (hull only does not include any people or racing activity). Pool removed from insurance.

Moorings Licence renewal - the lease renewals process is underway. The annual return form is due back to Bidwells solicitors by 1st May. Kenny Livingstone to help chase payments. The SCIO then gets a bill based on this return. There are 3 sets of bills associated with moorings & the pontoon.

AOCB

Co-opt Alan Milne as a Trustee. Proposed Pauline McNeil, seconded Jim Alexander Alan was voted on as the new Secretary by a unanimous show of hands.

Next Meeting

9th June 7pm Hall.