

SHIELDAIG COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION SCIO

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 17TH OCTOBER 2018 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT: Pauline McNeil, Sarah Wedgwood, Jim Alexander, Kerry Smith, Peter Fenton, Viv Rollo, Tom Tindall, Alan Milne and Ann Barton taking minutes.

IN ATTENDANCE: Kenny Livingstone for Moorings & Pontoon update, Frosty for Fete business

APOLOGIES: NICK MCNEIL, KASSIE FORDER AND ANDREW FORD

Previous Minutes: Minutes of last meeting held on 16th May and Annual General Meeting held on 8th April were approved.

Accounts Update: Jim Alexander presented the meeting with a brief update to the accounts for the Association given 30th September is the year-end. Current balance stood at £30,711
Large Capital Expenditure this year on equipment for the village including tractor mower + aerator attachment for the football pitch, strimmer, shed for storing new equipment etc.
The larger bills for this year include: £1058 half the joint costs of the Housing Survey. £3000+ on purchasing assets to aid village maintenance. Sea-eagle Leaflets and Interpretive panel £1335. Shed. New tents for Fete.

RESIGNATION OF SECRETARY: Alan Milne tabled a note of his resignation as Secretary as from today's date. The Committee thanked him for his work to date. Alan has agreed to continue to co-ordinate the Shildaig Booklet. Sarah and Pauline will carry out any secretarial functions until the AGM and Ann Barton has been co-opted & kindly agreed to cover IT communications and take the Minutes of business meetings. We have 3 months to notify OSCR of the change. Box.com needs relevant documents updating.

SHIELDAIG HOUSING & BUSINESS SURVEY: Sarah updated the meeting on progress to date. Response rate to survey was good – better than average. Results have been analysed by Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust (HSCHT), a report is now available, which has also been sent to the Community Council (CC), as co-sponsors of the survey. We jointly plan to hold an open day on 10th November 3.00 – 6.00pm for people to find out the results, for those who did not complete a survey and for those who completed the on-line survey who might have more to add - to come along and give their views. Members of the SCA and CC will be there together with members of the HSCHT and local councillors. Committee members asked to promote the event and tell people to come along. It is important that we try to get as many views as possible about future housing and business needs to aid any funding application in future. We need a small group made up of members of both the CC and SAC to drive this forward as there is no longer a third party such as Albyn Housing – it will be a community led initiative. Tom Tindall and Sarah Wedgwood offered to be part of the group. Others on the Committee said they could help with tasks as the project unfolded.

Community Asset Transfer – Sarah explained the background to the process by which the village can ask that Shildaig public conveniences be transferred to the SCA. She will submit an Expression of Interest Form as the first part of the process, as the Trustees present agreed to this. This project will be managed alongside the above mentioned group. This winter a similar arrangement as last year will be in place, which means the public conveniences will be kept open at a cost of around £1500. Committee thanked those involved. Donation box/s discussed.

Village Maintenance: General discussion about the various jobs that require to be done during the year. Reference made to previous years when Nommie Cameron and other volunteers undertook much

of the work. The current year has witnessed decreasing services & long delays by Highland Council and a lack of volunteer help; the Committee decided to contract out the bulk of the work to a third party individual. As a result grass cutting, weedkilling, path mending etc have all been completed. Committee thanked all those involved for work to date. Suggestion that going forward we ask for volunteers and we continue to contract a third party when necessary. Maintenance costs have been around £4000 of which around £700 has been labour.

Church Door – Pauline reported efforts to get a new church door made locally had failed and has therefore asked Norscot for a quotation. Committee agreed this needs to be done asap as winter approaching.

Communication with Village : Sarah tabled a draft Newsletter. Committee approved its circulation with a couple of amendments – the most important being to highlight the differences between the CC & the SCA. Agreed that IT communication is important e.g. Facebook, Shieldaig.info website. Plus a newsletter once a year and continue to use noticeboards. Ann Barton kindly agreed to update the content of village website on receipt of Minutes etc.

Future Events: Xmas lunch – 8th December. Bonfire Night 4th November.

SeaEagle Project: Monies for the project have been ring-fenced within the SCA accounts. Signs and an information board have been purchased. Tom raised issue of increasing numbers of people landing on the island, camping and lighting fires. Tom agreed to speak to Alice MacLennan to liaise with RSPB and National Trust about signs saying no-one is allowed to land.

Community Council Update: Tom a member of both organisations which is good for liaison. Agreed that we should trial 2 joint meetings per year beginning in the New Year. Emergency Planning – a survey will be issued to households soon. Some of the budget, which had been earmarked for a generator, will be spent on setting up a point to plug-in an emergency generator to supply power to the Hall, in the event of an extended power outage. The Committee agreed that some of the capital cost of the shed should also be covered, as it will house emergency equipment in the future. Sarah to liaise with Kalie as Chair of CC. Frosty to talk to Scott about the generator plug-in point at the Hall, a power point on the street for the Fete and power supply to the new shed.

AOCB:

- Kenny Livingston provided an update on the Moorings, overdue payment to Bidwells, takings from the pontoon and moorings.
- Varis have now re-designed the brackets that keep fracturing and replaced not only the damaged ones but a few others as well.
- We now have 2 visitor moorings courtesy of the Crown Estate – thanks to Kenny Livingstone & Gordon Drysdale for accessing this free provision from the Crown Estate, organising and implementing. Donations from pontoon and visitors moorings amounted to £1284 to date. Kenny agreed to talk to Gordon and order two more donation boxes for the public conveniences in addition to the 1 required for the pontoon.
- Booklet – 2017 edition raised a surplus of £1400. Alan to contact Lucy Kerr and Les Dominey re 2018 production.
- Fete: a great success, over £11,000 taken on the day, over £6,500 profit. Agreed that date should be fixed now as the Saturday before children go back to school 11th August 2018.
- Purchase 2 additional tents and sell old ones.
- Playgroup: Claire Munday provided a year-end report for the Shieldaig playgroup which runs every Thursday morning in the Village Hall. It's a great success and Committee thanked Claire for all her work.

- Fish Farm Waste: Viv raised the issue of increasing amounts of debris in the sea. Various efforts had been made by people in the village to bring waste ashore. General discussion about what should happen. This issue really for the CC. Idea of beach cleaning days discussed – no outcome. Suggestion that fish farms be contacted and/or SEPA, Highland Council. Tom to raise suggestions at next CC.
- Highland Council is ceasing to manage Community Insurances due to Legislation changes. We can deal direct with Zurich but it may mean that any claims become more complicated.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 12th December 7.00pm Village Hall.

SCA = Shildaig Community Association

CC = Community Council

HSCHT = Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust