

Aultbea Hall – Interim Management Committee

Monday 4 April 2022

19.00 hrs. 4, Laide IV22 2NB

I. Andy welcomed Jon to the meeting.

II. Attendees: Andy (Chair); Colin; Pauline; Fee; Martin; Mike (Zoom); Heather (Zoom);
Jen (Zoom); Jon (Zoom).

Apologies: Jean.

III. Existing Business

- a) Financial Position - Martin provided an overview of the current financial situation. We have had income from one grant and a number of donations, and expenditure on fencing, refuse bins, GDT advertising and raffle costs. How best to show our gratitude to donors and to secure Gift Aid commitments whenever possible is being worked on.

We still need a solicitor's letter in order to make our SCIO organisation's bank account operational.

5000 raffle tickets are now available. Martin will coordinate distribution to individuals and businesses and the necessary recording. A list was compiled of commercial outlets which we hope will sell on our behalf. Heather has secured an extensive range of generous prizes, all donated, and the Grand Draw will be online on Friday 30 September.

- b) Funding Applications - We have yet to hear how much we will be granted under the PBIP scheme, via Highland Council, but are hoping that some of the underspend from the fund might come our way. (*Update 6 April: it did!*) Ideally, we would be able to provide further quotations for the various costs but it is proving difficult to find contractors willing to do this. However, electricians were at the Hall today, so that should progress matters. Various other firms were suggested to be approached if necessary.
- c) Ongoing Works - Colin's next task is to clear the external container, with guidance from Andy/Fee as to what needs keeping. Joyce will pressure MacGregors to make the fire security visit they have long intended and will start the process of obtaining quotes for reconnecting water and electricity. We also await a site visit from a plumber. Andy reaffirmed that HC's officer does not agree to any removal of the security fencing for the time being.
- d) IT and Media - Jen is doing a grand job with updating the website with events and news. The AGM, raffle and forthcoming events will be publicised in the near future.
- e) Fundraising - There was considerable discussion on details of the organisation, catering and pricing arrangements for i) AAT's Boom Beach Car Boot Sale on 30 April where we will operate the barbecue, with generous support from Aultbea Stores and Ritchie's black pudding; ii) "The Jubilee flotilla" and Pier Rd street party on 3 June; iii) a Hallowe'en dance in Poolewe on Friday 28 October. The Hall and band are booked.

- f) Community engagement - Possibilities for enhanced promotion of the project and events were discussed.
- g) Risk assessments/volunteer coordination - In Jean's absence, this was not discussed.
- h) Moving from Trust to SCIO - Following advice from OSCR, we have now applied for the existing Trust to be registered as a charity in its own right (as a charitable trust) as this is the most appropriate way to then transfer its assets to the Aultbea Hall SCIO. Our website and Facebook now have the SCIO references.
- i) AGM and Public Meeting, 7 April - Andy explained the format of the two sessions. During the refreshment interval, the first meeting will be held of the new Hall committee of (we hope) seven or more members at which three new trustees will be nominated, as per the Trust constitution. This will then allow for the proposal of the resolution to the Public Meeting to dissolve the Trust in due course, transferring its assets to the Aultbea Hall SCIO.

Fee will ask the Parent Council if they are willing to do the refreshments. Those attending will be reminded of the need to adhere to ongoing Covid requirements. Colin offered to produce some more prominent notices about the AGM and Pauline will circulate a reminder to all on the 'supporters group' list.

IV. **New Business**

Main Hall steel works - Jon explained that his very specialised calculations and analyses of the strengths of the steel supports and work required to repair them will need to be endorsed by a chartered structural surveyor before submission to Highland Council as part of the process to apply for a building warrant. Andy will provide Jon with the contact details of Scott Ramsay so that he can begin a dialogue as to HC's requirements and associated costs.

V. **Any Other Business**

- i) Martin offered to distribute raffle tickets to the businesses who are willing to sell them on our behalf. Colin will ensure there are posters to advertise the raffle.
- ii) Fee requested that Aultbea Community Council be credited as the sponsor for the Jubilee events on the website and future posters.

VI. **The next meeting** is scheduled for 9 May 19.00 hrs at Andy's.

The meeting ended at 20.30 hrs.