

Aultbea Hall Management Committee

Tuesday 16 August 2022
19.00 hrs. 4, Laide IV22 2NB

- I. Andy welcomed all to the meeting.
- II. Attendees: Andy (Chair); Colin; Pauline; Jon; Fee; Jean; Martin (Zoom); Jen (Zoom); Heather.
Apologies: Joyce; Jane.
- III. **Existing Business**
 - a) Financial Position - Martin had circulated an overview of the current financial situation. He is updating the anticipated costs of Phase I as details come through. Fee will speak to the Aultbea Fun Day treasurer to suggest that their funds be transferred to us in full as soon as possible and we would ensure that the goal posts are purchased for the football field. There are still operational anomalies with the new SCIO bank account which Fee will try to resolve by a(nother) personal visit to the BoS in Gairloch later this week.
 - b) Funding Applications - Our report and claim to Highland Council (PBIP grant) had been processed without query. Fee will resubmit the Tesco Community Grant application which has to be re-registered, owing to name inconsistencies. We will use the SCIO title and constitution. Andy has details of a potentially useful NHI grant towards increased electricity costs for community groups.
 - c) Ongoing works - Colin has been dealing with the comings and goings of all those involved with the various works underway on site. All windows now open. He hopes that repairs to the catches can be undertaken locally. Our joiner and plumber are already active, the fire alarm installation is expected to begin this week and water reconnection is scheduled for next. Joyce has submitted the forms for the reconnection of electricity supplies. We hope this will not be delayed but have back-up generator capacity for short-term use if needed. Andy will contact the electrician to secure a start date. Following a site meeting with a local painter and a joiner, Jean has drawn up a schedule of the painting work and preparation that will be required, with estimates of the quantity of each kind of paint/material to be purchased. She has also investigated the costs. Pauline has provided details of a scheme which provides subsidised paint in quantity for community organisations. She will enquire further. The painting work is planned for October.
 - d) IT and Media - Jen continues to keep the Facebook page and website updated and Heather has taken some photos recently which illustrate work progressing. Responses show that local interest and support remain strong.
 - e) Fundraising
 - i) Raffle: organisation of the draw on 30 September was discussed, to take place at Andy's. Helpers (including youngsters) will be recruited, both for the evening of the draw itself, to start at 6.30, and for folding the tickets in advance. It is hoped that distribution of the prizes can be undertaken cost-effectively.

- ii) At least eight helpers will be needed for the Halloween dance on 28 October including stewards, raffle ticket seller, bar service and first aider. Fee and Heather will ensure all necessary arrangements are made.
- iii) Heather invited views on the two 'front of t-shirt' designs. To start with, at least, we will limit the stock quantity and range of sizes.
- iv) Heather has emailed Fiona Kennedy to enquire as to her potential future availability.

- f) Risk assessments/volunteer coordination - Jean will ensure the appropriate risk assessments are in place in good time for the volunteer painting brigades.
- g) Constitutional - We should hear from OSCR by the end of August to progress the transfer of property to the new SCIO.

IV. **New Business**

- a) Phase II structural - Jonathon, with Colin's assistance, has undertaken extensive further investigation of the extent of the corrosion on each steel support, which is very variable around the building but, particularly on the more significant south side, remarkably little. He is now completing a very thorough package of report, stress analyses and repair designs for each individual frame. He will submit this to the Highland Council officer as soon as complete. We may well need to pay for certification of the steel which it is proposed to use for the repairs. A local builder has offered to undertake the welding.
- b) Phase II costings - These are still to be finalised, recognising that, once this is done, it will take some months to secure the donations and grants that will be needed to complete the funding package and allow the commencement of work. The list of estimates required to make the main hall functional includes: work on the steel supports; roof repairs and stabilisation; drainage; extension of the electrical and fire alarm systems; basic heating; making good and painting.

V. **Any Other Business**

- i) Some crockery and a small urn have been returned to the Hall from the Hub group.
- ii) ACC have received a plan from Highland Council of the proposed road-painted crossing for safer access to the Nursery. Andy is concerned that this might impact on the Hall's parking spaces and access - to be discussed further.

- VI. **The next business meeting** is scheduled for Tuesday 20 September, 19.00hrs, at Andy's. The trustees + Martin will have a Zoom session on 12 September to update on the progress of the building works and submission of invoices, given the PBIP deadline.

The meeting ended at 20.50 hrs.