

Aultbea Hall Management Committee

Tuesday 7 February 2023

19.00 hrs.

- I. Andy welcomed all to the meeting.
- II. Attendees: Andy (Chair); Colin; Joyce; Pauline; Fee; Jean; Martin; Jon (Zoom); Jen (Zoom); Heather (Zoom).
Apologies: Mike.
- III. **Existing Business**
 - a) Financial Position - Martin had circulated an overview of the finances. The 31 January 2023 figures will be used as the SCIO accounts for submission to OSCR and for our AGM. The only expenditure of note in January was to pay the solicitor's invoice for completing the change of details for the two property assets on the Land Registry. Martin then stated that he was resigning as treasurer. He will continue to finalise the 2022 accounts and undertake duties until a replacement is appointed.
 - b) 2023 AGMs - The two AGMs required, one for each charity, will take place consecutively on Tuesday 28 March. The date is in the GDT diary and in an update article for the 10 February edition, with the formal notice due for publication on 10 March. As it seems unlikely that we will be able to use Aultbea Hall, Fee will book the Community Hall, if available. Pauline will review the formal reports needed once the independently examined accounts are available.
 - c) Funding Applications - Our application to Highland Council's Community Regeneration Fund should be considered at the area committee on 20 February. Pauline has started applying for small grants from various trusts and foundations and will be able to do more applications once we have the 2022 accounts. After discussion, it was agreed that it would not be worthwhile submitting an application to Awards for All for funding support towards *Coronation Capers*.
North Highland Initiative have revised their funding criteria and grants, including towards energy costs, which we may well take advantage of later in the year.
 - d) Ongoing Works - We now have a date of 6 March for meter installation and Joyce has provided EDF, again, with the information requested. We hope that the final work on the electrics and the alarm system can be completed very quickly thereafter.
Andy has been in contact with the company who installed the fire security system about their invoice for annual maintenance, given that, as yet, the work is incomplete. He awaits their call-back.
Volunteers are completing the internal painting whenever there is sufficient light to work. We are very grateful to Peter and Janet for their sterling efforts. Colin has tested the red floor paint and intends to progress the work once the weather improves.
The temporary drainage trench has certainly reduced water penetration into the Hall foundations through a very wet spell, but the sooner the permanent work can be undertaken, the better.

- e) IT and Media - Jen will continue to signpost the Tesco Community Fund opportunity in Ullapool (blue tokens) via Facebook. Our SCIO constitution and application form for membership is now available to download from the website.
- f) Fundraising and opening - *Coronation Capers* will begin in MacLennan Park at noon on 6 May. Planning and licence procurement are underway. Heather now has revised quotes from the firm designing the T-shirts. She is exploring potential sponsorship for the first order and a number of possible companies were suggested.
As we still have no date for electricity reconnection, we cannot progress planning for Fiona Kennedy's concert offer. Heather is in discussion with another band who are offering us a ceilidh date later in the year.
Ideas were discussed for a 'thank you' get-together for our many helpers.
- g) Community engagement - Mike has agreed to encourage parents at the school gate to sign up for SCIO membership. Pauline will liaise with him to ensure he has the forms.
- h) Risk assessments/volunteer coordination - This is being maintained. We recognise that, before we open to the public, we will need appropriate policies and further risk assessments.
- i) Constitutional - The re-registration of the two properties in the original Trust has been completed and the Hall and old football field now belong to Aultbea Hall [SCIO]. We will inform OSCR, soon after the AGMs, that the transfer of all assets from the Trust to the SCIO has been completed. We will reference our moveable items, specifically those included in the insurance policy, in the details.
Pauline is assisting the committee of the village hall in Ullapool who are embarking on a similar constitutional journey to the one we have undertaken.
All committee members are encouraged to promote SCIO membership.

IV. **Phase II**

Jon has submitted the information required to Highland Council Building Control. As only their verification of his calculations remains, we hope it will not be too long before we are given the permissions for our planned repair works.

V. **Any Other Business**

Bualnaluib School pupils will be working with a local artist to paint some external wooden roundels. The gaps will be filled temporarily in the interim, to prevent bird access.

VI. **The next business meeting** is scheduled for Tuesday 7 March 19.00hrs, at Andy's.

The meeting ended at 20.30 hrs.