

Aultbea Hall Management Committee

Tuesday 6 August 2024

19.00 hrs.

- I. Andy welcomed all to the meeting.
- II. Attendees: Andy (Chair); Joyce; Pauline; Colin I (Zoom); Bruce; Jon; Fee; Jean; Jen (Zoom); Heather (Zoom).
Apologies: Colin B; Kerry Ann.
- III. **Existing Business**
 - a) Financial Position - Bruce had circulated the income and expenditure figures for 2024 to end July. He summarised income paid in so far in August, including a very welcome £1800+ (before invoices paid) from the Flotilla event on 3 August and further 'box' monies from both Aultbea Stores and Laide PO.
 - b) Funding Applications - There have been no further claims for reimbursement in the past month.
We now have quotations for the work envisaged to improve accessibility (Phase III). A sketch of the proposed layout has also been prepared. Fee will continue to liaise with GAMS to see if they wish to have any further information before considering whether to give us a related grant, and Jon will confirm with the HC Building Control Officer whether this additional work can be included with our current application.
Pauline has provided the information requested to new local residents who may be able to source a grant towards paint costs from an MOD fund.
 - c) Ongoing Works - We have had offers of volunteer labour from local contractors towards the installation of bench seating in the spaces between the new steel supports. We would pay the material costs. However, this cannot be undertaken until cabling has been run under the floor and, subsequently, the flooring repairs are undertaken.
 - d) IT and media - Jen has ensured that our Facebook pages continue to be busy. With the Flotilla event over, the next focus will be on encouraging sponsorship of the Kiltwalk on 15 September, though the world-wide travels of our t-shirts is always of interest. Pauline will submit an article and photographs of the Flotilla event to GDT for its 16 August edition.
 - e) Fundraising - Several t-shirts were sold at the Flotilla event. Heather and Jen will count how many are still in stock, and what size.
Although *Aultbea Hall Revival!* has been set up for donations through the JustGiving website, including the Gift aid option, for the Kiltwalk, there have not, as yet, been any payments of the donations made into our bank account, although there should have been. Pauline is endeavouring to get responses from their helpdesk but it is a slow process. Heather offered to try to prompt the required actions through her own contacts.
Planning for our intended opening event and end-of-year activities is on hold until we can be sure of the dates.

- f) Community engagement/use of Hall - Highlife Highland ran three of their four booked sessions of summer activities for young people in July. There have been several private bookings of the *Crow's Nest* recently.
The missing yurt window pane has yet to be found, so Fee will arrange for a replacement to be installed.
- g) Risk assessments/volunteer coordination - We discussed the need for a continuing risk assessment regarding volunteer PPE in the Hall, given roof tile damage. Jean will check out the situation. We have the offer from a volunteer to undertake any repairs required. Jean will progress the application for a Public Entertainment Licence which we need to be in place in good time for any winter events and before we can apply for a liquor licence, also recognising that the completion certificate is a pre-requisite.
- h) Procurement - There is still no update from EDF as to smart meter checking but notification of a further refund has been received.

IV. **Phase II**

In response to an enquiry by a local resident, Jon has confirmed that the welding of the new steel supports is fit for purpose.

Following a site meeting with the electrician and the joiners, we would like to firm up the dates for the commencement of these essential works. Andy and Fee will make the necessary prompts. If we are to have events in the Hall in December, we will need the completion certificate in good time, and installation of the fire doors is critical in meeting the requirements for this.

The wood for the floor repairs should be ordered as soon as possible. We have a project budget for all joinery work.

V. **Any Other Business**

The *Equalizer* raft was declared the winner of 'Not the Raft Race', given the amended route mandated by the Safety Boat Operators in light of the sea conditions.

VI. The **next Committee meeting** will be on Tuesday 3 September, 7pm.

There being no other business, the meeting ended at 20.00 hrs.