

Minutes of Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company

Grant Meeting Held on Tuesday 30th June 2020 Via Zoom

Board Directors present: Chair - Harry Whiteside (HW), Jeff Dymond (JD), Felix Paterson (FP), Elizabeth MacEachen (EM), Lorn MacKay (LM), Derek Sumner (DS), Chris Nelson (CN), Ronald MacKenzie (RM)

Apologies: None

In attendance: Chief Officer – Angela Williams (AW)

Minute taker: Karen Edwards (KE), Administrator

Item	Minute	Action												
1	Welcome and apologies HW welcomed all to the first Zoom meeting for Directors and in particular to Ronald MacKenzie as this is his first meeting as a Director.													
2	Minutes from 31st March The minutes of the last grants meeting, held via email exchange, were approved. Proposed by HW Seconded by DS													
3	Matters Arising from previous minutes Due to Covid 19 it has not been possible to hold meetings as per the normal schedule. Therefore it should be noted that the Chief Officer has sent an interim report to the Board. Additionally the Housing Sub-group have been holding regular meetings via Zoom to ensure the progression of this project. An update was requested on the status of the previously approved grants in light of the impact of Covid 19. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fort Augustus Golf Club – Payment has just been made. 3 Glens Community Care – Awaiting the opening of their bank account (delayed by Covid) and legal fees invoice Recreation Development Group – Feasibility study is underway but not yet completed Abby MacDonald – Trip postponed till 2021 Ben Verbeeren – Waiting for school hall to be re-opened for hire 													
4	Group Grants <table border="1" data-bbox="240 1666 1334 2085"> <tr> <td colspan="3">Glenmoriston Improvement Group – Various projects for the benefit of the community within Glenmoriston</td></tr> <tr> <th>Grant Ref</th><th>Requested</th><th>Decision</th></tr> <tr> <td>G-129-2020</td><td>£4,632</td><td>Approved £1,875 with request for further work on other elements before re-submission at a later date.</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"> Conditions –: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amendment to constitution so all members can request an EGM. Website – Give recognition to Community Company on site War Memorial – Receipt of written approval by land owner and other relevant bodies. Risk assessment for site. </td></tr> </table>	Glenmoriston Improvement Group – Various projects for the benefit of the community within Glenmoriston			Grant Ref	Requested	Decision	G-129-2020	£4,632	Approved £1,875 with request for further work on other elements before re-submission at a later date.	Conditions –: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amendment to constitution so all members can request an EGM. Website – Give recognition to Community Company on site War Memorial – Receipt of written approval by land owner and other relevant bodies. Risk assessment for site. 			
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Aid training – Alternative, cheaper course to be organised potentially with Lucky2bHere with help from Community Company. <p>The Beastie trail requires further development in terms of permissions, risk assessments, public liability issues and maintenance plans. Along with being able to obtain proper quotes once places re-open following lock down. Group are invited to apply for this again once project fully developed.</p> <p>HW & FP took no part in the next discussion due to conflict of interest.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="3">3 Glens Community Care – Running costs for newly formed group to offer a range of support to the elderly and disabled of the 3 Glens</td></tr> <tr> <th>Grant Ref</th><th>Requested</th><th>Decision</th></tr> <tr> <td>G-130-2020</td><td>£10,000</td><td>Approved</td></tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"> Conditions – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Company to be credited on any printed materials. A copy of the vulnerable adults policy to be provided before funds can be released </td></tr> </table>	3 Glens Community Care – Running costs for newly formed group to offer a range of support to the elderly and disabled of the 3 Glens			Grant Ref	Requested	Decision	G-130-2020	£10,000	Approved	Conditions – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Company to be credited on any printed materials. A copy of the vulnerable adults policy to be provided before funds can be released 			
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7	<p>Chief Officers Report</p> <p>AW gave her report on activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health & Safety – As lock down eases staff are returning to the office/work but only after risk assessments have been done to ensure everything possible is done for their safety and that of the community. It is not envisaged to have a full return to working from the office for some months as the size of the office makes social distancing an issue. Currently a maximum of 2 and one of those working in the hall. Old Convent Land development – Work has now commenced on site. The Facebook page is up and running “New homes for Old Convent Land – FAGCC”. A formal complaint is being made to the Council about the Roads Dept. who have caused a lot of issues and expense due to their handling of the case. The sub group have been meeting regularly as have the project team to finalise the plans for starting. Still trying to finalise the relocation of the SSE compound just waiting on SSE to confirm a final on site meeting in the next couple of weeks. Covid 19 has taken up a lot of staff time in the past few months but we are hoping that now that things are set up this workload may lessen. Sam in particular has been fantastic, helping wherever he has been needed. We 													

	<p>could not have offered this much support without him. The Resilience Group has received around £75K of funding from various sources to help with the resilience efforts. It is anticipated that the activities will continue for some months to come. The school has asked for some help as pupils will no longer be able to share facilities such as scissors and the group has been able to purchase items for each pupil to help with this. Invergarry Hall has received a new cooker, as the old one could not cope with producing 28 hot meals twice a week. 1200 meals have been delivered, 144 food boxes and 123 grants. The funding will help support the cost of some staff time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Bunoich Crescent – There is a new tenant in the flat. Our Landlord Registration with Highland Council has just been renewed. • Village Hall – This is not currently in use by the community but we anticipate some users starting to return from September. A grant of £10K has been given by Highland Council to support the Village Hall due to its loss of earnings during the enforced closure. • Medical Centre – Still some outstanding snagging to be completed. RHI is in progress. 	
8	<p>AOCB</p> <p>A. The Board agreed that from 1st July those staff remaining on Furlough would reduce to 80% of salary with a further review at the end of the month. It was felt necessary to differentiate those furloughed from those who have returned to work.</p> <p>B. SSE Pod - JD asked the Board to consider taking responsibility for the costs and operation of an advertising pod for Fort Augustus. The Community Council have said that they cannot take it on as they do not have the funds and asked if the Community Company would consider doing it for them. This is being offered as an outright purchase to the community from SSE. The cost of installation and ongoing running and maintenance would be the responsibility of the Community Company going forward, if accepted. Mixed views were expressed about the suitability of the design. Ongoing maintenance was also discussed. Generally the Board were in favour however it was agreed that more information was required before a decision could be made. JD to contact SSE to put them in touch with AW to find out more of what is involved. AW to prepare a paper for the Board outlining how it could work and what issues need to be considered.</p> <p>C. Christmas lights- An update was requested. KE explained that various requests have been made of Bear and Highland Council with a view to simplifying the offering and also increasing that of Invermoriston. Answers are yet to be obtained, probably due to Covid 19 priorities.</p>	
	<p>Date of next Meetings: 11th August 2020 29th September 2020</p>	