

Minutes of Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company

Board Meeting

Held on Tuesday 19th October 2021

In the Resource Room, Medical Centre, Fort Augustus

Board Directors present: Chair - Harry Whiteside (HW), Jeff Dymond (JD), Lorn MacKay (LM), Derek Sumner (DS)

Apologies: Felix Paterson (FP), David Campbell (DC) Elizabeth MacEachen (EM) Chris Nelson (CN), Ronald MacKenzie (RM)

In attendance: Chief Officer – Ian Leaver (IL)

Minute taker: Karen Edwards (KE), Administrator

Item	Minute	Action
1	Welcome and apologies HW thanked those Directors who were able to make it for coming. As there were a number of apologies, she noted that the Board was not quorate so no decisions could be taken at this meeting. Jeff Dymond was welcomed back as the Director representing the Community Council.	
2	Minutes from 28th September 2021 As the Directors present had not all been at one or both previous meetings it was agreed to seek approval of the minutes via email following this meeting. Following email request the minutes of the last meeting were proposed as a true record by FP and seconded by HW.	KE
3	Matters Arising from previous minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HW updated the Directors on the discussions that had taken place since the last meeting relating to the toilets at Invermoriston. Further discussions with the Invermoriston Hall Committee are still required before a plan to move forward can be agreed. HW advised that the grant application for the Rural Housing Fund had been approved and they have granted £78K towards the purchase of 1 Bunoich Crescent. 3 quotes will now be sought for the refurbishment work that forms part of the grant. Vivien Taylor has resigned as a Director for personal reasons. Two further Directors will be stepping down at the AGM in January so the Community Company will be seeking 3 new Directors. 	
4	Official Opening of Caledonian Court – 29th October 2021 It was agreed that a PA system may be needed for some speakers and a Gazebo should be available in case of poor weather. Parking for the day will be at either the Lovat Hotel or the Fire Station. The Caretakers will be asked to provide parking assistance on the day. The Lovat Hotel will be advised of final numbers on 21 st October although it is anticipated that there will be 35. The event will start with formal speeches from SSE and the Housing Minister and by Kate Forbes for the Gaelic community. This will be followed by a tree planting and then a chance for 3 of the homes to be viewed. 3 residents have kindly agreed to show their homes to guests.	

5	<p>Community E-Car Club proposal</p> <p>IL went through the outline proposal for this potential project which would be of benefit to both the community and also 3 Glens Community Care for whom transport is so critical.</p> <p>This joint venture with Glengarry Trust would allow the community to have e-cars available for hire and would also allow for the introduction of more e-car charging points around the area.</p> <p>After discussion it was agreed that IL should develop the proposal further but look to include at least one hybrid vehicle, one people carrier type vehicle and also a couple of e-bikes.</p> <p>The initial proposal is to be forwarded to all Board members who were not present.</p>	KE
6	<p>Chief Officers Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Community Action Plan review has started with responses to the initial stage starting to be returned. • An Energy Audit has been organised for the Village Hall to establish what could be done to reduce electricity costs. • A resident has kindly responded to a request by the Caretakers for plants for the village flower beds. Count Rory Angelini has offered to purchase some spring bulbs. The Directors expressed their thanks for this kind offer. • The Caretaker Supervisor has highlighted some concerns about damaged paths in and around the cemeteries. It was agreed to contact Highland Council about these issues along with the proposals for improvement. • A number of other areas suffering from damaged paths /fences were raised. It was agreed that Highland Council needed to be contacted as they are responsible, to ask for the funds to be made available for these repairs. In one case a ward discretionary fund may be available as it is for improvement as opposed to repair. • Highland Council have offered the community some more grit bins. These will be spread around the community to help residents to keep the pavements safe. One will be placed at Caledonian Court as it currently has none nearby. • Highland Residential are planning repairs for Bunoich Crescent in the coming financial year and have approached the Caretakers about undertaking this. It was agreed that the request would be considered and a cost agreed for jobs that it was felt were appropriate. However not all that they require could be done by the Caretaker team, where this is the case we would pass on names of local tradesmen to Highland Residential for their consideration. 	
7	<p>AOCB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two new member applications were approved. • Grant I-242-2019 Ben Verbeeren - for a Badminton Group was revoked. The grant had not been used due to Covid restrictions and the applicant had now moved from the area, with no-one able to take it on at this time. • KE gave an update on the Christmas lights situation. Quotes have now been received from Highland Council for the changes requested in both Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston. Those involved at both sites have been asked for their final confirmation, that this is what is required by their communities, before the final go ahead can be given to the Highland Council. • KE gave an update on the increased Village Hall usage over the coming months. 	
8	<p>Date of next Meetings: Wednesday 8th December – Grants meeting Tuesday 25th January 2022 - AGM</p>	