

Minutes of Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company

Board Meeting

Held on Wednesday 10th March 2021 Via Zoom

Board Directors present: Chair - Harry Whiteside (HW), Vice Chair - Felix Paterson (FP),

David Campbell (DC), Jeff Dymond (JD), Elizabeth MacEachen (EM), Lorn MacKay (LM), Derek Sumner (DS), Chris Nelson (CN),

Ronald MacKenzie (RM), Vivien Taylor (VT)

Apologies: None

In attendance: Chief Officer – Angela Williams (AW)
Minute taker: Karen Edwards (KE), Administrator

| Item | Minute | Action |
|------|---|--------|
| 1 | Welcome and apologies | |
| | HW welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for taking the time for | |
| | this additional meeting to review and agree the budget for the forthcoming | |
| | financial year. | |
| 2 | Minutes from 23 rd February | |
| | The minutes were approved for the last meeting. Proposer HW seconder DS | |
| 3 | Matters Arising from previous minutes | |
| | HW requested that the two policies that were agreed at the previous meeting be | |
| | attached to the minutes when they go on the website. | KE |
| | HW confirmed that Transport Scotland had agreed that the pavement, previously | |
| | discussed, would not now be necessary. Thanks to Margaret Davidson for her | |
| | help with this issue. | |
| 4 | Budget review HW explained that the budget for the housing development is being maintained separately until the build is complete. The budget being reviewed today is an operational one, for day to day expenses. Once the housing is complete that too will be incorporated. AW took everyone through the budget explaining assumptions and decisions that had been made. | |
| | The following particular points were made: | AW |
| | AW is to confirm that the Trustee insurance includes responsibility for the 12 new homes when it is renewed this year. | |
| | At a recent meeting with Highland Council it was agreed that the budget for the services of the Community Caretakers would remain the same as | AW |
| | last year. | |
| | The Caretakers grass cutting equipment is now quite old and some will | |
| | need replacing this year. There was a discussion about potentially selling | |

| ٦ | Tuesday 30 th March – Grant meeting | |
|---|--|----------|
| I | Date of next meeting | |
| 7 | The Board unanimously approved the budget. They also re-authorised the bank loan with RBS for which the paperwork has now been completed. | |
| | on some of the older items that are still working to help fund this. AW to discuss with Caretakers HW requested that the budget for the Medical Centre be increased by £2.5K to allow for the bollards in the car park to be replaced with an alternative. Payroll costs proposed to increase by 2% in line with the increase for the living wage. This was approved by the Board. The following were also discussed: HW advised the Board that once the housing project is complete she will be asking AW to investigate investment opportunities for the Company funds to ensure best use is made of money in savings for the future. HW asked AW to take forward a plan with regards to the Tennis Court. It may be suitable for the Recreation Group to be involved in this. The Village Hall is costing an increasing amount of money to sustain. It is not paying for itself with usage very low. It needs to form part of a discussion with the community, perhaps as part of the review of the Community Action Plan, to see if they want it to continue to be maintained and at what cost. It may be appropriate to do some fund raising to support the deficit. CN suggested that water charges may be reduced by putting a meter in. This is to be investigated. The electricity charges are particularly high because of the three phase system that was introduced when the hall was extended. At that time the heating was by storage heater. HW requested that consideration be given to reverting back to single phase. KE explained that additionally there is a problem with the meter providing readings. This is being investigated to establish if the meter is faulty or just that the data signal is not strong enough. | KE KE |