

## **Minutes of Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company**

### **Board Meeting**

**Held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2021**

**In the Village Hall, Fort Augustus**

Board Directors present: Chair - Harry Whiteside (HW), Vice Chair – Felix Paterson (FP), Lorn MacKay (LM), Derek Sumner (DS), Chris Nelson (CN), Vivien Taylor (VT), Elizabeth MacEachen (EM), Ronald MacKenzie (RM)

Apologies: David Campbell (DC)

In attendance: Chief Officer- Ian Leaver (IL)

Minute taker: Samuel Jones (SJ), Administrative Assistant

<b>Item</b>	<b>Minute</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome and apologies</b> HW welcomed everyone to the meeting and welcomed IL to his first Board Meeting as Chief Officer for the Company. Apologies were presented by DC.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes from 6<sup>th</sup> July 2021</b> The minutes of the meeting were approved as a true record. Proposed by HW seconded by FP.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Matters Arising from previous minutes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Glengarry Shinty Club</b> - HW explained that nothing more had been received with regards to their grant application. Offers to arrange a meeting between the applicant and the Administrator to discuss application have not been taken up. It was agreed that once the Administrator returns from holiday, fresh attempts to discuss this would be made.</li> <li><b>Directors Training</b> - HW reported that training would be taking place in September. FP and Administrator to attend for FAGCC.</li> </ul>	KE FP & KE
<b>4</b>	<b>New Homes Update</b> HW informed the Board that the houses had been handed over to FAGCC on 4 <sup>th</sup> August. HW updated the Board on the situation with the fire doors for the four flats. A date was still to be agreed with the builders for the installation, as they are waiting on components. HW has spoken to Compass, who have agreed to do this job at cost. Attempts will be made to sell on the existing doors. It has been agreed that tenants in the flats will not put down flooring until the doors have been replaced. Tenants will be moving into the new homes on 1 <sup>st</sup> September, except the flat tenants, who will move in once the issue of fire doors are resolved. The Herras fencing at the back of the Convent Land will remain until the grass comes through. HW also reported that weedkilling had been done and that planting would take place at the end of October. It was agreed that the community celebration had went well and had been well received by the community. The event had also come in on budget. The Directors wished to express their thanks to all involved. An official opening day is being planned for the end of October. IL reported that he	

	has been in touch with the Housing Minister and SSE about availability. IL and Administrator to follow this up.	IL & KE
5	<p><b>Chair's report</b>  HW went through her report:  <b>Recruitment</b> – IL has now started and is working in the office five days a week.  <b>Caretakers</b> – Apart from their routine summer jobs of grass cutting and litter picking, the Caretakers have been rebuilding the bottom wall at the Old Convent Land. It was noted that this was nearly completed and was looking really good. The Directors expressed their appreciation for the work the Caretakers had done for the community celebration, without whom it would have been much harder.  <b>Apprenticeships</b> – There were updates on the new pre-apprenticeship for the agricultural worker George MacEachen who has now started on a farm in Drumnadrochit.  There was an update on Stuart Edwards the quantity surveyor graduate apprentice, who is now starting his fourth year, which is the last year of funding from FAGCC.  <b>Medical Centre</b> – Compass have been contacted with regards to the damage to bollards and have put forward a raised kerb as a solution to avoid collisions with bollards. A reduction at night for outside lights were also discussed. HW to ask Compass about possibility of sensor lights. CN informed the Board that grass cutting around the medical centre had now been done.  <b>Houses</b> – HW reiterated the updates made in item four, and thanked LM and Dan Gilchrist for their help with the bouncy castle at the community celebration. It was noted that a gazebo on loan had been damaged on the day. Replacement parts are being sourced, and if not available, a replacement gazebo will be bought.  <b>Financials</b> – The new accountants are about to start on the audits and accounts for FAGCC. HW to ask if IL can attend meeting with accountants. As the finance officer has not yet done management accounts for June, it was agreed that she do them for up to the end of August, and September-December. The Board all acknowledged receipt of SSE's Annual Report. HW highlighted that administration costs for FAGCC had been overstated by approximately £22,000, and that the report had already gone to print before this could be corrected.</p>	<p>HW</p> <p>KE</p>
6	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student Travel Grants – Four new student travel bursaries (ST- 010-2021, ST-011-2021, ST-012-2021 and ST-013-2021) were approved. A further application for a student grant for equipment was not eligible.</li> <li>• Fort Augustus Charity Sheepdog Trails – Due to lack of time to submit a grant application, caused by uncertainty over whether the event would take place, the Board approved a £250 donation to the event, on the understanding the group resume grant applications next year.</li> <li>• Trees for Life – A stage 1 application has been received to cover some of the costs of the interpretation at the new Visitor Centre being built at Dundreggan. FP and IL attended the ground-breaking/ tree planting day on 16<sup>th</sup> August and reported back to the Board on this. Following discussion, the Board agreed that they would be happy for the group to submit a stage 2 application for consideration, but that the application must be robust, with details of how the grant will benefit the communities, when the money would be spent, what the plans were for the future and key objectives that the group will work towards. IL and Administrator to offer to meet with group to discuss this.</li> <li>• Hall Bookings – The Directors agreed that multiple bookings could now be taken for a single day, providing cleaning and disinfecting is carried out between bookings.</li> </ul>	IL & KE

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Defibrillators – HW informed the Board that it was no longer possible to install a defibrillator at Caledonian Court, but that West End Garage had agreed to have one installed there instead. The Directors agreed this was a good position. IL to write letter of thanks to Bannon family for provision of defibrillator.</li> </ul>	IL
7	<b>Date of next Meetings:</b> <b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2021–7pm Medical Centre</b>	