

**Minutes of Board Meeting  
Held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023  
At Memorial Hall, Fort Augustus**

<b>Board Directors present</b>	Felix Paterson (FP) – Chair, Helen Clay (HC) – Vice chair, Lorn MacKay (LM), Chris Nelson (CN), Lynne West (LW), Michael Alvey Anderson (MA), Fiona MacCormick (FM), Patrick Ungless (PU), Catriona Watson (CW), Frances Mansell (FMM), Kelvin Hill (KH), Elizabeth MacEachen
<b>Apologies</b>	
<b>Also in attendance</b>	Ian Leaver (IL) - Chief Officer
<b>Minute Taker</b>	Ian Leaver

<b>Item</b>	<b>Minute</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b> FP Welcomed Directors to the meeting and thanked them for their time.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2023</b> These were accepted as a true record. Proposed by CN and seconded by HC.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Matters arising from minutes not on the agenda</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vein finder – Ordered. Largely paid for by funds raised by the community.</li> <li>• FP spoke to Loch Ness resort and requested they cease burning rubbish on FAGCC land and remove the debris. FAGCC will erect a fence once the rubbish has been moved.</li> </ul>	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Chief Officers Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Glentarff House</b> - decision due from Scottish Canals by 16<sup>th</sup> May. SLF stage 2 application being drafted</li> <li>• <b>Memorial Hall</b> – decision due from Highland Council by 29<sup>th</sup> September.</li> <li>• <b>Hardware Store</b> – Stocktake and audit complete</li> <li>• <b>Men's shed</b> – Valuation of the land was £5,500. Owner has indicate that they are looking for £20,000. Unacceptably high for FAGCC to pursue.</li> <li>• <b>Caretakers</b> – Grass cutting and litter duties have commenced in full. Bridge at Bunoich will be rebuilt soon.</li> <li>• <b>EV's</b> – All three EVs in operation now.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>MIDAS</b> – Highlife Highland have stopped doing the MIDAS training. So far an alternative hasn't been found.</li> <li>• <b>Telford Centre bus</b> – Opportunity for folk to undertake training to become volunteer driver for the Telford Centre bus. LM interested.</li> <li>• <b>FA Toilets</b> – THC are keen for the community to take over the toilets. On paper the income appears to cover expenditure and the cost of employing 1 FTE attendant. Ownership would be preferred but initial indications are that that could take some time as it would mean going through and asset transfer. THC can offer a month to month lease at nominal cost but the board felt it would be better to go for ownership by the end of the season to allow refurbishment during winter. If we take over now there is greater reputational risk.</li> <li>• <b>Bunoich Tennis court and play area</b> – despite the land for the Mens Shed being too expensive it is still worth approaching the council to take ownership of the tennis court and play area with a view to redeveloping it into better play and recreation facilities. This could still include the Mens Shed. There may be some leverage with the council if we agree to take on the toilets.</li> <li>• <b>Cost of Living Grants</b> – There is a small amount of money left in the CoL grants pot. We may be allowed to add to that if SSE agree. A second round of Cost of Living grants could be run with previous applicants eligible. However the amounts available will be lower than before.</li> <li>• <b>Strategy Session</b> – Board session Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April in the Memorial Hall.</li> </ul>	<p>IL</p> <p>IL</p> <p>IL/KE</p>
5.	<p><b>Staffing levels</b></p> <p>FM declared an interest but was able to remain in the room as specifics of the jobs were not discussed.</p> <p>IL presented a paper proposing a change to the way that FAGCC is staffed. It would mean reducing the CO hours and creating two new part time positions to cover Admin and Facilities. There would be a slight increase of £2000 to the annual staff budget but a large increase in the capacity of the organisation.</p> <p>After some discussion it was agreed that IL would tidy up the proposal and the final job descriptions and pay would be agreed by email before being advertised. The CO will begin to reduce their hours working a minimum of 21 hours a week with additional hours as required. For the record FM will not be part of those email discussions</p> <p>The application to FERN for funding to employ a Convent Land Development Officer was successful. The job description and salary has been agreed. The post will be advertised asap.</p>	<p>IL</p> <p>IL</p>
6.	<p><b>Coronation Events</b></p> <p>Two events have been funded – Glenmoriston Improvement Group and Fort Augustus Brownies.</p> <p>A further event is being planned but to date no application has been received.</p>	

7.	<p><b>AOCB</b></p> <p>CN – asked for the dog poo bin to be put back at the Abertarff to Convent land access. ILto speak to Caretakers.</p> <p>CN – asked for the cross to be rebagged to protect the timber. Caretakers on it.</p> <p>CN- asked about progress with the railing at the convent land access off the A82. No progress.</p> <p>KH – asked that a previous suggestion that FAGCC could fund containerised gym/fitness facilities be revisited. Need more info on previous suggestion.</p> <p>LW – Asked FAGCC to consider purchasing properties and or land in the Glenmoriston area for the provision of affordable housing. IL to investigate.</p>	<p>IL</p> <p>IL</p> <p>IL</p> <p>IL</p>
8.	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b></p> <p>16<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – The Hub, Dalchreichart</p>	