

Nether Lochaber Community Association

Thursday 13th April 2023, 20:00

Minutes

1. **Attendees and apologies** (in alphabetical order)

Attendees:

Clara Barnett
Roger Barnett
Lisa Glaze
Iain Jenner
Gordon Macintyre
Gordon Milne
Brian Pearson
Sharon Pearson

Apologies:

Karl Spierling

2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

I Jenner proposed, G Macintyre seconded.

3. **Treasurer's statement**

Funds in bank at 31st March 2023: £7142.93. There were no significant outgoings excluding 500 club prizes. Around £4,500-5,000 is set aside for the Inchree Barn project, and we will need to spend in the region of £600 on gardening equipment. There are some funds still to be deducted for website costs.

4. **Inchree Project**

The Steering Group are pleased to confirm that Stage 2 funding has been received! This amounts to just over £45k, and will pay for security fencing, legal fees and for a Project Officer working part time over two years to help us raise the funds we need to redevelop the barn. Inspiring Scotland have a volunteer specialist network, from whom we need advice on how to advertise the post and put together a contract. C Barnett is still attending webinars and training, so we have access to a lot of useful information e.g., how to raise extra funds. INCH architecture has been in contact about the next stage of the project. The Steering Group will meet next week to discuss next steps. We will need to raise a lot of money to do each stage of the architectural drawings. We will need in the region of £90k just for the design team. We will notify all once we have a date to take ownership of the barn. We should also have a party to celebrate and invite those who have supported us.

Still waiting to hear from MacPhees. C Barnett will contact after we have had our meeting next week if we still haven't heard from them. I Jenner has an example of a job description so we can look at use as a starting point.

6. **Village Hall**

No update. The committee are awaiting a surveyor's report.

7. **Tubs/Garden Areas**

As discussed last month, new plastic tubs have been purchased the small tubs which need replacing. We will need to purchase bedding plants. L Glaze asked the attendees to check small tubs in their area and to report back on their condition.

The rose bed looks much better after being worked on at the activity day. However, the timber around the rose bed needs to be replaced. Attendees discussed retrieving slate from the shore on the corner at St. Brides, to put in between the timber and bed, then we can take the timber away.

8. **Creag Mhor**

The strimmer is in Oban for repair (under warranty) and will be ready sometime next week. After this, G Milne can do some strimming. I Jenner will be able to finish the wall and should be able to find time during the last week of the month.

9. **Picnic Site**

The picnic site needs to be weeded and raked. We also need to replace the log planters this year. There was discussion on what to replace these with. We should consider that anything made of timber will have a limited life. Ideally, we would like planters that are bigger and can hold more soil. I Jenner will consider how best to replace these.

10. **Activity Day**

The activity day working on the rose bed was productive, and ready for summer bedding. For next month, we need to tend to the picnic site. It was agreed to meet at the picnic site for 10am on Sunday 7th May, where attendees will split – some will work on the picnic site, and some will work on the tubs.

11. **500 Club Draw**

G Macintyre will send numbers once the draw has taken place.

12. **Correspondence**

None.

13. **AOB**

Website

S Pearson informed the meeting that the website is now live and encouraged people to have a look, and inform her of any changes/edits required: www.netherlochaber.org.uk

C Boles had taken the initiative and added a Gallery page just using images downloaded from Facebook. This led to discussion regarding the Gallery images that I Jenner has. S Pearson

agreed to check the ICO (Information Commissioners Office) website to see what the specific rules are around images. I Jenner will follow up with the people who provided him with the pictures to ask if they can be used on the website.

The attendees agreed that quarterly invoicing would be sufficient for the website, though it may not be that a payment will be required each quarter. A payment is still due for the set up and annual fee for the site and will be forthcoming.

S Pearson asked about the previous website that was set up. This only consists of one page and it would not be worth doing a diversion from that page to the new site. L Glaze will check with Niall Blair to see if the page can be removed.

Sustrans

I Jenner said that there are various funding streams available through Sustrans, and that we could identify a project like the Creag Mhor mosaic on the cycleway. C Barnett said we qualify for funding to have a water fountain (for filling bottles with drinking water) e.g. at the picnic site, however there is an issue regarding the cost of the feeder pipe to the fountain, which is not covered. We need stakeholder agreement which was not received in a previous attempt to apply for funding for this.

14. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 18th May at 7:30pm.