

Nether Lochaber Community Association

Thursday 17th August 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**

Proposed by I Jenner, seconded by B Pearson. The minutes were approved.

3. **Treasurer's statement**

£5,834.81 in account. £484 excess grant from Community Council for gardening equipment, £4260 inspiring communities fund for the Inchree barn project. Some of this has been used recently for the recruitment of a Project Officer. Excess £990.

The end of year accounts have been compiled. Lots of money has been allocated. £1,178 from 500 subs. But we pay out £607 prize money, so there is only a profit of circa £500 pa. We don't have much excess funds e.g., for lawyers' fees to buy water tank area. This could possibly cost £1500-2k.

The biggest expenditure last year was for the barn project, funded directly by the Scottish Land Fund. The biggest expense not covered was £3,000 for the transfer of ownership of Creag Mhor.

All agreed to discuss more about funding at the end of meeting.

4. **Inchree Project**

Project Officer: we have employed Lucy Cooke who will start on 1 Sept. She will have various induction meetings before she starts. Meet with Sarah HR/Induction, Clara re fundraising, Iain for a site visit. S Pearson will take on the line management role. Lucy will meet the board quarterly, and the steering group monthly.

Taking ownership of the barn: There was a blip in terms of the claw back clause. This was discussed with Craig Miller, who agreed to take this out. This is now clarified and agreed. However the missives will not include a right of servitude. This means a right to put in a soak away under the forestry road to dispose of wastewater. Also, potentially to dig a new waterway.

This was discussed with Craig Millar today. We can't tell exactly what size of pipe and where until we get planning permission. FLS will give us the access when we've got the plans, but the lawyer is concerned that we may not get this permission. It is a Catch 22 situation.

C Barnett says we could wait and take ownership of the barn until we have the architectural drawings. Then we'd have the deeds of servitude. Clarification needs to be sought, to see if we can get something in writing re deeds of servitude. Ideally we'd like to have the handover of missives early September when Lucy starts.

5. **Village Hall**

There hasn't been a meeting recently and we are still waiting for the building report. There should be a meeting on Monday (i.e. 21st August).

6. **Tubs/Garden Areas**

No report. If anyone has any photos to send, then please send to L Glaze.

7. **Creag Mhor**

Last activity day some work was done, however we need to try and dispose of some of the cuttings. This work should be finished at the next activity day. We need to have contained fires as it is the easiest way to dispose of the cuttings. Agreed to meet at picnic site at 10am on the first Sunday of September. Discussed using gardening funds to buy a couple of incinerators.

May need to get more coping stones from ferry slip. Would need to get them transported to Creag Mhor. This could be done at a future activity day.

Incinerators/loppers/rakes/digging/secateurs to look after Creag Mhor and picnic site. G Milne agreed to look into this.

8. **Picnic Site**

No report.

9. **Activity Day**

As agreed in No 7., Creag Mhor. Also see 12. AOCB.

10. **500 Club Draw**

To follow. Winning numbers will be published on Facebook.

11. **Correspondence**

None.

12. **AOB**

Funding: Crowdfunding only works if someone is keeping on top of it. We can get advice from Lucy on this, who is very social media savvy. Ideally, we need to get a trustee who only focusses on this. G Macintyre feels we need to have more events, and also more information on the benches and tubs about who looks after them.

All agreed our QR code needs to be better publicized. L Glaze will make a poster. Can get Elaine to laminate.

Event: Another BBQ. G Macintyre has lots of food in freezer from previous event. All agreed to have a BBQ at the picnic site after the next activity day.

Sustrans fund: We need to decide on a suitable project, either at the picnic site or Creag Mhor. It was suggested to look at ironwork barriers to stop cars going on to picnic site.

Winter Ceilidh: S Pearson has contacted Ballachulish Hall and Roam West. Roam West have agreed to send a buffet menu for us to consider. I Jenner will contact Creag Mhor. It was suggested we should also approach A Grieve for funding for the band.

SSEN community benefit fund: C Barnett has completed a Consultation feedback form. Topic: what would benefit the north of Scotland. C Barnett has put herself forward as the contact. It was suggested that community buildings need support.

13. **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 21st September at 7:30pm.