

Nether Lochaber Community Association Meeting
Wednesday 14th December 2022 at 7.30pm by Zoom

Attendees	C. Barnett, R. Barnett, L. Glaze (Chair), I. Jenner, G. Milne, B. Pearson, S. Pearson
Apologies	G. MacIntyre

1. Apologies

G McIntyre

2. Minutes of last NLCA meeting Proposed and seconded

The minutes of the meeting on 17th November 2022 were proposed by B. Pearson, seconded by R Barnett.

Minutes will be posted on CC website by B Pearson. We will provide a summary and link to the new NLCA website once this is set up. This will include historical minutes required for openness and accountability. Iain will find out about login for unused NLCA website.

3. Treasurer's statement

The treasurer reported just over 3k in account. The funds in for Inch Architecture have now been paid. Further funds are awaited for payment of the Community Links invoice. Paypal donation totalling £53 have been received. We need to get QR codes outside on notice boards to raise awareness of the Crowdfunder at various points throughout the village. We should have a notice at the Picnic site about Creag Mhor – it's a short walk there for visitors.

4. Inchree Project

C. Barnett thanked Ian, Sharon and Karl for their help at the open weekend. There was lots of preparation, items and information were really well displayed and we got a good response from the anonymous comments letterbox. All of these comments were included in the Stage 2 application to the SLF, which has now been submitted. A new funding officer has been allocated who will likely want to do an assessment call with CB before Christmas. The application includes requests for funding for legal fees, security fencing, and a project officer. A project officer is necessary as we will need someone to work on funding applications full time, as will need to raise more than £1m to proceed with the suggested developments for the barn.

We have been successful in gaining £9,480 from the Rural and Island Communities Ideas into Action Fund, administered by Inspiring Scotland. This funding will be used to carry out a building condition survey, a structural survey, a ground condition survey, and a cost plan for the Inchree barn project. The surveys will take place in January. This is an important fund as the Scot Government is trying to replace the EU leader programme, which was helping island and rural communities. This fund came to an end due to Brexit. The fund has a network of over 500 specialist volunteers who can give us free advice on various things. It is good to have this support as we don't always want to be raising funds for a solicitor to get legal advice. This also strengthens our application to the SLF as it shows match funding. We are awaiting a valuation report by John Strachan, which we should get by the end of this week. We also need to use up stage 1 funding before we can get Stage 2. Once we get the valuation, this will conclude the stage 1 work.

5. Village Hall

There will be a meeting of the new Village Hall management committee, consisting of 11 people. There is still an issue with people seeing things as the 'hall or the barn', so it is important to highlight how they will be complementary. The Village Hall AGM will take place on 16th Jan 7:30 in the Village Hall. All welcome. It was suggested that we have a dedicated post that will attend the CA as the 'hall liaison', as it is important that communication is good between both committees.

6. Tubs, garden areas

Frozen! Please leave them alone.

7. Creag Mhor

I. Jenner is meeting with the owners of Creag Mhor lodge next Monday. Who will need to be reassured that work is getting done on the wall. Activity days need to cover a number of things in the community.

8. Picnic site

No update.

9. Activity day

Gabion basket not full but in place. It needs more people to make it an easier job! A 'human train' would help with the stones. Only three people attended so it took too long to make progress. No wheelbarrow access, so it really is heavy lifting and carrying. There is a ton and a half of stone so the gabion should be OK.

The next activity day will be February 5th as the first Sunday in January is NYD.

10. 500 club draw

To be drawn.

11. Correspondence

None

12. AOB

Small Grants

L. Glaze has spoken to Kate Ward regarding the Lunch Club and clarified that it is open to anyone in the village aged over 60. This group would be eligible for a £50 grant. All agreed.

Ceilidh

I Jenner will put up posters tomorrow. S. Pearson to add Neil Slinger's phone number to the tickets so they can book the bus directly with him.

Interval - Open mike session – anyone is welcome to do a turn.

Hall set up - Will need to set up chairs etc at 11am on Friday 30th. Perhaps need to go next morning to tidy up.

Raffle tickets - £1 per strip.

Website

The attendees ran through the suggested menu headers and finalized them. S. Pearson to start collating copy for each page.

Activity days

Painting of benches and the bus shelter at Cuilchenna is urgently required. The Picnic site benches need wood preservative. There are extra tins of paint at the hall. Pale blue in one of the lockers at the back. To be discussed at the next meeting as this could be done in February,

13. Date of next meeting

Thursday 19th January 2023