**PORTREE AND BRAES COMMUNITY TRUST (SCIO)**

**Trustee’s Board Meeting Minutes**

**10am, Wednesday 11th April 2018**

**Present:** Donnie Nicolson (DN), Ross Cowie (RC), Bill Edgar (BE), Myra MacLeod (MM), Irene Deplano (ID), Janice McGuire (JM), Duncan Brown (DB)

Also present Jake Sayles

**Apologies:** Calum Matheson (CM), Neil Campbell (NC), Ronald MacDonald (RM)

**Minutes:** Proposed by DB, Seconded by RC

Treasurer: £23k in account. Split between various groups. Bit of money has come in to OAG account. Toilets financial matters have finally been dealt with, with Trust has £459 to pay out of own funds towards final payment.

**Project Officer:** Delighted with response to advert and quality of applicants. There were 9 applicants for the post. 5 have been invited for interview. 4 have previous experience of working in community engagement work, project officer/marine matters/visitor attraction workers etc. One a ‘wild card’ is just completing a Business and Management Degree with UHI.

Pre interview meeting will take place on Tuesday 24 April, with interviewers and RC. Interviews to take place on Friday 27th April and will be conducted by DN, Faye MacLeod (Trust Accountant) and Katie MacDonald (Trust Solicitor).

**Parking Survey:** Portree Parking Study - Option Assessment has been received from LSHA, originated from John Swanson, Senior Engineer, Highland Council. Of immediate concern is the red pitch Option 22, highlighted as a very viable short term solution, providing 27 – 30 car parking spaces.

ID with agreement of all present concerned that Portree is turning into a big residential area with no recreational areas. Unanimous decision to object to proposal.

CJ has objected on behalf of OAG and has provided Trust with letter from HC giving them permission to site ramps on red pitch. Their getting LEADER funding is dependent on siting ramps there.

Letter to be sent to LSHA objecting to same.

RC they don’t utilise the spaces they have available just now, there is plenty space behind the Community Centre.

Rural Tourism Infrastructure, we have been asked to submit EOI’s for projects we’re involved with. e.g. camper van service points would get funding.

DB spoke of advantages of taking over squash courts but feels that it should be part of the overall Bayfield development. There is no point taking on this area developing it and charging for facility if surrounding area to be free for same services.

**Outdoor Activity Group**

Written update submitted from CJ. Match funding has been reached and deposited in account. Now required to send evidence of this to LEADER, after which a formal grant of funding will be received from them.

Discussion on costs of insurance cover. JS has worked with CJ, however £1.7k appears to be lowest he can find, that is with any commission/fees removed.

FEI

Consultation nearing an end. At present crofters and shinty groups concerned about good intentions of Trust 20 – 30 years down the line.

After consultation they will be given a vote on whether to proceed with community buy out.

**Bayfield**

DB, CJ and Mark Crowe met at Bayfield to discuss area between steps and Resource Centre for bile ramps/adventure area. Decided much of the work can be carried out by group, creating pump track area. Royal Engineers mooted as being useful contact.

Mark is interested in developing longer cycle tracks.

Bayfield Steps - due to top part of steps not being in 1st stage of improvements and being in an unsafe condition Donald Kennedy and Innes Hutton have looked at what requires to be done. IH will carry out remaining work mid-April.

BE suggested that as Bayfield has been such a success we approach water board and offer to clean up the area of ground they have round macerating plant. DB offered to approach them.

**Harbour**

Group members met yesterday with Certas staff, Angus Lockhart and Brian Worrall. They would be willing to re-locate, but would require a 2 acre site and costs of this would be £2million. They can-not cover these costs, although some costs could be off-set.

Existing site tanks could remain in use for another 40 years. Next maintenance survey not required for 8 years. Similar discussions are taking place with other coastal towns. Meeting with Crown Estate to take place 12.04.18.

Beach clean to take place 10am Saturday 21st April. Meeting at end of Pier. Skip organised and will be situated end of Beaumont Crescent. Trailers courtesy of DB, BE, DN and Peter Urquhart. DB arranging gloves and sacks.

Duncan will give a safety brief at outset.

RC to speak with fish farm re contribution towards cost of purchase of gloves etc.

BE to contact school re secondary pupils attending.

DN has spoken with Tony Usher re state of slip outside Rosedale. HC will provide materials and Trust will organise repairs.

**AOCB**

**Termination of Office** DN, in respect of Heckie Cormack, read s.64.6 of our constitution regarding ‘termination of office of Trustee ‘absent without good reason in opinion of Board for more than 3 consecutive meetings’.

All present resolved to remove HC from office.

**Wild Camping Bayfield** - Unanimous decision not to pursue matter.

**Membership** – 16 new applicants for PBCT membership approved

**RC sponsored walk** to take place on Saturday 8th September.

**9th June Half Marathon Day**. If we provide stewards we would get a donation to Trust.

**Coop Community Group** wants to get involved in village clean-up project.

Post Meeting Note: DB has spoken with manager and he says this would have to take place out of tourist season, due to being short of staff.

Collection boxes for B&B’s hotels. DB following this up.

**Project Officer Work Space** In view of hopefully having a project officer in place by the end of May a discussion started on this being a home worker or office worker. It was felt by all that being office based would be more productive.

DN has offered an office within their premises. Price would be lowered to half the normal monthly rate of £330 and use of Boardroom would be available would be available. DN then left the room for discussion to take place.

It was felt that this was an extremely decent offer. Conversation discussed merits of having a more public location, e.g. village centre. However realistically we are not in a position to go for anything like that just now.

It was felt that there could be public criticism of our Chair, human nature.

On returning to the office DN was informed that we were delighted with offer made. He is not concerned about outside criticism.

However this offer is just available should it be required. Interviewees may have their own arrangements made.

Request for Rotary Members JS spoke of the low number of members in Rotary. Extra members needed as Club is in danger of folding. Requested support of Trust in recruiting membership.

**DONM** Wed 16th May. 7pm at Jans.