**Portree and Braes Community Trust (SCIO)**

**Minutes of Trustee’s Board Meeting**

Wed 17th April 2019 7pm @ Jans

Present: Janice MacHugh, Graham Smith, Janice Mcguire, Ross Cowie, Neil Campbell, Shona Cameron, Ann-marie Campbell, Duncan Brown, Donnie Nicolson, Fiona Thomson, Dorothy Urquhart.

Apologies: Chris James, Bill Edgar, Calum Matheson.

Minutes approved: [ ] Seconded: [ ]

**1.Treasurers Report:**

[ ] delivered the treasurers report. Thanks to all the fundraisers. £120 from the Braes Soup and Pudding event and £600 from the Easter event has been banked.

**2.Toilets:**

A power wash is required on the outside of the toilets. [ ] to arrange.

**3.Bayfield:**

[ ]- Thank you to those who volunteered to help with the burning of the waste at the tennis courts. The next stage of the tidy up will be to install a fence around the landscaped area to stop vehicles from parking on the grass.

The Bayfield group have agreed to transfer funds to the Outdoor Activity Group to kickstart a project in the woodland to the West of Bayfield. The OAG are considering how this area could be improved and made more accessible, specifically for children and young people.

Feedback from the Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund is due this week. Stage 1 Scottish Land Fund application for purchase of tennis and squash club has been approved. John Macdonald the SLF advisor is keen for the trust to submit stage 2 for 10th June deadline. Preparation for that has begun.

[ ] is arranging a meeting with [ ] and [ ] to discuss land ownership at Bayfield.

[ ] suggested another litter pick day. All agreed. Beach at harbour not too messy so agreed to focus on Bayfield and around the ice-house. Date confirmed for 11th May. [date since been changed to 18th May] There will be an opportunity to cut the trees overhanging the steps. [ ] to arrange. [ ] to send info on tide. The dump closes at 3.45 so the aim is to finish before then.

**4.Fundraising:**

[ ] name was put forward for fundraising group alongside [ ] and [ ]. [ ] happy to help where possible but has limited free time at the moment.

Skye show is booked for Saturday August 3rd.  [ ]suggested selling teas, coffees and possibly soup this year as there was high demand last year. [ ]has urn and mobile hob that can be used.

[ ] – happy to approve the purchase of a gazebo if funds are raised to cover the costs.

**5.FEI:**

[ ] fed back. Negotiations re: price of common grazing are ongoing. A meeting has been requested with FEI representatives. Once these details are confirmed stage 2 will be ready to submit. Next deadline for stage 2 is 10th June for a decision on 28th August.

**6.Harbour:**

[ ] - As a result of meeting with Kate Forbes a meeting has been set up with MSP Paul Wheelhouse, minister of energy, connectivity and the islands on 3rd May. Neil Rutherford , senior associate director for Scottish Futures Trust will also be attending .

The group are also exploring how a masterplan might be produced at a more local level. Malcolm Henry who works for Broadford and Strath community company currently submitted his formal interest and is delivering a proposal to the group on the 24th .

**7.OAG** –Easter event was huge success with support from local businesses. Thank you letter are being arranged.

**8.Health Services:**

[ ]delivered update. Sir Lewis Ritchie will be visiting on the 28th of May. Urgent care recommendations are on track to be delivered. Community beds recommendation are moving forward.

[ ] – it is unlikely that the Ambulance Service will pursue the Police House as a base. The SAS are considering a base at the hospital with a portacabin as an option.

[ ]- Sophie has produced a newsletter and will be distributing this throughout communities and to all stakeholders. This can be viewed online via the PBCT website. There are also hard copies to pick up in venues around the North end of Skye. Anyone can subscribe to receive the regular e-newsletter.

Sophie to arrange information visit from Scottish Ambulance Service re: the first responders’ scheme.

A report has been issued to the funders of Sophie’s post and they are happy with progress.

**9.Path and Signs:**

[ ] – Progress is being made with the walking routes promotion leaflet. Currently exploring different routes to access suitability and gain permission from landowners. So far Scorrybreac, Sluggans, Aros Forestry Trail, The lump and Bayfield have been suggested. The aim is to showcase what Portree has to offer (history / culture / nature / etc ) promote responsible tourism and encourage local people to explore the area more. This could be the first phase in a longer-term project looking at, for example waymarking new routes or improving path conditions around the area. Shona has worked on similar projects with Atlas and has passed on indications of costings. RC – the group also plan to work with Donald Kennedy to have a paths survey carried out locally to identify priorities for improvements.

[ ] has progressed plans for the Sponsored walk. Date confirmed for Saturday 31st August. There will be an option to walk to Portree or to Slig from the Storr. This will make the walk more accessible to a wider group. Walkers will be asked to reserve a free ticket. [ ] – time was lost with sit down meal at Aros last year. Could there be a “grab and go” in the square. All agreed this would be an improvement.

[ ] has agreed to discuss with the community council the trusts request to apply for planning permission for additional advertising boards via the community council. [ ] will feed back at next meeting.

The path around the Lump is currently closed. [ ]– Donald Kennedy is dealing with repairs as a matter of urgency.

**10.Community Centre:**

[ ] fed back. Some progress being made. Community centre are keen to form a subgroup of the trust. The priority is to establish what legal responsibilities / liabilities the trust will have if a merger goes ahead. [ ] has sought advice from Katie MacDonald on this and waiting to hear back. A draft working agreement has been submitted to the community centre as a starting point for discussion. The working agreement is straightforward and outlines the aim of the group, pointing to the trusts constitution’s clause on decision making powers of subgroups. [ ] – is it likely to reopen? [ ] – an architect has carried out an initial walkaround and issued feedback stating that costs would be substantial to bring the centre up to required standards. A new build may be more cost efficient. A condition reports is required before further action can be taken.

**11.Fundraising**

[ ] proposed to set up a Just Giving account for the trust. This would cost £15 per month. Just giving take 5% of gift aid contributions. Lucky 2b here have tried other platforms such as Virgin Giving but Just Giving has proven to be most effective. RC clarified that Just Giving could be used to generate donations for all sub-groups with funds being designated to a specific project or group. All agreed to pursue. FT to action.

**12.Secretary**

[ ] explained that the position of secretary is still vacant. Trustees had discussion surrounding the role of a secretary and level of responsibility. [ ]– do we need to pay for secretarial support? Agreed that for the moment the duties could be managed by the existing team. [ ] agreed to take on role. [ ] thanked [ ] for volunteering. [ ] to arrange handover.

**13.Allotments:**

[ ]- Duncan Burd from Anderson MacArthur Solicitors has been in touch with a proposal from the Housing Association detailing how to resolve the legal issue preventing the trust from taking ownership of the land where the allotments are proposed to be situated.

[ ] to contact [ ] and [ ] who previously developed this project to compile response to Duncan Burd.

**14.AOCB**

[ ] – the Events group have arranged a meeting on 30th April. [ ]has offered to fill out an application to Tesco Bags of Help on their behalf.

[ ] – the Accordion and Fiddle Club hold an annual ceilidh and are looking for a local group to manage the bar this year to provide drinks, teas, coffee and cake. There is the potential to raise approx £400 for the trust. It’s being held at the Gathering Hall on the 25th of May from 8.30pm – 12. 3-4 people would be required. All agreed that it is a good opportunity. [ ] and [ ] volunteered. Potential [ ] (tbc) also. [ ] has a personal licence and will arrange for [ ] to purchase left over stock so there would be no risk to the trust.

**15.DONM** – 15th May / 12th June.