

## Minutes ECC Directors meeting Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> Jan '24

Present: John Lawrie, John Boyle, Sara Twaddle, Phil Ashhurst, Joa Kalaher, Sandra Wilson, Alistair Danter, Karen Pettit, Kenny Mackinnon, Roddy Macfarlane, Billy Shanks, Andrew Prendergast

1. Declarations of Interest – BS in relation to P7 trip funding application
2. Minutes of last meeting approved – Proposed, AD, seconded KP
3. Matters arising
  - Comms – Setting up a Facebook page – meeting noted potential value but agreed it would require moderation, no Directors currently felt able to devote the time required.
  - Play Pairc – drainage required ACTION BS to organise
  - Senior citizens Xmas dinner – a good event but becoming expensive, Directors agreed to revisit cheaper options in '24 eg an external caterer + having it in the Community Hall
4. Shop:
  - Following AGM agreement to phase the development Directors agreed to apply for planning permission for the shop + and appropriate % of ground works. Some redesign would be required to take account of recommendation from VAT consultant ACTION AP to take forward
  - Management model – still waiting for feedback from Enterprise Scotland who will be recommending a number of similar projects for ECC to visit. In addition ECC should make contact with Sleat and Carbost Community shops.
  - Directors preference in the first instance is for the shop to be managed “in house” with leasing to be a secondary option
  - Once PP is awarded Business plan + costing need to be developed for fundraising purposes.
5. Karens Track
  - Work almost complete, opening ceremony needs to be organised for spring / early summer
  - RM has been in contact with Gus Nicolson who is discussing opening ceremony possibilities with Karen’s family, initial plan includes a “run”
  - A plaque needs to be created. Directors felt that a quality plaque bolted to a large boulder would be appropriate ACTION RM to discuss with Gus Nicolson
6. Cycle track options
  - Sustrans spec is no longer relevant. AP has discussed the section from the Campsite to Edinbane village with “Paths for All” who are keen to consider the path. Directors preference would be for a route with a sealed surface 1.2 – 1.5 m wide.

- Hitrans keen to look at whole route from Arnisort to Edinbane + could provide engineer costs support to design a route with a narrower width to that proposed by Sustrans ie 1.2 – 1.5 m

#### 7. Village Centre design

- Louise Kerr has updated the design following the visit from a THC officer before Xmas, it can now be submitted for planning permission  
ACTION AP to take forward
- JL is following up potential funding support from THC
- THC will provide new signage including flashing hazard lights
- Once planning permission agreed funding applications to be developed, options include Awards for All, THC Community Regeneration funds etc

#### 8. Financial Matters

- KP to become a second signatory with access to Bank a/c to make payments  
ACTION – AD to liaise with Stuart Whatley (Treasurer)
- ECC to look for new bank a/c to deposit £80k as currently we have 2 Virgin accounts, following the takeover of Clydesdale Bank. Max to hold in a single a/c is £80k as this is the amount guaranteed by UK Govt.  
ACTION AD to discuss with Stuart Whatley
- Domestic and Non Dom rates issues with shop. ECC is being chased for non payment of both categories. To date THC have refused to acknowledge that the shop is uninhabitable and unusable to trade from + are insisting on adherence to the letter of the law until it is demolished, a report stating the demolition is advisable is not sufficient to take the building off the register. Demolition has to be linked to Planning permission.  
ACTION AD to apply for SBBS (Small Business Bonus scheme) support + reduction due to non occupancy for domestic rates. ACTION get PP asap + demolish asap + pay outstanding amount to THC.
- Funding application – William Shanks support to attend P7 Raasay trip £240, deposit of £75 paid, agreed.  
ACTION AD to forward to Stuart Whatley for payment.

#### 9. AOCB

- ST, RM and AD to join a call with Struan and Dunvegan Trusts shortly to discuss shared ownership with in Ben Sca windfarm. Feedback at next meeting
- Directors approved the scoping of a hardship fund  
ACTION ST to discuss with CAB Scotland
- Primary School wider achievement fund application May / June '23 approved but not yet paid.  
ACTION KP to ask Aoife Gould to send AD final application asap  
ACTION AD to pass onto Stuart Whatley for payment.

#### 10. DONM – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> Feb