



LISMORE COMMUNITY TRUST

Purpose: to maximize the potential social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the whole community of the Isle of Lismore

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 21st FEBRUARY 2022 7PM IN THE HALL

1. Welcome, present, apologies and declarations of interest

Anita Bachuil (AB) chair, Anna Stewart (AS), Archie MacGillivray (AM). Kate Mcluskie (KM) by Zoom, Andy Hough (AH) Housing Group, Rosemary Barry (RB) notetaker
There were no apologies or declarations of interest

2. Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday January 20th 2022 by Zoom

These had been previously circulated and also made available on the night and were proposed by AS and seconded by KM. AM mentioned that he had been able to hear what was said at the previous Zoom meeting although he hadn't been visible to other attendees.

3 Matters arising

None

4. Financial Report

AB said that the bank statement had arrived that morning which included the payment for accounting and that there was now £10,642. 01 in the bank. For the AGM she suggested an Excel spread sheet was made available of payments in and out of the account rather than the whole audited accounts as these would be easier for people to understand.

5 AGM

a) AB explained that she would work out what she was going to say for each agenda item in advance

b) New members that had been proposed were Jenny Ainsley, Tony and Karen Currie, Callum MacGillivray. These were proposed by AB and seconded by AS. AH explained that he had a form from Laura Savil and she was confirmed as a member.

c) AB emphasised the importance of proxies. Forms were given to AS and one was given to RB so it could be copied if extras were required. There were also some placed in the shop. KM asked for a proxy as she would not be able to attend and AB agreed she would send one by e mail.

6. Housing Group update

a) AH described the Drop In session planned for March 5th in the hall The Housing Group were intending to hold a meeting on Monday February 28th to do a practice set up in the Hall and work out exactly how it was to operate. There would be information on such things as; population change and housing availability and comparisons with other islands with a similar population size looking at things like; ages, housing, population changes, school, employment opportunities and health and care. He emphasised that he hoped those who visit the exhibition would be in agreement with houses being built at the end of Newfield.

b) AH explained that the houses would belong to the Trust as houses must belong to the Community if money was being obtained from somewhere like the Land Trust. Therefore there were responsibilities on board members. He described how the number of social houses had decreased over time and although in the last 10 years 16 new houses had been built on the island the resident population was declining.

c) AM queried the waterhole application and AH replied that he had been to the meeting on the previous Sunday at the Public Hall for those concerned about the water situation there. There was



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a need to satisfy that we have a suitable and sufficient supply. This needs to be agreed by a professional. Any report could be shared with the residents of Achnacroish so they could make any appropriate changes. He emphasised that there was a potential for the Trust to be tripped up on this and he didn't want any division or upset to be caused.

d) AH went on to explain that he felt the island was on the cusp of significant depopulation and it was important to have an important body of the community in support of the project. Peter MacDougall from the housing group had spoken to the local councillors Kieron Green and Elaine Robertson and they were in favour. He felt that Argyll and Bute were a key player and we need their support. It would not be favourable to receive the support of grants if they weren't. The Trust has yet to receive a reply from the Rural Island Housing Fund (RIHF) about the expression of interest submitted; it had been due on January 20th. There is a need for more resident people on Lismore who can support the island infrastructure and sense of community. He explained that the Trust would need draw up relevant criteria for the allocation of houses. AB enquired if Argyll and Bute were only concerned with planning and AH replied that they could give a grant of £12,000.

e) AH continued to explain about the Scottish Government Housing 2040 initiative which was set up in 5 year stages. A&B had underspent in the last 5 years but 94 million pounds was available in the next five years. So far an estimated 7 houses had been supported on A&B islands. The Scottish Government Island Plan was also supportive of housing on islands. He felt that councillors needed to make the case for houses on Lismore to A & B.

f) AH emphasised the need for 80 – 90% support of the local community. He and other members of the housing group were happy to debate with anyone the reasons behind the project. . AM asked if the landowners could turn down the independent valuation of the land. AH replied that the point of the Heads of Terms Agreement was such that once it was signed this should obviate the problem. He re- emphasised that it was a big issue how the community responded and the need to engage people in a conversation. KM agreed that it was important to have engagement. AS said that if there was a display explaining what it would look like she thought that it would be ok. AH explained he would use Sebastian Tombs' Housing report plus a form of stickers at the Drop In to show how people felt

7. AOB

AB asked if there was anything else re the AGM. She emphasised the need for proxies and RB said she would do a poster to go up outside the shop. It was mentioned that Callum MacGillivray had agreed to come on as a board member. AB mentioned that if members were signed on the night of the AGM they could become board members. KM queried about non residents and AB replied that it was possible to co-opt up to four members.