

Unconfirmed Minutes of the  
Sunart Community Benefit Fund  
Panel Meeting Zoom Call 7.30pm

[\*\*\* Date of Next Meeting November - Tuesday 10th 7.30pm\*\*\* ]

**Present:** Eilidh-Ann Philips (Chair), Val Barker, Maureen Tyldsley, James Hilder (Admin).

**Apologies:** Sarah Traynor, Sheila Wilson, Michelle Hilder, John Jones (SCC Rep) Elaine Sneddon Hughes (Community Council Rep)

**Not Present:** Dugald McIntyre (email malfunction meant he had not received papers), Alasdair MacLean

**1) Welcome, Apologies. Noter Retirees & Vacancies**

- a) EA Welcomed those present and thanked all the retiring members for their work and Izzy Baker, former Secretary. (Retirees: Ben Gregg, Sue Metcalf, Debbie Calver, Janice MacKinnon, Tim Coldwell.)
- b) JH apologised for the delay in organising the panel meeting, and explained that as SCC Treasurer he would be standing-in until SCC appointed a new Admin Worker to become Secretary.
- c) JH carried the proxy votes for ESH and JJ. MH and SW had sent apologies via email and had no objections / comments on any of the applications.
- d) As the meeting was inquorate (9 required) it was agreed to seek the approval of Sarah Traynor and Dugald Macintyre after the meeting as it was important to award funds after the summer delay. In future we must work hard to fill vacancies and avoid inquorate meetings. **Action: EAM and JH**

**2) Declaration of Interests**

- a) EAM declared an indirect conflict of interest in the Angling Club item. JH, although not a panel member, declared a direct interest in the Community Company item.

**3) Current Fund Balance £21,476 – Noted. Thank you to SCR who donated £10,000 in the Spring.**

- a) This includes re-absorbing the £5,000 previously awarded to the Strontian Church. Secretary is in discussions regarding a revised bid in 2021, re possible redevelopment as heritage centre & worship venue.

**4) Applications – £14,800 (Documents circulated = SCBF Summary and Sept Report to the Panel)**

- a) EAM talked through each application as per the Summary of Applications and Recommendations circulated by the Secretary.
- b) All participants were asked for comments. All awards approved. **Action: JH to notify all Awardees.**

|  | Spring 2020 | Sep-20     |  |
|--|-------------|------------|--|
| Application                                | Request     | Suggestion | Updated Situation Sept 2020  |
| Sunart Community Company - Admin Worker    | 5,000.00    | 5,000.00   | Recruitment deferred until decision  |
| Duke of Edinburgh Award Expedition         | 500.00      | -          | Withdrawn as awarded by Comm Council   |
| Three Lochs Festival                       | 3,000.00    | -          | Postponed due to CV19  |
| Sunart Agricultural Show                   | 2,000.00    | -          | Withdrawn but will be back next year!  |
| Garmoran Publishing                        | 2,500.00    | 1,800.00   | Have established they are properly constituted   |
| Angling Assoc                              | 3,000.00    | 3,000.00   | Committed from previous years - must pay   |
| Scotstown Common Grazings LOAN for fencing | 10,000.00   | 5,000.00   | Community Council have offered £5,000, SGRPD have awarded 80% of grant,. Balance will be paid after land sale. |
| SUM =                                      | 26,000.00   | 14,800.00  |  |
| Avail Fund                                 | 21,476.00   | 21,476.00  | (have put back the £5,000 from the Church Roof Fund)   |
| Remaining                                  | - 6,924.00  | 6,676.00   |  |

- c) One condition of the Loan to Scotstown Common Grazings was that both parties sign an Agreement setting out the terms of repayment. (This had also been requested by the Community Council who were offering the other £5,000 from their deposits account.)
- d) This leaves £6,676 in the fund, (although £5,000 should be replaced when the Scotstown Common Grazings return the loan in 2021)
- e) The panel noted the possible upcoming capital projects. It was acknowledged that there has been limited demand for funds given the CV19 lockdown but this could increase next year if fewer restrictions are in place.
- f) Secretary drew the Panels attention to their requirement to establish an Endowment Fund (as per the SCBF founding documents), and the fact that Foundation Scotland were still offering this service and offering to “double our money” by donating £25,000 on condition the Sunart Community and businesses can raise £25,000 in donations and contributions from SCBF and Community Council.
- g) Given items d) and e) the Panel hoped that SCR would be making another donation this year.  
**Action: JH to write to SCR** to clarify likely release of next donation – whether this be 2020 or early 2021.

#### 5) Other upcoming (interim) applications

**Ardnamurchan High School Parent Council** - picnic benches for outside activities and social gatherings for both High School and Primary Schools. This application had been directed to the Community Council who were now trying to maintain reserves in the event of a winter CV19 lockdown so application passed to SCBF. £1,000 suggested – those present agreed this was important. **Action:** Other absentees to be consulted.

#### 6) AOB – There are Three Vacancies

- a) Panel Composition

16-25 – Dougald McIntyre + **Vacancy**

25-44 – Sarah Traynor, Eilidh Ann, **Vacancy**,

45-64 – Michelle Hilder & Alasdair MacLean, **Vacancy**

65+ - Sheila Wilson, Maureen Tyldsley, Val Barker

- b) Action : Eilidh Ann and James will approach a number of people suggested by the Panel. Looking for a female in the younger category and more males in the others.
- b) JH to speak to Alasdair to see if he wishes to continue as he has struggled to attend.

#### 7) Dates for future meeting

**November - Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm** – this was pencilled in subject to further requests being received and/or funds being received from SCR.

NOTE: After the meeting Dugald Macintyre and Sarah Traynor confirmed they were in agreement with the Panel and so all awards were approved. Both signalled their support for the school outdoor seating but these were circulated to all panel members for completeness.