

# Sunart Common Good Fund

## Panel Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2017 6.30pm

**Location:** High School

**Present:** Isobel Baker (fund administrator), Eilidh Ann Philips (Chair), Sheila Wilson, Alistair MacLean, Maureen Tyldsley, Val Barker, Michelle Hilder, Susan Metcalfe, Kathleen Robertson, Mary-Ellen Macintyre.

**Apologies:** Debbie Marriott, Sarah Madden, Janice MacKinnon (SCC representative), Tim Coldwell (SCCouncil representative).

- 1) Welcome and signing and updating paperwork.
- 2) Minutes of December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting approved. Parent Council were awarded £599 rather than £699. Will award remaining £100.
- 3) Fund from Sunart Community Renewables
  - a. What funds now – £2,301 carried over from December. Plus £26,000 awarded from Sunart Community Renewables. Total £28,301
  - b. When next funds – EA, IB, James Hilder and Richard Laybourne (SCRenewables) to discuss process and potential dates for next fund transferal. Result of this meeting will be circulated to Panel.
  - c. How funds might be allocated – Administrators Summary spreadsheet (circulated a few days before meeting). Format and content approved. For applications which are more complicated a separate page with more information will be provided. Panel members are also welcome to request additional information from the Administrator. It was agreed that it is very useful to receive the information ahead of the Panel Decision meeting. Also, absent panel members may email comments ahead of the meeting, therefore still having an input.
- 4) Declaration of Interests - MH is the Acting Chair of the Ardnamurchan Tourist Association.
- 5) Discuss projects to be funded and how to use available funds. All 9 panel members voted 'For' each decision. MH abstained from ATA vote due to conflict of interest. JM declared interest in Strontian Primary School application and is a Director of SCCompany.

APP.	Tot Cost		REQUEST	Awarded
1. SCSB Ltd	£854,358	Panel felt that £18k seemed a very large proportion of the fund currently available. The panel agreed to award a smaller amount, £12,000.	<b>£18,000</b>	<i>£12,000</i>
2. Anchor Project	£19,000	Panel agreed they wanted to support this heritage project and awarded full amount.	<b>£2,000</b>	<i>£2,000</i>
3. Ardnamurchan Tourist Assoc	£10,278	Redevelopment and research into value of tourism for whole area. – Applied for proportion for Sunart Area £2,570. The panel thought that the role of the ATA and the information that it would gather as a result of this work would be very valuable for the community and wider area. Information would be very valuable for any grant applications by SCC etc. Full amount awarded.	<b>£2,570</b>	<i>£2,570</i>
4. Strontian Primary School	£2,550	Panel felt it was important to support the development and offer experiences to the school children. Full amount awarded	<b>£1,500</b>	<i>£1,500</i>
5. Sunart Community Company, LDO	£69,782	Panel feel that the LDO post is important for the area and all the projects going on. As SCC have expressed that funds are not needed at present, the	<b>£10,755</b>	<i>£4,000</i>

Post, match funding		panel have reserved £6,755 of current funds to be awarded later in the year. Further funds will be considered at the summer application round.		
6. Scotstown Grazing	£1,500	Scotstown Grazing are applying for money towards fencing. There are government grants available to help with captial costs such as these. IB to talk to Crofters.  IB spoke to crofters and the panel agreed by email to award a loan to cover upfront costs, as the government grant is only awarded after work has been completed. Once the government grant has been received, the crofters can repay the SCGF loan	<b>£1,500</b>	<b>Loan of £1,500</b>

**This leaves a remaining balance of £4,731** IB will circulate that grants have been awarded via March DtD, Notice board, Facebook and Twitter.

- 6) Administration fee of up to £1,000 / year may be applied for to cover the LDO time dedicated to the Fund. This was voiced as a reminder of the panel decision at the panel's induction meeting in September.
- 7) Setting date of next meeting and opening date for applications. Date of next meeting provisionally set for **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August 6.30pm**. This will be confirmed following the meeting with Sunart Community Renewables regarding likely timing of fund transfers.