

## Sunart Community Company

**Board Meeting** (Zoom) 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021

**Attending:** D Barker (DB) Chair; J Hilder (JH) Treasurer; J Jones (JJ) secretary, J Tyldesley (JT); J Madden (JM); Paul Sharples (PC)

**Apologies:** D Calver (DC)

**Welcome:** The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. A membership form and Director application had been received from Paul Sharples. J Jones proposed that the director application be considered: application approved. JJ will update the Companies House records.

**Acceptance of minutes** of 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020 – proposed J Tyldesley, seconded J Madden  
**Amendments:** None

**Staffing:** Lara Van de Peer is still on the Company payroll, however she will be transferred to Urram. Also, included here: there have been two applications for the Part-time admin assistant post. D Barker, J Hilder and J Jones will arrange and conduct the interview on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020. The applicants were named but were not minuted for confidentiality reasons.

**Updates on:**

**Longrigg Woodland:** The final report has been received from the consultants and they have given three options for managing the woodland. J Hilder proposed the report be circulated to the Board, and for a special Board meeting to discuss the report and presentation for the public meeting/s and consultation. A special **Board meeting** is arranged for **7:30pm Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021.**

**Oakwoods:** Jane Mellis has been going through the Company stock in Oakwood. The producers have removed their stock so the building can be cleaned and maintenance undertaken. There has been an issue with the water freezing, however B Barker has been dealing with this and it should be ok. It appears the hot water heater is causing a problem, the water is very rusty coloured and the heater may need replacing. The stop tap, located outside the rear corner of the building, is clogged up with gravel but it is hoped to clear it so the water can be isolated more easily in future.

The security alarm may need checking and after discussion it was agreed for the alarm engineer to check and service it at the same time as the Strontian Hotel.

**Men's Shed:** J Tyldesley reported that not a lot is happening at the moment and meetings have been suspended given the current lockdown. However, the steps for the green shed at the jetty have been finished and are ready to be installed. JT also explained that John Troup has a planer/ thicknesser, which is a substantial machine that he had obtained from Louise Cameron. As John is now retiring he has offered the machine to the Men's Shed but it will require an additional shed to accommodate it.

The application for connection to the water main and sewer was submitted to Business Stream (water provider) before Christmas. However, Business Stream have asked for some additional information, which JJ is sorting out.

Two quotes for the work on the new Men's Shed had been received. After discussion BD, JT and JJ have appointed Steven Rochford to undertake the work on the Men's Shed. Steven

will be able to start in February and DB, JT and JJ will meet with him beforehand to discuss the details.

**Loch Moorings:** JH has spoken with D Calver and the invoices for moorings fees will be going out to moorings holders. The company has already paid the £750 fees.

Jeremy Taylor has been painting the green shed and Tim Coldwell has installed the door. Julian Morris is in the process of getting materials to repair the roof. The open water swimmers are pleased, as even with a leaky roof they have somewhere to change.

Correspondence has been received from the open water swimmers group, asking that the Loch Group draft information and a protocol for the visiting boats and boat owners about emptying toilet waste. Currently there are no facilities for this. This is something raised at the Community Council given concerns with the increase in campervans. The suggestion made was to speak with the campsite owners in the village and at Resipole and discuss at a Loch Group meeting. JJ will organise a Loch Group meeting (and also a Paths Group meeting which is overdue.)

Work will need to commence on the concreting on the jetty, as the invoices for materials are to be submitted to HIE by the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. JJ asked if HIE might extend this deadline given the current lockdown. JH will enquire, although he thinks it should be possible to submit the invoices by the current deadline.

**Website/Communications** Tony Gowland has started work on the Oakwood website and we have purchased the Square-up computer package that works with the till and stock control system for online sales. Some producers may decide that only their higher value items be listed for online sales and Jane is working on this.

**Fishing/Angling:** No action at this time

**Assets:** No action at this time. Installing the five benches is on going.

**Income generation:** The Christmas Fair and auction money should be being paid into our account and we will receive a statement from the auction site company. JM said there was a slip up with one person, they only received one notification of their bid, none when they bid a second time nor one to inform them they had won the bid – they had spoken with the auction site company. JH acknowledged this and said that this was the only technical hitch he was aware of. The Community Company now has the link for use at any time in the future, which does not cost us as any more money. We can, for instance, use the site for any appeals or for donations, which will be useful in the future. Currently our sources of income are:

- Moorings
- Angling Tickets
- Water Festival – this was cancelled in 2020 & the date for 2021 is still to be arranged
- Burger stall at the summer show (again cancelled in 2020)
- Christmas Fair, auction and raffle
- Oakwoods - although given the limited opening permitted in 2020 the proposal is to leave the income in the Oakwood account
- CBF admin fee

[NB the CBF has also supported the Community Company with grants]

**Finance:** Community Company Current account: £46,577.32 and Oakwood account: £6,720.11. The auction money has not been received as yet and the Community Company

account balance includes money that will transfer to Urram. JH will contact Eilidh-Anne about the CBF Spring awards of grant.

*Carried forward:* There is a need to look at the telecom, electric and water suppliers for Oakwood as there might well be better options available. Initially, when Oakwood was being set up we went with known/ existing suppliers however we might be able to obtain a better deal.

**AOB:**

- The CWA informed us of a survey as we are a member. Longrigg Woodland is still to be decided, however, we have the small community woodland, the banks of the Strontian River and Old School House plot. JJ will look at the survey and complete if it is appropriate.
- Paul Ashburner enquiry: JH explained that Paul had written to the Community Council and had then contacted James as he had his name. Paul has heard of the developments on School Road and raised the matter of whether or not there might be some community interest in purchasing the plots of land he has beside the Fire Station. J Tyldesley and JJ had met with Paul about 5 or 6 years ago to discuss some of the land immediately adjacent to the Fire Station; however, at the time we chose not to go further. The Community Council has passed this enquiry to the Community Company, as the Community Council is not allowed to hold assets. There was a discussion about whether or not there might be a need for some small commercial or business units. It was noted that it is several years since the CADISPA Report and this needs to be revisited and updated. So whilst this might be a possibility at some point in the future, we are not in a position to consider this at present, neither were directors aware of any local businesses requiring premises. However, it will be reviewed this periodically, and a survey question asked when funds are found to run another community Action Plan consultation.
- Pensions Regulator report. JJ to action
- Community Greenhouse: Debbie Green has asked if she might have use of the greenhouse again this year: agreed. There was some discussion about clearing out some of the staging and shelving, which might be useful in the Men's Shed.

**Next meetings:**

Monday 7:30pm 1<sup>st</sup> February Wednesday Longrigg Woodland Report (Zoom)

Wednesday 7:00pm 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021 Board Meeting (Zoom)

Monday 7:30pm 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 AGM for 2019-2020 (Zoom)

List of proposed Company meetings and events for 2021 – April 2022 is below

# Sunart Community Company

## Meeting Dates for 2021 - 2022

Month	Date	Day	School Holiday	Comments
January	13 <sup>th</sup> 2021	Wednesday	5 <sup>th</sup> January	
February	1 <sup>st</sup>	Monday		<b>Longrigg Woodland Report</b> Special Meeting
February	24 <sup>th</sup> 2021	Wednesday	15 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup> 17 <sup>th</sup> In Service (IS)	
March	22 <sup>nd</sup> 2021	Monday		<b>AGM 2019-20</b>
April	7 <sup>th</sup> 2021	Wednesday	2 <sup>nd</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> (Easter)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Good Friday, 4 <sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday, 5 <sup>th</sup> Easter Monday
May	19 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	8 <sup>th</sup>	
June	30 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday		
July	28 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday		
August	14 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday		BBQ at Agricultural Show (2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday every year)
<i>August</i>	<i>TBA</i>			<b><i>Water Festival</i></b>
		<i>Friday</i>		<i>Ceilidh</i>
		<i>Saturday</i>		<i>Triathlon, Fun activities and BBQ</i>
September	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Wednesday		
October	27 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday		AGM 7-8pm; 8-9pm Board (2020-21)
November	24 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday		
December		Wednesday		Board and prep for Auction
December		Saturday		Auction
January	19 <sup>th</sup> 2022	Wednesday		
February	23 <sup>rd</sup> 2022	Wednesday		
March	30 <sup>th</sup> 2022			
April	- 2022	Wednesday		

**AGM for 2019-20** - 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 - meeting for approval of accounts, before AGM. Which meeting for approval/ induction of new Board members?

**Water Festival** date was 24<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> August 2020, what are the proposals for 2021

**Christmas Market at Oakwood and Tree lights switch-on:** last Saturday is 27<sup>th</sup> November; first Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December – Which is best?

**Spring Fair** - Should we hold one? At a time when Covid is past