

Sunart Community Company

Minutes Board Meeting: 7:30pm Monday 19th June 2023 Village Hall

Attending/ Invitees: J Jones, J Madden, H McDonald, L Macgregor, R Henderson, S Traynor,

Apologies: J Hilder, T Burke, B Drinkwater, K Simpkinson, A Hughes

1. Welcome: J Jones Chaired the meeting and welcomed S Traynor and the directors
2. Acceptance of Minutes of last meeting 1st May 2023 : Sarah Traynor asked that the AOB item re selling shopping bags in Oakwood that the "Save our church" be changed to "Sunart Heritage". Sarah explained that Dulchas are seeking to acquire the church for the community as a multi purpose building, which will no longer be a church but will be somewhere that people of any faith might seek to use, which would be in addition to it being a heritage centre for the local community.
3. Sunart Agricultural Show Saturday 12th August 2023: Joan and Mary will be standing down from volunteering on the burger stall, we would like to thank Joan and Mary for all the work on the burger stall over the years. It was proposed and agreed to hold a separate meeting on the Monday 3rd July 2023 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall. This will be primarily to plan, organise and prepare for the Burger Stall on Sat 14th August and identifying and approaching potential volunteers is a priority.
4. Community Company planning – no action on this item
5. Update (briefly, only if required) on:
 - Longrigg Woodland: Update from Andy Hughes - Our Stage 2 Application was submitted formally (following feedback on the draft version from our SLF Adviser Philip Coghill, Jamie McIntyre, Jake Willis, Diarmaid) and we have been assigned a case manager who will be contacting us to arrange a series of meetings to work through the application as they prepare for their August convening (and decision making) of the panel. There was a huge amount of work that went in to compiling the application and we are very grateful for all the support and advice that was given; many people gave time selflessly which is a real testament to the strength of community in which we live.
21st June is due to be a site visit with FLS and engineers to deduce, formally, how we will make use of existing turning circles so that we do not have to alter the bell mouth at the bottom of Longrigg and essentially utilise existing structure.
There is much communication and discussion to be had surrounding how and when timber is extracted as well as considering ingress routes. We would like to alleviate any concerns residents have (particularly those on Longrigg) by ensuring there is an open and consistent approach to communication aimed to reduce impact and protect the communities interests during extraction. Thus, as part of the Stage 2 application we have requested funding specifically for the rapid on boarding of a Harvesting Manager who will look to facilitate the extraction phase whilst remaining community facing.
 - Oakwood – We will need to check with Karyn about arranging a meeting with the producers, as they have asked to speak to the Board. Tony Burke update: improved Lighting of Oakwood sign & provision of external socket for Xmas lights:- order placed with Cameron Morris on 3/2/23; Electrical Safety checks:- fixed inspection and PAT testing – order placed with Cameron Morris on 3/2/23
Men's Shed – U[date from Tony Burke: Electricity:- move to Octopus complete.(Oakwood and Men's Shed shared a £200 referral bonus); Water complete except setup of billing by SW; Sewer:- Nigel Traynor's completion certificate sent to SW on 22/5/23; SCC liabilities:- on hold pending decision on intended future usage. Fire Alarm system:- quote of £3650+VAT obtained; James is checking with his known installer for alternate/cheaper options; Access ramp:- Julian Morris is making ramp for main door (using materials purchased with Urram grant); Roof refurb:- zinc paint and bitumen purchased from Julian Morris....needs applying; New fire exit (and associated ramp):- order to be placed with Julian Morris (awaiting approval of JH's "budget for extra works" by SCC)
 - Loch/ Moorings – Jetty and Green Shed: The mooring rings have been installed on shore and a new one on the end of the jetty. I have also cut out most of the rotten concrete on the surface ready for new concrete to be supplied to fill the potholes and reduce further erosion of

some of the expansion joints – just need to fix on the shuttering and arrange a work day with volunteers and Julian Morris.

Part of the roof space of the jetty shed has been boxed in and the opening for the house martins moved so they create less mess on the swimmers.

Raw Sewerage – I have received notification that some swimmers have encountered raw sewerage around the moorings. JH to erect signs and have a word with all yacht owners about only disposing of 'black water' offshore

JH till to do invoicing paperwork with Paul Sharples for all outstanding moorings payments, which is very urgent now this years invoice has arrived

- Paths – meeting with David Robertson re Phemies path/s. J Jones explained that he, in his Community Council role, had met with David Robertson (FLS) to walk the path and discuss routes in Phemies Wood. David had explained that the main path, that runs from by the Strontian River bridge through the wood to the Ardnastang common grazings will be maintained as a core path, which will include maintaining the boardwalk on this route. The other routes are to be down graded and people will be allowed access but the routes will not be maintained, and eventually the boardwalks will be removed. The cost of materials was discussed with David and it was explained that the community couldn't apply for grants, as it was FLS property. However, it may be that working together we may be able to maintain the paths
 - Website/ Communications/ Newsletter – Becky will be going on maternity leave Laura and Rowena agreed to cover the De tha dol? articles and the Company's enquiries inbox. They will get the login details from Becky
 - Heritage – The feasibility has been done and the valuation is very different to that of the asking price quoted by the Church of Scotland. The geophysical survey has also been carried out with some interesting findings. The report is almost ready for discussion and then a community meeting will be arranged
6. Assets & Risk Register (standing item) - Tony informs us that the defibrillator for the Polloch telephone Kiosk has arrived. A question was asked about the ash dieback on the Back Road and on Anaheilt. The Trees on the Back Road have been sorted and James Hilder has emailed Kirsten Tait on the HC Roads team to ask for progress
 7. Income generation (standing item) – There is a separate meeting to prepare for the burger stall.
 8. Finance, including Common Benefit Fund (CBF) & Oakwood:
Bank Accounts: Oakwood £8,132.14; SCC Main Account: £20,986 the majority of which includes monies reserved for specific purposes.
 9. Staff matters (standing item) – Becky will be going on maternity leave in about five weeks. Hannah explained that she and Diarmaid have decided they will need to move away from the area to Wales, the primary reason for the move is the lack of any childcare for 0-2 year olds in the village, alongside potential work insecurity. The move will be towards the end of the year. In the meantime Hannah feels that she should withdraw from contributing to key decisions, however she will assist on matter until her baby is due in about five weeks. Rowena proposed that we minute our thanks to Hannah for her efforts and contributions to the Community Company.
10. AOB
- Plaque for John Tyldesley – a proposal has been made by a member of the public about putting a plaque on one of the benches commemorating John Tyldesley and his contribution to the community company. There was a discussion and views expressed, the question of appropriateness was raised as other people contribute to the company and community and where are their plaques? As Men's Shed members have already mounted a plaque to John on the bench that they have sited in the Teddy Bears picnic, a suggestion was made that we buy something, maybe for the Men's Shed, in memory of John.
 - Request to buy/ make benches – a request has been received from a member of the community for the Men's Shed to make benches. Harry Witney has asked whether two of the one at the Men's Shed could be sold and what a suitable price might be. After discussion the suggestion of £200 per bench was suggested. JJ will take this information back to Harry.
 - Hannah and Becky have been drafting the Community Consultation report, which is nearing completion. Hannah suggests that the current meeting agenda standing items will need to be expanded to include e.g. Social and Food Group. Hannah will provide a list of proposed headings for our consideration and approval.

- A BBQ needs to be purchased and JJ explained there is the proposal is to change auditors for the 2023-24 operating year, which will bring a potential saving of £1500 and a BBQ would cost in the region of £1,000. The purchase has been approved a an earlier meeting.

Date of next meeting: Monday 3rd July 2023 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall, which is to plan and organise the Burger Stall **Please note this is a revised date**

Future meeting dates:

Month	Date	Day	School Holiday	Comments
June	19 th	Monday	30 th June -	
July	3 rd	Monday	1 st – 31 st July	Agricultural Show prep and organise plan and volunteer rota
August	12 th	Saturday	14 th August	Burger stall at Agricultural Show (
September	18 th	Monday	11 th & 12 th Sept (Inset)	Board meeting
October	30 th	Monday	9 th – 20 th Oct	Agenda item for prep/ planning for Xmas market Auction
November	25 th	Saturday		Xmas Market, auction tree lights switch on. Venue: outdoors or Sunart Centre?
December			25 th – 31 st Dec	Oakwood closes until March 2023 – Producer stock cleared and stock take done for end of year accts. Maintenance work done.
January	27 th 2024	Saturday	1 st – 5 th Jan	AGM & Burns' Night Supper
February	5 th	Monday	19 th & 20 th 21 st (Inset) Feb	If post AGM ie for appointment of office bearers
March	4 th	Monday	29 th March	