

Sunart Community Company

Board Meeting 7:30pm 22nd June 2022 – Sunart Centre

Attending: J Hilder (treasurer), J Jones (Secretary), J Tyldesley, T Burke, H McDermott
Apologies: J Madden

This was a single item agenda looking at the Company Plan/planning for the next 5 years.

J Hilder produced a review of the previous Community Plan, which is often referred as the CADISPA report (2014) as it was undertaken and produced by CADISPA an organisation partly attached to Glasgow University.

J Hilder made a very comprehensive PowerPoint (PDF) slide presentation and led a discussion about the history of the Company, the background to the Company plan and what to we want to be doing in the future. This proved to be a very useful background and introduction for the two recently appointed directors. A copy of the slides is attached forms the major part of these notes. The slides 8 & 9 highlighting current and future potential “challenges” were agreed.

It was agree that the Key Areas for Action as identified for the 2016 -2019 period of

- Capacity Building
- Enhanced Community Facilities
- Enhancing Employment Opportunities
- Sustainable Community Company

The four main areas were still relevant and appropriate for today and it was proposed these should remain.

However there is a possible fifth – or overarching theme, which is about Transition to Net Zero i.e. what are we doing to help the community become more resilient in the face of climate change and carbon reduction.

The Company Vision, which was produced in conjunction with the Community Council and other local parties and is included at slide 7, is again still pertinent and the proposal is that these remain, with the exception of the “values” list for “open” and “enabling” as these were seen as tautologies.

These last two slides (13 & 14) “Possible Workload Lists” and “Potential Actions for 2022/3” were agreed, with the addition for longer term, strategic items for Loch Development, possible business units, and some further income generation e.g. affordable housing units or potential for a multi use business centre where sole employers and remote workers can pay to use local business facilities and services. The need to have housing or accommodation available key workers e.g. teachers, NHS staff, etc was highlighted. A possible addition (which we could consult the community on) would be whether we should try to grow more food locally by planting orchards, developing allotments etc. (West Ardnamurchan Community Garden is a brilliant project!)

A proposal that J Hilder produces a draft development document covering the next 5 years and look at a funding application for a development worker was approved.

The priority is to conduct a community consultation document and work and develop an updated Community Plan, which is relevant and appropriate for current, emerging and potential future needs.

AOB: J Hilder declared an interest: a letter of support for Urram towards and application for a part-time development worker is requested. This was approved.

Extract from Slides:

Possible workload lists.....

Current:

1. Community Consultation to every householder
2. Endowment Fund Appeal
3. Oakwood – maintain & grow?
4. Services to Men's Shed
5. Loch Development – finish shed and concrete
6. Paths – complete bench installation
7. Events
8. Community Benefit Panel (ongoing)

Emerging

1. Support Longrigg to acquire woodland
2. Support Dualchas to acquire & refurb church to Heritage Centre
3. Expand activities in Men's Shed – “Makers Hub?”
4. Work with Urram on older peoples activities & Dail Mhor/ Village hall rebuild
5. Electric Vehicle & Car Share scheme for village
6. Assist show committee with “Show Shed” build.
7. More renewable energy? Insulate homes?
8. Acquire more land for housing or commerce?
9. Expand footpaths?

Possible Actions for 2022/3? (Alongside day to day!)

- a) Recruit more Directors
- b) Raise £25,000 for Endowment Fund
- c) Conduct Community Consultation in partnership with C Council and others
- d) Lottery Application for 2 x part time Local development officers
- e) Scottish Land Fund Stage One Application – Dualchas
- f) HIE Application – valuation of land around School Road.
- g) Scottish Land Fund stage 2 Application - Longrigg (following successful F&LS CAT application)
- h) Funding application for Solar panels on Oakwood
- i) Funding for Mens Shed / Makers Shed
- j) EV Car Club feasibility study

Date of next meeting: 21st September 2022