LISMORE COMMUNITY TRUST

Minutes of Board Meeting held at 7pm on Wednesday 23rd October 2019 at the School House, Achnacroish, Lismore

1 PRESENT: Archie MacGillivray, Anna Stewart, Kiki MacColl, Sebastian Tombs (Chair and Minutes); there were no apologies nor declarations of interest.

2 MINUTES of previous meetings: 14th August and 12th September; hard copies were to be distributed. ACTION ST

3 MATTERS ARISING:

3.1 Future of Shop and Post Office:

The draft outline timetable for community engagement and a two page survey were read through and endorsed. Copies sufficient to enable all island residences to be sent it by post were to be requested from the School. Mailing preparation would be on Wednesday 30th, time tbc, at School House; and as up to date a list of dwellings was to be sought. It was agreed to include if possible a short update Bulletin, and the AGM date and Agenda. ACTION ST. It was noted that wider advertising of this life style opportunity could be encouraged – one of a number of aspects likely to be raised at the Public Meeting set for the 7th November at 7.30pm. Krissy Monaghan had kindly agreed to place information on the Trust's Facebook page.

4 AGM Preparation: Date and time agreed as 7pm on Thursday 5th December in the Hall. ACTION ST

5 PROJECTS and WORKING GROUP REPORTS

5.1 School House:

Garden, parking etc: a letter seeking funding support from Glensanda had been sent, and would be followed up. ACTION AMcG. Meanwhile the proposal to amend the parking scheme had resulted in a letter from the Planning Department stating that a change from that so far planned, would require a new Planning Application at a cost of £401 plus Advertising fees of £150. A copy of the two schemes would be printed and forwarded to Kiki for review. ACTION ST. Acquisitions to date included: a (free) gas cooker; gas connection (CORGI certified for commercial standard) at £220; plus gas cylinder from the shop; crockery at £110. It was noted that earlier funding applications for similar items had not produced results; however, success had been achieved with a grant from the W A Cargill Fund for £1,000 for kitchen equipment. Items still required were noted (potato peeler, cheese grater, sieve).

5.2 Kiosks:

A visitor had donated £20 after reading of the fire. Wood for the fit out work was drying in the School House. Kiki would pursue a conversation regarding next steps with islanders with suitable skills. ACTION KK. A new Working Group would initially comprise Kiki, Sebastian and Anna. Re leaflets, usage was noted (less that three boxes over the two kiosks to date). It was AGREED that parties who had expressed interest in acquiring further copies for visitor-related purposes be approached to ask about numbers desired, and whether a donation towards future printing costs could be considered. ACTION ST. Sebastian reported that Frances Willis had agreed to look into the idea of a parallel simple information leaflet with services and products, opening hours etc to be produced by those benefitting, to sit alongside the formal Guide and Map in the kiosks. This was welcomed.

5.3 Go for It! Project:

Sebastian reported that following two lunch club events, Rosemary had intimated she would be stepping back as a part time co-ordinator. This was noted by the directors, who expressed their warm thanks for her support for the project to date. Sebastian read out Rosemary's two update reports. Kiki advised that the next dates would be 8th and 22nd November and a Christmas Lunch on 13th December, with old music provided by Ron Livingstone. Kiki also advised that the budget would require some amendment based on progress so far. ACTION KK. A float of £200 had been provided for basic ingredients etc for the Lunch Club – with a cash balance held by Sebastian of £80 for incidental general Trust expenses.

5.4 Work Space Units:

Sebastian reported that an initial application to the Scottish Land Fund (SLF) had led to the allocation of Kirsten Logue of HIE as the Case Officer, to provide support and guidance (she had visited the sites involved during the Summer with Gill Law and Sebastian). The plan of the sites in Achnacroish was reviewed. It was agreed that notification of the Trust's activity be given to the selling agents of the Pier House which was effectively surrounded by the land in which the Trust was interested. ACTION ST. The deadline for a formal application to the SLF for Stage 1 funding was 11th November – which seemed too soon to meet, given the Lismore Stores priority at present. Gill was to be advised accordingly. ACTION ST.

5.5 Clachan Steadings:

Sebastian regretted that his efforts to prepare a sketch plan of the buildings, following his visit during the Summer, had not so far been accomplished, and remained outstanding. ACTION ST.

5.6 Housing Project:

Sebastian reported on the Housing Conference hosted by Argyll and Bute Council and HIE at SAMS the previous Monday. 21st October. He had spoken with Helen MacDonald of Mull and Iona Community Trust (MICT), which offered consultancy services to those aiming to develop housing projects; it was AGREED to forward her an initial enquiry for her assessment of the adequacy of the information already collated in a draft consultants' brief, and the extent to which MICT might be able to assist. ACTION ST. It was noted, with regret that the feasibility element of the Scottish Government's Rural Housing Fund had been closed lately because the fund itself was designed to see completed projects by the end of March 2021.

5.7 Tourism Management Report:

Sebastian proposed that this be shared as a matter for discussion at the AGM.

5.8 Seaweed Study:

This report had been commissioned by LIP and was due shortly, relating to potential seaweed farming development - owned by the community – around Lismore. Approaches were being made to those with specific interests, prior to a public meeting.

6.0 CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 National Islands Plan: documents had been circulated, and the Plan was to be adopted by Government in the near future.

6.2 Local Development Plan 2 (LDP2): this was due to be out for consultation from 11th November, and could influence development potential on the island.

7.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8.0 DATE of NEXT MEETING: 5pm on Wednesday 5th December.

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