

Pairc Community Council Meeting

Thursday 26th November 2020 Virtually via Zoom

Present: Morris Black (Chair)
Karis Beattie (Secretary)
Louise Nicolson (Treasurer)
Lyndsay Montgomery
Doro Reider
Angus McDowall
David Skene
Anna Macleod
Raymond Hughes

Guests: Chris Wyatt , Iain Nicolson

Apologies: None

In attendance: Fiona Stokes

1. Confirm Minutes of previous meeting

Morris welcomed everyone to the meeting as Chair. A slight amendment was made to the minutes from the last meeting on 29th October - the opening times of the skip should read 10.30-3pm – they were then proposed as accurate by Lyndsay and seconded by David.

2. Taigh Celidh

A quote has been received from Neil Mackay contractors, for insulation and improvement works on the building, to inform an application to the Crown Estate funding. An idea to generate income to sustain the building is to open a self service launderette. Raymond raised concerns about the impact this could have on the residents who share Carn Aonghais. The group discussed safety requirements for installation and ongoing certification, planning requirements for change of use, installation of a partition to make the building a multi-use community space and cost differences between outright purchase or renting of the laundry machines.

It was agreed that: The local residents will be consulted about the proposal before any work is agreed – Karis to draft a letter. Karis will talk to the machine supplier further about costs and ongoing maintenance plans.

The group voted on the format of a funding application to the Crown Estate, for improvements to the Taigh Celidh,

It was agreed that: 1 main application for the full amount will be made, but it will explain that work is to be completed in stages. This will allow preparatory work such as community consultation to take place. Karis will attend the Area Forum meeting to explain the detail behind the application. Morris will try to attend also.

3. MCWFT small grant

The annual small grants payment of £5,000 has been received from Muaitheabhal Windfarm Trust for PCC to distribute within Pairc. It must be allocated to groups by March 2021, or funding for the next year will be reduced to the level used in 2020. The fund needs to be advertised far and wide, past recipients have been the same few groups so word of its existence needs to be spread by all – it is a good opportunity for groups who are not constituted to access funding. PCC is also able to use the fund for its own projects and groups can apply directly to MCWFT for projects over £5,000. Karis asked for a volunteer to deal with applicants & applications, but nobody came forward.

It was agreed that: David to make sure everyone at the Area Forum knows the small grants fund is available. Karis will deal with applications until a volunteer is found, and post the template application form and guidance received from MCWFT on the Facebook page. PCC will develop their own form in time.

4. Skips Padlock Purchase

Iain reported that CNES Cleansing have agreed to PCC changing the padlocks, other areas have also done this. Iain will purchase 2 padlocks totaling £35 and will get a spare set of keys for the committee. He is happy to open the skip in emergency situations out-with the opening times of Saturday 10.30 -3pm. He suggested the first hour of opening could be made into an opportunity to upcycle some of the useful items being deposited.

It was agreed that: Upcycling to be put in the agenda for the next meeting.

5. AOCB

Ravenspoint is organizing a 'Santa on Tour' event, to replace the usual events that cannot take place this year because of

Covid. It will involve every household in Pairc receiving a small gift, delivered by Santa and his elves!

It was agreed that: PCC is to make a financial contribution to this event as the past committee regularly donated to the community for Christmas lights, events etc.

PCC Correspondence has been taking up a large part of Karis's time. Morris thanked her for putting in the effort to respond to the various issues received.

The Gym in the Resource Centre can now be opened. A deep clean has been carried out and a risk assessment completed. There is to be only 1 person using the gym at any one time and all equipment should be wiped down afterwards. It will be cleaned every night by the Resource Centre cleaner.

Raymond volunteered to be key holder for the Taigh Celidh for convenience, as he lives at Carn Aonghais.

Karis asked if the councilors should be invited to every meeting. Morris confirmed they should, as they are ex-officio members of the PCC.

It was agreed: Karis is to send agreed minutes of the meetings to Belle Anne Scott of the Executive Office at CNES and the councilors are to be invited to attend meetings.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 3rd December at 7pm.