**PORTREE & BRAES COMMUNITY TRUST**

**TRUSTEE’S BOARD MEETING**

**MINUTES**

 Wednesday 8th of January 2020, 7pm

Jans, Industrial Estate, Portree

1. Present: Jen Pearson (JP), Lorna Cormack (LC), Annemarie Campbell (AC), Graham Smith (GS), Ross Cowie (RC), Janice McGuire (J Mc), Irene Deplano (ID), Bill Edgar (BE), Chris James (CJ), Shona Cameron (SC), Fiona Thomson (FT).
2. Apologies: Donnie Nicolson, Calum Matheson, Duncan Brown, Janice Maguire, Roddie Maguire, Anne Brandie.
3. Minutes Approved: Lorna Cormack Seconded: Chris James
4. Treasurers Report: In the treasurer’s absence FT updated those present on the current balance of each group. BE requested that a printed copy be made available for trustees to review.
5. Fundraising: Anne Brandie has spoken to the Coop and arranged for the car wash fundraiser to be held on 4th July 2020. Lorna and Matt will take forward Curry Night arrangements.
6. FEI: An application has been submitted to the Scottish Land Fund for funding to purchase lands at the Lump and Bayfield. The KG5 application will be submitted separately once negotiations have been finalised with FEI estates.
7. Harbour: SC fed back on recent developments concerning the Icehouse. Funding has been secured from the architectural heritage fund for a feasibility study. The trust would be happy to provide a letter of support for this project if required.

FT fed back on the harbour development group meeting with Ian Blackford. Mr Blackford acknowledged that the harbour is not fit for purpose and has agreed to contact Certas on behalf of the group and add his voice to those who are raising awareness of this local issue. FT will stay in touch with Mr Blackford to follow up on actions.

1. Bayfield: A draft heads of terms has been issued. BE is concerned that there is no mention of the trust in the document. This need rectified. Group will engage solicitor and respond to HC.

BE is arranging for the trees to be felled at Bayfield in advance of the car park construction phase. A few trees have number tags - FT to confirm what these numbers are indicating and if a tree preservation order exists.

FT updated the group on the Sustrans funded bike shelter proposal. Location at Bayfield has been confirmed – by the notice board and benches. Bike railings will also be installed nearby the courthouse as part of this funded project.

It was highlighted that the new signage for campervans at Bayfield looks untidy. Can this be rectified? FT to follow up. FT to clarify if parking for East Bayfield will be chargeable.

1. Outdoor Activities Group: CJ secured £500 from the Housing Association for the woodland project. This needs to be spent before April. CJ also secured £7,500 from Awards for All. The first step is to carry out a tree and plant survey. Steven Bungard was recommended as someone who could carry out a plant survey.
2. Health Services: RC and NC provided an update on Health Services. The details of the option appraisal workshops and information meetings are being finalised – the meetings will be carried out in February and March. It’s imperative that communities are represented as this process will not be repeated. If you want to be involved get in touch with Sophie. FT to ask SI to prepare an information sheet which can be circulated. Discussion surrounding solutions to recruitment and retention ongoing with HIE. RC is proposing that north Skye trusts form a partnership to build accommodation. RC also working on a proposal for an exchange programme with Malawi re: rural healthcare. Ben Macpherson the minister for overseas development is interested.

FT - The applications for the Project Officer Year 2 post are being finalised. Some changes are being made to the budget. The communications budget is being increased to allow the printing of newsletters.

1. Events: LC fed back. Great feedback from both festive events; Hogmanay and Christmas. Approx. 1600 on the door for new year. FT – Thank you to the first aid volunteers and Lucky 2 b here.

The group are now developing plans for a VE [ Victory in Europe] Day celebration event in May 2020. This may involve for example, storytelling and image projections in local public spaces. More info to follow. SC suggested that care homes could be engaged.

BE – Ben Greer had approached the events group and offered to donate and maintain hanging baskets for the village if the trust could help coordinate. Normally this would be carried out by the community council, which is in obeyance, but Bill is confident this will be resurrected in March. Some concern over hanging baskets being vandalised - this will be considered carefully going forward. ID – Could the additional green bins in the square be moved?

1. Community Centre:

FT has secured quotes for a condition report for the community centre as agreed by working group (HC, Community Centre and PBCT). FT to take forward with community centre association committee.

1. Paths and Signs:

The first 200-300 meter of the track up Ben Tianavaig is requiring maintenance due to increased footfall. BE will discuss with Donald Kennedy, former HC Paths Officer and report back. On a recent visit one trustee counted 16 walkers, approx 2/3rds local.

BE has been in touch with Shona Mackinnon (teacher at the Gaelic Primary School) who is keen to work with children to clean out and tidy around the Mill Pond. Shona suggested other groups may also be available. Landowner permission would be required. Shona would be happy to arrange the meetings. Hugh MacDonald to be contacted first.

Suggestions for further clean up’s: path by the post office, Sluggans Woodland Park, grassed area opposite Bosville Terrace.

1. Men’s Shed: FT – the group have been investigating options for a temporary site for a Men’s Shed. The police house may be an option. FT to follow up. Tigh na Drochaid could be a suitable location for a bespoke building. Significant funding would be required.
2. Toilets: BE – is it worthwhile keeping the toilets open in the winter months? A cleaner has been employed and is doing a good job. If hours are reduced the trust may risk losing them. RC – recommended a donation pot is put in the Pier Hotel / Bar and the Chip Shop to raise extra funds.
3. AOCB: n/a
4. DONM: 5th March 2020.