**Portree and Braes Community Trust (SCIO)**

**Minutes of Trustee’s Board Meeting**

Wed 24th October 2018 7pm @ Jans

**Present:** Janice McGuire (JMc), Donnie Nicolson (DN), Dorothy Urquhart (DU), Ross Cowie (RC), Duncan Brown (DB), Fiona Thomson (Development Officer) (FT) Bill Edgar (BE) , Calum Matheson (CM), Graham Smith (GS)

**Apologies:** Chris James, Myra Macleod, Irene Deplano, Shona Cameron, Neil Campbell, Roddie MacHugh, Janice MacHugh.

**Approved: [ ]**

**Seconded: [ ]**

**Development Officer Report:** FT as been approached by Skye Muay Tai with a request for funding support. FT advised best fund to apply to and has offered to review application if required. (See below for further project updates.)

**Treasurer’s Report**: [ ] presented the treasurers report. PBCT’s current balance is [ ] [ ] has been raised in donations from toilets in October.

Still waiting for a receipt from [ ] for Fuel (Tobermory Trip) before funds can be released.

FT to issue [ ] with £11 from petty cash .

**FEI + FEI public consultation:** Date has been confirmed for FEI public consultation – Tuesday the 30th of October at 7pm. Faye Macleod and other consultants will be facilitating.

[ ] – a meeting has been set up to bring trust advisor Faye Macleod and Skye Gathering committee member Hugh MacDonald together to discuss the land purchase. Hugh has a strong knowledge of local land ownership and his expertise will be valuable.

**Harbour:** FT gave update on harbour group progress. A meeting was held with John Porteous of Wallace Stone Marine Consultants. John is putting FT in touch with Chris Fisher of Fisher Associates Maritime Transport consultants. Both firms have offered to work together to prepare a quote for the preparation of a harbour masterplan document. Looking at other successful harbour developments the preparation of this document has been a crucial early stage in the project.

**Activity Group:** There has been some litter on the red pitch recently. Whose responsibility is it to tidy this up? [ ] and [ ] to speak to council employee to inquire.

FT – a meeting was held with Atlas Arts [ ] . Discussed next steps for parks projects, approaches to partnership work and how to secure funding via arts funding avenues.

[ ] – the KG5 area is not secured yet. PBCT have a lease on the woodland area west of Bayfield. Progress could be made with a park development here while we wait for the trust to secure land at KG5 and work with stakeholders to create a masterplan.

**Bayfield / Portree Parking Options Appraisal:** [ ] gave an update on progress with parking study and discussions with Highland Council re: a car parking development at Bayfield. In order to be eligible for funding PBCT need to own and control land but can employ Highland council to manage services. Costs have been estimates so far. A survey is required to outline actual costs of land reclamation work.

FT has had a valuation carried out on the Tennis and squash court site. This was significantly less than expected. Trustees advised to discuss valuation further with surveyor and have another valuation carried out if required. [ ]The sale of the tennis and squash court site is a pivotal phase in the trusts plans to provide more car parking in Portree and generate income for the trust.

[ ] – re: masterplan – sub groups should be communicating with each other and providing updates more regularly. This will help all groups stay up to speed with plans when attending external meetings.

**Health Services:** [ ] gave an update on health services. Maggie Cunningham has replaced David Noble as independent facilitator. David Noble has had to stand down due to ill health. Maggie is a major player in media as recent Chair of BBC Alba. Maggie is currently chief executive of Columba 1400 .

NHS Highland have agreed to reinstate beds at Potree Hospital but will need to secure staff first. [ ] – we should acknowledge that recruitment for health care staff is a problem across rural Britain and prepare for this being a challenge.

Applications have been submitted by PBCT to Dunvegan Community Trust, Edinbane Comminity Company and Struan Community Trust for funds to employ a Project Officer to support community representatives working on the Sir Lewis Ritchie Implementation Project. Dunvegan and Edinbane have invited FT and [ ] to deliver a presentation on the application before they consider funding the post.

**Ross’s Ramble / Paths Subgroup:** FT and [ ] are setting up a meeting with Donald Kennedy, Paths Officer to discuss proposals for spending funds generated by walk. [ ] will then look to set up a sub group.

**Braes Hall :** No further progress. FT suggested setting up a meeting with members of braes hall and the highland council to start a more joined up conversation.

**Fundraising :** [ ] will find out who made the notice boards in the village with a view to having more ordered.

[ ] will follow up on booking more advertising for the inside on Pier Toilets.

[ ] can speak to The Tongaldale hotel re: holding another curry night / burns night fundraising evening at the end of February .

**Abattoir :** FT – a meeting was held to discuss how PBCT would respond to request for support for the micro Abattoir. All in agreement that the trust should not be used as a vehicle to oppose the project however due to local petition, could not actively support it. FT sent response acknowledging hard work of community group so far and stated that project would have full support of PBCT should different location be considered.

**Community Centre :** FT – the community centre committee presented their proposal to members at the recent local ward business meeting. This included design proposals and an outline plan for taking forward a feasibility study and securing funding. Willie Mackinnon has been asked to set up a meeting for all stakeholders, including PBCT to discuss proposal.

**AOCB :** RC - a network of “Top-up Taps” are being fitted by Scottish Water in Scottish towns over the next two years. RC has asked FT to enquire how Portree could be included in this scheme.

Trustees agreed that there is still some confusion locally re: the role of the trust and how this differs to the community council and the local council. [ ] a diagram that could be shared online / uploaded to the website might help people distinguish between each organisation.

Trustee recruitment – all agreed that an expression of interest / application / enquiry form would be issued to all those interested in becoming a volunteer / trustee. This will help board understand level and area of interest.

**DONM: Wednesday 28th November at 7pm @ Jans**