

ASSYNT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Minute of Board Meeting held in The Lochinver Mission Meeting Room on 28 June 2017 at 7.30 pm.

Present:

Nigel Goldie (Chair)
Madeline Macphail
Marianne Hutchison
Trish Bangor-Jones

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Boyd Alexander, Willie Jack and Stuart Gudgeon.

The Board **NOTED** the resignation emails from John Venters and Brendan O'Hanrahan.

2 Minutes of Meeting 31 May 2017

The minutes of 31 May 2017 were **AGREED**.

3 Matters Arising

Various subjects were discussed including:

- the Board **NOTED** the latest financial position;
- the impact of the NC500 on Assynt and the need for improved and additional infrastructure. It was **AGREED** that Madeline Macphail would continue to discuss with the Lochinver Harbour Master the possible siting of a waste disposal point for motorhomes. It was recognised that Discover Assynt had a pivotal role to play in the shaping the future of tourism in Assynt;
- the need to remove the fish tanks from the Marine Room. It was **AGREED** that Boyd Alexander contact Noel Hawkin to organise the collection of the tanks asap. It was **NOTED** that David Hutchison would be willing to take one of the fish tanks;
- the need to buy stock for the remainder of the season. The Board debated what would be an appropriate amount to spend on stock;
- with regard to the Lochinver Mission website it was **AGREED** that no contact would be made with the owner of the site. It was **AGREED** to commission a new website for the ACA;
- the deadline had passed for the Local Energy Initiative; and
- as landlords, it was imperative to establish a Building Maintenance Fund.

4 Tourism and Related Issues

Due to exceptional circumstances Willie Jack was unable to attend the meeting, and the Board AGREED to postpone Items 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, and 4.4. However, Item 4.5 would be discussed.

4.5 The Chair spoke to his paper which had been circulated on the application for funding support for mentoring from GALE. Thereafter, the Board:

- discussed the need for two SWOT workshops prior to the start of the mentoring process. In this regard, the Chair **AGREED** to collate diaries with Willie Jack, with a view to a first meeting in July and a second in August; and
- the Board **AGREED** to proceed with an application for funding from the Community Learning Exchange.

5 Culag Park and Fencing

Items 5.1 and 5.2 were taken together.

Marianne Hutchison reported that two contractors had indicated that they would be prepared to quote for the fencing of Culag Park. For the tendering to progress it was necessary to know the exact area to be fenced. With regard to an email sent to local councillors requesting suggestions for possible funding streams, it was **NOTED** that Councillor Morrison had suggested an application to the Ward Discretionary Budget and Councillor Currie had offered numerous potential funding streams. It was further **NOTED** that to date no reply had been received from Councillor Munro.

It was **AGREED** that it was important to have a meeting to discuss with stakeholders but also the meeting must be open to the community in general. It was vital that the views of the community and stakeholders be taken into account.

Thereafter it was **AGREED** that:

- Marianne Hutchison would check the availability of the Village Hall/Community Room for a public meeting on Thursday 13 July and 7.30 pm;
- Marianne Hutchison would arrange for posters to be displayed, and arrange for meeting details on social media;
- Nigel Goldie would write a few words for the Assynt News;
- Willie Jack would check out deeds prior to the 13 July meeting; and
- Trish Bangor-Jones would contact Registers of Scotland with a view to determine the ownership of Culag Park.

6 Affiliates

The Board fully acknowledged the need for urgency in informing all affiliate organisations that the Assynt Community Association was not able to act as an umbrella organisation or legal entity for other organisations in Assynt.

Thereafter it was **AGREED** that:

- Marianne Hutchison would contact Phil Jones for the list of all Assynt organisations;
- Trish Bangor-Jones would draft a letter for the chair to send to all organisations; and
- a copy of the letter, once approved by the Board, would be sent to the Assynt News.

7 Governance

- 7.1 The Chair clarified that at present it was not legal to use the name Assynt Community Development Trust. In considering possible future names it was suggested that development be replaced by initiative.
- 7.2 It was **AGREED** that the Chair would write to Board members to clarify attendance requirements at meetings
- 7.3 It was **AGREED** that the Chair would collate diaries with Willie Jack with regard to future meeting dates
- 7.4 It was **AGREED** that the date of the AGM would be no later than September on a date to be confirmed.
- 7.5 Due to the complex nature of proposed changes to the Memorandum and Articles it was **AGREED** that a meeting solely to address these issues was necessary. The need for professional advice was discussed.

8 Archive and next steps

During discussion, it was **AGREED** that the archive could be an important element of the Assynt visitor information facility in 2018.

It was **AGREED** that Willie Jack and Trish Bangor-Jones invite Malcolm Bangor-Jones to join them in considering the way forward for the Archive. It was further **AGREED** that Trish Bangor-Jones would bring a paper to the August meeting.

9 ACOB

There were no items under ACOB.