

Minutes Directors' Meeting 17/11/2024

Meeting opened: 17:20

Present: Linda, Ann, Andy, Noelle, Richard, Gabriel, Heather

Apologies: Gemma, Russell, Josie

Treasurer Report:

Current Account Balance: £ 2,118.60 **Reserve Account Balance:** £ 18,481.02
Interest: £19.82

Deposits:

Payments: £191.99 - Inverness Online – website
£2.80 – energy loan repayment

To be Paid:

£71 – Ullapool News – advertising for AGM, Midsummer Fete, Chicken Day

- Ian Knox will submit an account for financial report and then donate the money back. Better paper trail.
- Financial report was accepted by Companies House, but they have issued a late fine of £150. Ann has appealed this and we will know decision in 20 days. Simon has further investigated need for audit and found financial report *“must have either an independent examination carried out by a duly qualified person (e.g an FCA) or an audit by a registered auditor”*. Ian has said he is no longer a *“duly qualified person”* so we will have to find someone else for next year.
- **Heather** will contact MacKay & Co, accountants to see if they will take us on as a client.

Ongoing Business:

- **Hall Improvement/Maintenance** – work to be done
 - repair door frame on outside storage area
 - roof leaking again. - entrance porch, both upstairs rooms, porch storeroom and corridor storeroom. Situation needs further investigation/monitoring.
 - Painting of new eating area
 - Flooring of new eating area – We have accepted Stewarts Flooring quote of is £3,620 and he is trying to fit job in before Christmas Markets. *(Job done and is lovely)*.
 - Change of electric switch in new eating area
 - Kitchen wall has been refilled and now needs to be painted
 - Erection of notice board – **Russell** and **Ann** have put it up. The “key” to it is a small orange screwdriver that will hang on the coat hooks in the entrance porch.

- **Purchase of the Hall** – *This was still on going at the meeting but just after the meeting Ann was contacted and application for CAT is going before HC on 11th December and the decision will be made by 30th January. The valuation of the property is £115,000. Ann has had to prepare a lot more information about solar PV array and infrared heating to strengthen case.*
- **Heating, Lighting and Energy**
 - We switched to Octopus Energy for our electricity on 12th Sept Rate is 28.4p/unit, no standing charge fixed for 12 months but unfortunately they stuffed transfer up and the switch did not happen until this week. They have guaranteed that they will pay us for the final SSE bill from 1st September until 13th November when we receive the bill. *(Since the meeting there has been a lot of toing and froing about readings etc but Ann thinks an agreement has now been reached and SSE seem to have settled on a final bill)*
 - **Andy** will contact Colin MacDonald to see if he can recommend what is needed and quote for installation of infrared panels. *(Ann has had to investigate this for the additional information needed for HC asset transfer so we now have an idea of what we want and how much it will cost)*
- **Signage-** Community Hall sign at southern end of village posts have been replaced and we need to pay Helen for 2 deer posts.
- **Winter events at hall** – **Andy** has found a digital projector (£187) for movie nights and presentations when hall is hired. Discussion was held as to whether we needed a pull-down screen and where the projector would best be positioned. It was agreed to purchase the projector and try it a few different ways and then decide on final requirements and positioning. Concern was also raised about safe storage from theft.
- **Disability Access-** It was decided to get fine scalplings to make the path more suitable. **Andy**
- **Christmas Dinner** – 7th December starting at 6pm £5 per adult, U12 free
 - ELKCAL will provide soup & rolls for starters and we will ask everyone to bring a plate to share and BYO drinks. ELKCAL will provide some mulled wine/cider (left over from Festive Fayre)
 - Quiz – **Richard & Noelle**
 - Games – **Richard**
 - Soup – **Gabriel** **Andy** will ask Tessa if she will make bread rolls, **Ann** has butter pats
 - Milk for tea/coffee – **Heather**
 - Bookings – **Andy & Ann**
 - Tree, decorations - **Andy**
 - Setting Up – Craft group will set up tables, chairs etc on Thursday 5th. Committee will get there at 5pm to get ready on night

Other Business:

- **Old New Year Ceilidh** – 11th January, 7pm free
 - BYO food and drinks
 - Set up to be chairs around outside and a couple of tables
 - Music & dancing – **Russell** and **Gabriel** to coordinate musicians, guest appearances by children of the village. **Ann** will call any dances needed.
- **Planning for 2025 events**
 - **Midsummer Fete** -Maybe change the format and date. Make it earlier in the year and have a crofting/ rural theme with activities around this theme. Start planning early in the year.
 - **Chicken Day**

2024 Events

History Club – 27th November & 8th January – 2pm -4pm (changed to 6th at 11-1pm)

Christmas Markets - 29th & 30th November 4pm – 8pm, 10am – 3pm

Christmas party – 7th December, 6pm

Christmas Carol Service – 23rd December, 7pm (cancelled)

Old New Year Ceilidh – 11th January, 7pm

Yoga – 11th February 10am – 1pm

Meeting closed:

Next meeting: