

RAASAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of a meeting of the committee of Raasay Community Association held on Monday April 11th 2005 at 4 Inverarish Terrace, Raasay

Present

Roland Stiven (in the Chair)
Sadie McLeod
Caroline MacKechnie
Jill Westgarth
Apologies received from Geoff Langford

1. Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held on March 7th 2004 were signed and approved.

Roland to get signed copy of Memorandum and Articles from Companies House

2. Skye and Lochalsh Sports Council Subscription

Sadie reported she had received the annual subscription renewal, which now needed to be in the name of the new company. It was agreed to do this.

Sadie

3. Paperwork requirements

- (i) Further to the preceding minute, it was agreed to re-affirm the adoption of Highland Council's Child Protection policy, and all other policy statements previously approved by the former Raasay Village Hall Association.
- (ii) It was also agreed to write to all those with whom we had previously had any financial dealings, such as Highland Council (Insurance), rating, water and electricity. Caroline would provide Jill with a list of regular payees to enable this to be done.

Jill

4. Annual General Meeting and Membership drive

Jill now had the completed forms returned at, or after, the web-site launch. In addition, the 5 subscribing members (now the directors) needed to be added to the register which needs to be set up.

In connection with the membership forms, Caroline reported that a separate Associate Member form for those under 18 needed to be drawn up.

Jill to draw up form

It was agreed that the next big push to enrol new members would best be done after the results of the lottery bid could be made public.

The date for the AGM will be finalized at the next meeting, Jill reported that she would be away during May and thus not available for a meeting and associated preparations during this period.

5. Legal update

Sadie reported that she had met with Douglas Graham in Inverness. Together they had agreed the approach to be taken with HIE regarding the transfer of the land to the new company. The topographical surveyor was to be asked to redraw the plan at scale 1:250 instead of 1:500; in the meantime Douglas Graham would contact HIE again and would re-estimate his costs for this aspect of the work.

All: check with SALE re any contact

6. Big Lottery Fund (this embargoed until May 10th due to the General Election)

- Roland confirmed that we had been offered a grant of £201,000 on condition that the rest of the funding was raised. He had had a discussion with Jill who was concerned that the offer contained a deadline for completion of construction by March 2006. Not only was this incorrect as per the bid but it would also slip due to the various funding deadlines and the embargo had made it impossible to have a membership or funding push over the busy Easter period. The offer requires work on the project to commence within 6 months, this is probably achievable.
- Ronnie MacPherson, the local officer, needed to be kept in touch with developments. It was agreed to defer raising the issue of the completion deadline until after the meeting with SALE on April 14th.
- It was agreed that we need to draft a Press Release for May 10th, and to release the news locally by an update to be delivered door to door (including a slightly amended version for second home-owners). This should refer to the pressure now being on us to raise the rest of the funds.

7. Web -site

The web-site had been launched very successfully on Easter Saturday, March 26th. A further invoice was awaited from Donna.

Roland to chase

8. New bank account

This is being processed by Caroline.

9. Energy Feasibility Study

It was agreed to ask for the report to be fully checked for typographical errors prior to being finalized. For the time being, this should not be put on the web-site as it contained the basis for further capital funding bids.

10. Children in Need

Roland reported that he had submitted a bid for £35,000 funding in time for the March 31st deadline.

11. Meeting April 14th with SALE

It was agreed to try and seek the maximum possible amount from SALE in view of the need to get the project under way as soon as possible. This could also assist them in reducing the cost of their own project at Raasay House. If this approach did not succeed, we should try for a smaller amount but ask for firm support for a European funding bid to be made by September.

12. Date of next meeting

It was agreed to hold a further meeting on Tuesday April 26th at 8.15pm, at which the SALE meeting should be reviewed and a date set for the AGM.

As there was no further business, the meeting closed at 10.00 pm.