

RAASAY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of a meeting of the committee of Raasay Community Association held on Friday June 16, 2006, in the library of Raasay House

Present

Roland Stiven (in the chair) (RS)
Sadie McLeod (SM)
Caroline McKechnie (CM)
Jill Westgarth (JW)

Apologies were received from Geoff Langford and Davie Carslaw

1. Minutes

The minutes of the last two meetings, held on February 14th and April 4th 2006, were signed by RS as a correct record.

2. Update on matters contained in those minutes

From February 14th

- (a) The site boundaries had now been agreed. Written confirmation and the deeds themselves were now awaited.
- (b) The Land Fund had refunded part of our legal costs in relation to the land as previously agreed.
- (c) About a dozen applications to various trusts had been made; so far, 5 applications had been rejected. The remainder were still outstanding.
- (d) RS and JW had dealt with the CRW issue in March and early April. Interviews had been held and Rosie Somerville had been appointed to the post. She had started work on May 3rd 2006.
- (e) It was agreed that, if the committee were offered any items for use in the new hall, these should be declined at this stage until space, finishes etc. were known.
- (f) Hugh Mackay had dug the test boreholes.
- (g) The heat recovery system had been amended as there was insufficient space within the roof. Waste heat would now be pumped back into the heat pump. This would add about £5,000 to the total cost, which was subject to 50% grant (to be confirmed).
- (h) The landscaping plan had been drafted by RS and SM and completed by Dualchas. It had been sent to SALE to form part of the agreement relating to the site.
- (i) The website had now been re-built. RS was investigating the possibility of easy access software for the Working Group, which might possibly be open for LEADER Plus funding.
- (j) The community energy conference had been attended and a report was on the website.

From April 4th

- (k) RS had written to Robert Muir, Hamish Fraser and Simon Fraser as agreed. No-one was now wanting an adopted road and the savings to be made were small so no further action need be taken on this matter.
- (l) RS has informed SALE and Highland Council of the increased costs by email.

(m) RS had posted on the village notice board (for one month) an invitation to local suppliers and providers of accommodation, building services etc., wishing for their information to be sent out with the tender documents. The names of those who had responded had been passed on to Dualchas.

3. Administrative matters

(a) Auditors

CM referred to the need for professional auditors for the two years covered by the building work. She had approached a local firm who had estimated a possible £500 per year. We would make a decision on this later in the year.

(b) T in the Park

SM reported that she had approached Val Corey and a small team who would do some baking for the event and organize the stalls and other attractions for the day. It was agreed that, if the weather was poor, tea and baking could be transferred to the Day Care Centre or the hall in the West Wing. However, it would be too difficult to re-arrange the other items so these would be cancelled in the event of bad weather. Because of the pressure of other work, the event should be kept as simple as possible. JW said it was essential to make sure that there were enough younger men to help with moving chairs etc, and setting out stalls, on the morning of the event.

It was agreed that, to work round other known events, the date should be **Saturday July 22nd**.

SM also referred to the MacLeod parliament visit to be held on Wednesday August 2nd. A small group including Margaret Moodie was co-ordinating suggestions for refreshments to be available, including home baking and sandwiches. The costs for this event would be reimbursed.

(c) Use of the West wing: - Raasay Outdoor Centre

It had not yet been possible to arrange the meeting with ROC. Invoices sent out by CM for the year 2005/06 had not yet been paid, and yet ROC had requested use of the whole building for the week beginning June 24th. There was a considerable shortfall between the rental income for the building during 2005/06 and the expenditure incurred.

After discussion, it was agreed to go ahead with the June 24th letting on condition that the outstanding invoices were paid before that date, and that a meeting could be arranged as soon as possible after then

(d) Annual General Meeting

JW reminded the meeting that the AGM needed to be held by mid-September. Due to other commitments, she would prefer if possible to hold the AGM in late-August, after the schools had gone back. This was agreed, and JW would email potential dates around the directors so that a date could be chosen.

4. Hall Building Project.

- RS submitted a first report from Rosie Summerville (Community Resource Worker) setting out the work she had done during the past month. She had sent in an invoice for 35 hours' work.
- It was agreed to search the village hall website recently advised, to see if there was a model spreadsheet that could be used for scheduling the building costs and income.
- Hugh Mackay had sent in a tender for the excavation work; there was to be a meeting on Monday (June 19th) to go through the contract.
- Our liability to the architects to date was £58,000. Watermans were not willing to revise the specification any further so some of Lara's potential savings may not now be realized.
- Lara had said that it is possible to instruct the builder to propose a structural plan, backed by a qualified engineer, for achieving the design specifications.
- We can contract Peter O'Donnell in regard to the supervision of the excavation work (despite the following paragraph).
- **RCA will contact SALE/Highland Council** to ask them if:
 - (i) they will underwrite our current liabilities;
 - (ii) in the longer term, they need to be aware that we may not be able to achieve the projected savings, and that the estimated prices may not be achievable.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 3.50 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....