**Acharacle Community Company**

**Minutes of meeting**

**11th May 2017**

**Those present**: Marie MacDonald (called in briefly) / Jimmy Gillies / Lynne Marshall / Rodney George /Sharon Cameron / Becky Dacre (mins)

**1 Apologies** Jemma Brett

**2 Directors discussion** Marie-Luise agreed to be chair, but as she is expecting a baby soon may not be available for a while. Lynne Marshall agreed to be interim chair while Marie-Luise is off on maternity duties.

**3 Treasurers report**  Liz Connell was appointed as treasurer in April following discussions by the previous directors. For various reasons, including the fact that she will be starting a full time job on the 16th May and therefore won’t be able to do banking or phone calls during the day, the directors decided that it would be best for her to not be treasurer. BD to speak to her and let her know.

Bank balances reported by BD: Centre account - £69,410

Main account - £2,550 (this includes annual payment of £500 from HSCHT for bungalow and DD now running from David John for tearoom rent)

Project account - £3,789 (includes cost of painting the tearoom building £900 which will be repaid jointly by Na’vi and Heather M. Heating paid for).

**4 Minutes from last meeting**  approved.

**5 Lesley’s report**

LM reported that JG had noticed the driver’s side rear door hinge of the reuse van was broken and also the rear light cover broken on the passenger side. It has been booked into Loch Shiel garage for repair when parts are in stock.

LM cannot reach opening windows in the glass office, so requested that the small window above the heater be fixed. She is to ask John MacMaster to look at it.

LM reported that David John has gone to Glasgow to buy new freezer as one of the upright freezers in the back kitchen stopped working. Directors noted that he should have sought approval for expenditure first, but as it was an emergency and if he doesn’t buy a very expensive model then ACC will pay for the purchase as freezers/fridges belong to ACC.

LM reported that a user had left the room they used in a mess – She has notes on door about leaving rooms tidy.

**Public/members section**

**6 Tearoom**

BD ran through list of matters connected to tearoom:

Jim Maclean (Plumber & heating engineer) has quoted £530 for providing a new gas regulator/ providing new pipework to cooker and outside building / chains to rear of cooker / certificate. Directors agreed that this was a reasonable price and that he should be asked to go ahead. BD said that DJ is willing to dig out trench for pipework which may reduce the total. He has already said he will provide a flagstone platform and post for the bottles and regulator, so Jim’s quote does not include for this.

We had another really successful volunteer work day at the tearoom when volunteers managed to paint the tearoom end of the building and started the cladding round the boiler at the back, with a view to making this into a store room suitable for a freezer. BD has asked Charlie Maclean to put in a socket in this lean to (Also to mend socket in tearoom kitchen and find out split of electricity supplies in building). 2 of the volunteers, Barry and Sue, offered to finish painting the rear of the building in their own time.

Roof repairs. It was agreed at the meeting that Andy Gow be asked to provide a quote for the roof as others have not been forthcoming. BD to sort.

The interpretive panels that were put up by the Forestry Commission several years ago (connected with Sunart Oakwoods) at the front of the tearoom building were taken down sometime last year as the framework rotted away. BD has got a quote from All Round Signs in Fort William to fix aluminium strips to the panels which can then be remounted on the existing posts which are sound. The quote is £212.40 for the 3 panels. BD has dropped the panels off at ARS already. The directors agreed that the price was acceptable. FCS have offered labour to help re-erect the signs. They cannot provide funding for anything else though.

DJ is to buy a piece of MDF to complete the community noticeboard at the front of the building.

**7 Electricity contracts**

The quotes for electricity contracts for tearoom building and the centre were looked at by the directors. They agreed that the 12 month contract with SSE provided the best value. This will start in July 2017. BD to tell Citrus Energy who manage the bulk buying scheme for ACC (through DTAS). Steven Marshall commented that the landlord has a duty to provide an efficient heating system. As the lease is coming to an end in December, it may not be worth pursuing. SM said she may ask her mum who works for Highland Council.

Saving the Centre – the lease and SLA come to an end in December and Rory Dutton from DTAS has still not contacted us with any help. Steve suggested contacting their chief executive to make things happen. BD to chase up on Monday.

If DTAS not forthcoming, BD suggested asking James Hilder to help as he has said he could give a day of his time to help on this matter.

Lesley showed list of what’s happening in centre.

Chair yoga – stopping soon as it is really a winter activity. Paying session will then happen next year so other than lunch club can take part.

Lynne/Lesley said they will help to start a working group for the centre. (LM will ask Helen MacGillivray if she can help as she has expertise in fund finding etc)

**8 Calor Rural Community Fund** – The deadline with this funding is too close to be able to come up with anything. Need to concentrate on the centre.

BD passed round a communication from SCVO (Community Jobs)It was thought to be a good idea but have to have job description by next Friday, so again too short notice.

**9 De tha dol?** – We sell the De Tha Dol? at the centre and the tearoom. Need to promote where it is sold. LM suggested MAB could take a few out to those who cannot travel.

Articles to put into the next edition of the De Tha Dol:

Work party for saving the centre – asking for volunteers to help.

Photos of last work party at tearoom.

Discussion about a summer event up at the Wood School. Possible people to ask - John Dye/Alison Durbin/Clare Holohan (herb walk)

**10 Cashplus card**

BD to explore options of getting a free card as the current one costs £4.95 a month. Cashplus do one called Cashplus Gold which is free. BD to look into it. Jimmy to have his name on the card.

Compost bins are available from LEG with their current project (both wooden and plastic)

**AOB** – BD asked if Andrew can cut the grass outside the centre for £20 a time. Agreed.

Dates of future meetings:

8th June

13th July

Aug 10th

Sept 14th

Oct 12th