**Acharacle Community Company**

**Minutes of meeting**

**10th August 2017**

**Those present**: Jimmy Gillies / Jemma Claire (via Skype) / Rodney George /Becky Dacre (mins)

**1 Apologies** Marie MacDonald /Sharon Cameron

**3 Treasurers report**

Lesley not present so bank balances were read out by BD.

 Balances at the end of July 2017:

 Main Account - £3391.41

 Centre account - £64,331.86

 Change of bank signatories still not complete. Bank has not been in touch although forms were sent in 3rd July. BD to ask Pauline if she could sort as she is still a signatory and can speak to the bank.

**4 Minutes from the last meeting**

Minutes from July approved JC/JG

**Members arrived (Peter Stace/Andrew Green/Fiona Ogg/Heather Findlay/David John Cameron/Joanne Matheson)**

**6 Moidart Access Network**

BD explained that the mast that is being erected at Drynie Hill is now to be taller than originally planned which means there will be no need for a second mast. There may also be scope for a transmitter at the Tearoom which may be able to help the village get faster speeds.

**7 Centre steering group/survey progress**

The survey is live and will finish online on 9th September. Paper copies have also been distributed by posties and are at the centre to be filled in by hand. It was suggested that user groups of the centre be asked to fill in forms too and be asked to come along to the next meeting. JM handed over the voucher for a free meal for 2 kindly donated as a prize from the Loch Shiel Hotel, for completed surveys.

**8 Newsletter**

The newsletter went out with an email to members and on the website. It was suggested that the newsletter is posted on the noticeboard outside the Tearoom and to put it on Acharacle Community Group page on Facebook too.

 For the De Tha Dol? this month – notification of the next Market on Sept 7th.

 Articles extracted from the newsletter.

 About the survey for the centre.

**9 Events at Sgoil na Coille**

Discussed the next one. To get ideas from Eilidh Ann about what she already has planned. JC knows a story teller and will send details to BD. Also possibly ask Angus Peter. Possible activities include wood turning / herbal walks with Clare Holohan. BD to talk to Eilidh Ann.

**10 Car charging point at the Tearoom**

Discussed possible problems with using Tearoom car park – takes up one parking space which are already at a premium. JM said she had a contact for possible funding as she had started to look into it earlier this year. She will forward these to BD. Thought that Loch Shiel Hotel may be a better location.

**11 AOB**

A AG commented that the cost of re-erecting the signs at the Tearoom was far too expensive and could have been done more cheaply. It was pointed out that ACC used a local firm rather than a national one and it had to be somewhere the signs could be transported to and from easily. Actual work putting the signs up was done by Barry and Sue who have done a wonderful job repainting the rear of the Tearoom building in their own time. The signs are complete now and maybe next time ACC should get competitive quotes.

B AG queried the cost of replacing the gas regulator (£530) at the Tearoom. AG stated the cost of some work by a Gas Safe Engineer that he had done which was much cheaper comparatively. ACC initially thought the quote was expensive but compared it with other work done in the locality and decided it was acceptable. Also, the contractor had just completed other work at the Tearoom so it was known he could do the work soon and to a good standard. AG was asked to get his contractor to give an example quote for replacing a gas regulator to see what he would have charged. Also, will be able to add his contractor to list for future quotes when needed.

 BD stated that someone from Resource Efficient Scotland was coming to the centre to look at ways of reducing energy costs and improving efficiency in the building.

C AG criticised the directors’ way of operating and stated that until they had formally had directors training, they should not make any decisions. This was agreed on after a long discussion.

 He stated that director training had been offered by VAL but not taken up. This was not the case as the previous directors had done the training earlier this year and the new ones had not had a chance to organise a fresh session. Agreed that there should be procedures in place to initiate training when new directors are appointed. BD to contact Flora McKee from VAL to arrange.

**The meeting closed at 9.40pm**

**NEXT MEETING: 14th September**