CCDC Board Meeting

Wednesday 17th July 2024

Public Minutes

Attendance: Dannie Onn (DO), Callum Hay (CH), Darragh Keenaghan (DK), Will Young (WY), Linsay Chalmers (LC), Helen Mann (HM), Andrew Abrahams (AA)

Apologies: Lesley MacInnes (LM), Willie Joll (WJ), Carrie Seymour (CS), Lizzie Keenaghan (LK)

Minutes of the Last Meeting and matters arising:

Minutes of last meeting approved.

Declarations of Interest:

HM – croft, housing, Port Mor track

Monthly Bulletin:

Circulated prior to the meeting. DO has introduced a new system to streamline the process and to keep the community better informed. The Board briefing will become the Monthly Bulletin for circulation after the meeting once the board is happy with the content and that we comply with data protection regulations. This new approach may lead to some duplication with reports elsewhere on the agenda but will be more efficient overall.

The Board is happy for this edition to be published.

One update to the bulletin is that work has now started at Port Mor.

Scalasaig Report:

Circulated prior to the meeting. There is an issue with the i-mist system and the plumbing that needs to be addressed and the sign-off by Building Control has not been scheduled in time. Therefore, TSL have delayed the handover until late August. This might cause further hardship and cost for the new tenants and owners. Following pressure from us via Douglas Whyte and with the support of Cllr MacFadzean, A&B Building Control are now hoping to inspect on 1 August. This could bring handover closer.

CCDC are to order bins for the rented housing and check whether we have a responsibility for MOWI or sale property bins.

Advise from LM - Allocations part of the report should be in private and not public – this has been moved to the private also names to be taken out of all public documents including the briefing about to be published.

Press release – has been agreed with CHT and will go ahead. CS and DO to be the first and second point of contacts.

Housing Management Report:

HM reported that everything is up to date and ready to go – we are just awaiting the date of handover. DO thanked HM for all her work.

Tourism Report:

Circulated prior to the meeting. Should the Board be involved in Tourism? DO spoke about CCDC's objectives and the ambitions to rebalance the demography and the economy in support of a sustainable community here. The board felt that tourism should not be something that CCDC get involved in, as we have limited capacity for new projects, and it does not meet the prime objectives. We are delivering tourism projects (campsite and moorings) and should be alert to new opportunities that strengthen the community. The board recognises that economic security through tourism is something that the island relies on. A better understanding based on statistics and data showing the tourist economic contribution could be reached through our profiling project. The board conclude that there should be no direct action other than review the questionnaire for the island profile and to review again in 6 months' time. DO/ CH will share the report and our position with the CCC and report back to the board at a future meeting.

Net Zero Report:

Circulated prior to the meeting. CCDC have been directly approached and asked if we would like to take part in the next phase. CH set out some background. A key consideration is that we will be obliged to work to wards a net zero plan if we are to attract mainstream funding in the future

The board considered the advantages and the potential resource implications. We agreed that CCC and CCDC should work together if we are accepted for funding for the next phase. This report can be shared with them asap. DK pointed out that adaptation to climate change can also be considered and that the plans had been very successful on other islands. There would be a short timescale as any funding from SG would need to be spent before the end of March 2025. One option could be to employ someone locally, or off island, which could be a student or graduate placement. The programme might provide some funding which we could seek to match elsewhere. CH/ DK 2022

report had been prepared using Mike Berners-Lee's expertise and he could be asked if he would help further.

The board agrees in principle to engage with the CCC, sharing this report, to agree to take part if offered, and that we must involve the community at the first stage.

Website and Social Media:

As part of the website project, Sarah Hobhouse (SH) is proposing we match social media feeds to the website –e.g. instragram and facebook. She suggests 'Colonsay Matters' as the name for these. SH is happy to continue managing the website and social media feeds if the board agrees.

The board discussed the merits and issues with social media. Concerns were raised about unhelpful or unpleasant posts; how to control or moderate posts; the time and commitment involved; and the need for such exposure. We are not selling anything but raising awareness of our work and that of our funders would be valuable. We should not rely solely on social media for communications because many islanders do not use it.

If we go ahead, LC has experience of this with CLS and would be happy to mentor those with access. CLS operate one platform that then feeds into more than one social media feed, which might make updating easier.

It is agreed that a director and one or two members of staff, have access to these feeds if possible. The board is grateful for all the work SH has done and in principle agrees. However, the board does not fully understand how this will all work and be managed. CH and DO to take this forward with SH and report back to the board.

Play Park:

WJ has discussed the failure of the play equipment, despite still being within warranty. William Joll (WJ) has met with Tanya Wren to discuss. CCDC were the conduit to installing the play park equipment and may have a role in going back to the supplier under warranty and in raising funds if replacement equipment is needed. However, the board thinks that we do not currently have the resources to take a role in managing the playpark.

AOCB:

Jenni Minto has had to cancel her meeting this week due to illness – a new date to be arranged.

DONM:

Thursday 29th August 2024 at 7pm.