



Glenmoriston Millennium Hall Community Association

A charity registered in Scotland (SCOS1089) constituted as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO)

Minutes of Meeting 23rd April 2024

1. **Present:** Carol Pritchard (Chair); Stella Barter; Jackie Buckley; Thomas Dobner; Rachel Hayes; Lesley Hill; Catherine Thomson; Lynne West; Hilary Wilson.

Also in attendance: Derek Hart. Item 16: Matt Curley and Kelvin Hill

Absent: Steven Gray

2. **Minutes** of meeting on 19th February. These were accepted as a true record.

3. **Matters arising** were:

a) Hall displays. Lesley has put up a few photos, reflecting current activities in the hall and she has purchased a number of triple frames for 5x7 photos. Groups would be chased to provide further photos.

b). Energy: Progress on three areas linked to energy usage and source in the Hall was described

(i) The feasibility study into renewables as alternative sources of power (hydro, air source, wind, solar), which had received a £4725 award, has to be completed by the end of the year. The shortfall to meet the actual cost, c. £1750, could be met from the Hall funds or GIG. This would be decided once the cost to the GMHCA of the septic tank replacement was known, alongside other potential spends.

(ii) A 'Resilience' meeting had taken place convened by FAGCC, concerning the role community halls could play in a local emergency. SSEN and Highland Council had attended. There was discussion about generators, but no financial support from H.C. or SSEN was offered.

(iii) Kelvin has sent off a Business Energy Scotland application to look into current measures possible to reduce the Hall's energy consumption. A 75% grant could be made for measures outlined in the BES survey.

4. **Finance report.** Thomas reported that the final accounts audit is complete. Designated funds are: Community Tuesdays remaining funds are £8523 (£3600 of which is to be kept towards next season); Silver Surfers remaining funds are £3244; Heritage group has £1375; Children's Committee still to be ratified, but £100 from FAGCC for Christmas party will be returned; £368 in the Out of School Kids Club; £4725 Feasibility study. The £100 unused for Children's party is still to be clarified with FAGCC. The GMHCA's non-designated funds are £52,256. It was agreed the c/f from previous year's Community Tuesdays would be used towards the replacement of the kitchen cooker with a commercial oven.

5. **Assets and Resources.** The Fire alarms have been checked, an oil order received and paid for. A quotation of £6300 inc. VAT has been received from Munro for sanding and relacquering the floor. It was agreed Jackie would seek a second quotation. Following this the work would go on a list of potential spend, once the septic tank costs are resolved..

6. **Silver Surfers.** A Jaggy Thistle Meal is booked for 24th April. A trip to Cawdor Castle was agreed for Tuesday 25th June, subject to Lesley receiving confirmation from the Castle and Tavern. Other planned events are a meal at Glenmoriston Arms Hotel and a visit to the RNLI Lifeboat station.

7. **SMART TV.** The new T.V. and soundbar have been installed. Lynne will trial their use at the Quiz on April 27th. It was agreed that an open community session would be arranged by Lynne to let people see it and suggest uses. This might involve a Line Dancing session and others. It was stressed that the T.V. cannot be used for Terrestrial TV viewing, including i-player etc, as the Hall has an entertainment licence, but not a T.V. licence.

8. **Heritage Group.** The last session had been the film "Loch Ness: they created a monster". St. Columba's Well has had a "deep clean" by Clare, Lesley, Kelvin, Carol and Derek in preparation for the Channel 4 filming. Next season's events may include World War 2, Eels, Nature Scot, Antarctica. An application for a 3 year post of Heritage and Gaelic Development Officer to work in Glenmoriston, Fort Augustus and Trees for Life is being progressed. A suggestion was made that a chain-saw carving on the stump at Columba's Well would be an asset to the village and Ian Chalmers could be approached, subject to funding being available.

9. **Events.** The committee has not organised any recent events in the hall, because of the septic tank problem. It is hoped a Halloween party, Hogmanay gathering and Budapest Orchestra in September will be able to go ahead in the Hall. Meanwhile the Events group will meet to plan a summer barbecue and games on the recreation field.

10. **Storage.** It was agreed storage of the Give and Take Larder products in the hall's storage cupboard was not appropriate, and the Community shop is struggling for space. As a temporary measure, if kept in boxes there is room to store tins/bottles under the stage. Anything that might attract pests should not be stored there. A lock would be put on the bench beside the larder for storage. Kelvin would look into either receiving less or collecting more frequently. It was agreed that storage is in short supply. The Bowls Club would be asked if they could remove their old mat in the store room. If funds allow it was agreed a waterproof external store would be helpful.

11. **Skip.** Thomas, Derek, Matt and Kelvin had removed what were thought to be prohibited items. FAGCC have been asked to clarify with Bowmans what can and cannot be put in. This would be put on the email to residents and on a laminated notice on the skip, in the hope that problems would not recur. GIG will reimburse Thomas for the Highland Council uplift.

12. **3Glens update.** Carol referred to the new Handyman volunteer service and to the bi-monthly Soup and Sandwiches in Fort Augustus.

13. Correspondence

a) Strathclyde Uni. Canoe club have asked to use the hall for sleeping. Agreed this could not be accommodated while septic tank awaits repair. They could be directed to Hub and TfL.

b) Nick Wright has been commissioned to produce the FAGCCouncil's Place Plan and FAGCCCompany's 5 year plan. It is important our community feeds in our priorities and concerns, as future Highland Council decisions and wind farm funding will be led by the plans. It was agreed an Open Meeting should be convened on a Saturday not used by Craft Club.

c) Highland Broadband had leafleted many homes in Invermoriston, suggesting improvements in broadband speeds. It was suggested they be invited to the same open meeting.

14. **Septic tank** . Relating to funds, Carol reported that GMHCA is still holding £11,000 for toilet upgrades, and there is a draw down of funds outstanding of £14,500 from Beinneun. We do not have a quotation for the replacement yet, but once we have, it will be forwarded to Community Foundation Scotland, who have been given a ball park figure of £50,000 and who may be able to assist with funds.

Procedure: It was agreed a further letter to our former contractors would be sent seeking liability or assistance with re-instatement. It was also agreed Hi -Serve and other companies would be approached for estimates for a new tank installation. The septic tank group advised there was no need seek a new design or soak away.

Delegation : The board agreed to delegate decisions on future action to the septic tank sub group, with follow up Board approval.

15. Next meeting Tuesday 11th June at 2.30p.m.