



Glenmoriston Millennium Hall Community Association

A charity registered in Scotland (SC051089) constituted as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO)

Minutes of Meeting 6th August 2024

1. **Present:** Carol Pritchard (Chair); Jackie Buckley; Thomas Dobner; Rachel Hayes; Catherine Thomson (from 7.50pm); Lynne West.

Apologies: Stella Barter, Hilary Wilson

Absent: Steven Gray

2. **Agenda Item 9. BES study**

Kelvin attended to summarise the Bunes Energy Scotland report, which recommended energy savings to be made if we installed insulation, replaced halogen with LED bulbs and installed a heating control system. It was agreed that Kelvin should follow up and get quotations for the work. A 75% grant is available as well as an interest-free loan from B.E.S.

It was also agreed that the inclusion of a battery back up would be requested for inclusion in the report, if this is eligible. Also it was agreed that when the toilet area taps are replaced, only cold water would be made available.

3. **Minutes** of meeting on 13th June. These were accepted as a true record.
4. **Matters arising** were:

a) Hall displays. Lynne would contact Lesley to get the photos she had been sent. Lynne, Jackie and Rachel would take over chasing for more recent photos from current groups. It was confirmed that frames have already been purchased and that the old display recording the re-building of the hall would be moved to the foyer.

b) Commercial Cooker Upgrade. Stella, Hilary and Jean would be asked to progress this as a matter of urgency, with professional advice. Carol had visited Invergarry and will provide them feedback.

c). Catherine had spoken to Cherry about the removal of the old bowls mat and roller, but she felt it should be kept in case it was needed in future. A compromise was suggested, that a temporary loan to another venue could be offered.

e) Give and Take larder. Thomas has rebalanced the shed and now both doors close, it was not felt a replacement was needed at present.

4. **Finance report.** Thomas reported that general funds are currently £58,193 with £11,354 set aside for toilets upgrade. Designated/restricted funds: Community Tuesdays remaining funds are £8,523 (£3,600 of which is to be kept towards next season, with some expenditure on the community barbecue and the remainder for cooker upgrade); Silver Surfers remaining funds are £2,443; Heritage group has £1,375; £321 in the Out of School Kids Club). No funds had yet been received for

the Heritage and Gaelic post, and the balance of approx. £3000 for the renewables report will be due on receipt of the report.

It was agreed this was a good time to repaint the toilets before re-opening and Rachel would ask Louisa to consider painting a mural. Jackie said paint may be obtainable from the New Start paint store. The toilets refurbishment will be referred to Assets and Resources committee.

5. Board Membership

- a) It was unanimously agreed we would co-opt Barbara McLeod to the Board. She is fairly new to the Glen and will bring new ideas as well as having current first hand knowledge of helping to bring up a youngster in the village.
- b) The constitution was clear that after 3 unexplained absences, Board members should be removed. It was therefore agreed that a letter, with explanation and thanks, should be sent to the Board member to whom this applied. If time and circumstances changed, he would be welcome to stand in future.

6. Silver Surfers.

The trip to Cawdor Castle in June had been well attended and the following meal at the Cawdor Castle had been a true success. An Autumn visit to Fort George with a return to Cawdor Tavern is being considered. In May a Waverley steam ship would be popular and will be investigated. It had been agreed the January "Christmas" lunch was a great success and Glen Rowan would be asked again, with a similar format.

7. Heritage Group.

After the summer recess it is hoped the autumn events will be a Bat Walk (Rachel will investigate if TfL's expert would run this and when would be the best time) and an Eels talk by Chris Daphne. The meetings will have to change from Friday evenings when the hall has a regular booking. 5.30 – 7pm on Wednesdays would be tried.

The application for a 3 year post of Heritage and Gaelic Development Officer to work in Glenmoriston, Fort Augustus and Trees for Life has now been offered full funding. An advert would go out as soon as TfL agree the arrangements. TfL are also considering a plan including community involvement to apply for Heritage Lottery funding to develop more access routes and cycle tracks. The Board agreed this is something they would support.

No approach had yet been made to Ian Chalmers about a carving at Columba's Well.

8. Events.

a) Jackie has planned a summer barbecue and games on the recreation field on Sunday 11th August 2pm -6.30, including a Bouncy Castle (weather permitting). Food will be funded from the residual C.T. pot. The Risk Assessment for the Bouncy Castle was considered and it was agreed we must have a rota for 2 supervisors at all times.

b) Lynne had contacted Chris Nelson/Lorn about their band supporting a live music dance. Unfortunately their band currently has lost its bass player so they are not committing to any GIGs but will let us know if that changes. Instead, Jackie had rescheduled the Silent Disco and would rebook this for 1st November for a Halloween event.

c). Jackie and Rachel would form the Events Committee.

10. **Resilience.**

Carol reported on a meeting convened by the FAGCC. A small group of Carol, Thomas and Kelvin had convened to consider how the Hall could provide for the community in an emergency. Lynne had investigated other potential places in Glenmoriston: neither the hotel and Glen Rowan have generators, but Ross at TFL is considering how they could help. The next step is to prepare an Emergency plan (with reference to the gov.uk Prepare guidance and Highland Council Emergency Planning), look into battery storage back up and a change-over switch for the hall and consult the community about mutual support/ local links.

11. **Septic tank .**

A quotation from Highland Septic Tank Services has been agreed for funding by Community Foundation Scotland, using funds from Octopus. This is excellent news and means the work could be carried out late August/September. This time the work will be closely monitored to ensure it is as planned.

With this expectation, it was agreed an application would be made for funding for Community Tuesdays from late October.

12. **Land Acquisition.** It was agreed Community Buy out procedures might be followed after the septic tank issue is fully resolved.

13. **Playground/Car park.** The board discussed whether a fence is needed. It was agreed the playground itself does not require fencing, but that an approach would be made to Highland Council to request some form of barrier at either side of the bins to prevent children from running down the embankment into the car park.

It was also agreed we would continue to request from the Highland Council information on how much the car park donations had raised and how the money would be spent.

13. **Next meeting** Tuesday 8th October at 7.00 p.m.