

## Fernaig Community Trust

### Minutes of Meeting – 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018, Achmore Hall

**Present:** Colin McAndrew, Martin Irving, Duncan Gibson, Neil MacRae, Roddy McPherson, Georgie Grimson and Lizzie Bird

	<i><b>Action</b></i>						
<p><b>1. Minutes of 12<sup>th</sup> December meeting</b>                      Approved - Proposed by Duncan Gibson, seconded by Georgie Grimson</p> <p>Draft Mins of the AGM, also held on 12<sup>th</sup> December, will be posted to the website.</p> <p>It was noted that with Martin's election as a Director, Trust paperwork with RPID will need to be updated.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Lizzie</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Colin/Martin</i></p>						
<p><b>2 Finance Update</b>                      Georgie reported income of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £15K received by our bank being part of the SIS loan agreement</li> <li>• £1K had been received as donations to the Trust</li> <li>• £5K had been received from Highland Council</li> <li>• £215 regarding lease on the Hayfield</li> </ul> <p>and payments out of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payment of Highland Conservation interim Invoice for £18,216.</li> <li>• Payment of the first 2 month interest payment on the bridging loan of £146.71.</li> </ul> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Balance on the current account at 31/12/2017</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£7,301.14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance on the business account at 31/12/2017</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>£2,304.75</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">Total</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£9,605.89</td> </tr> </table> <p>Georgie proposed that we close and transfer the funds from the Trust's business account to the current account. The original reason for having a business account was to keep some funds separate from the current account but neither Colin nor Georgie could see any reason to continue doing this.</p> <p>All agreed to Georgie's proposal and she will arrange so we only have one account with RBS. In anticipating the closure of RBS in Kyle Georgie will also look at other banks to perhaps transfer our account to at a later date.</p>	Balance on the current account at 31/12/2017	£7,301.14	Balance on the business account at 31/12/2017	<u>£2,304.75</u>	Total	£9,605.89	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Georgie</i></p>
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Total	£9,605.89						
<p><b>4 SRDP Footpaths</b></p> <p><b>a) Progress to date –</b></p> <p>Colin had met up with Andrew Coleman on the 12<sup>th</sup> December to discuss progress. Before their Christmas/New Year break the contractors had done the fencing in the Hayfield, put in a field gate and</p>							

<p>started laying the strainers.</p> <p>Colin reported that the contractors are now back on site following Christmas/New Year break and more fencing has also arrived. They confirmed the whole project should be completed in approximately three weeks.</p> <p>It had been found that there was no need for a double gate by the small culvert so Colin had contacted RPID to amend and reduce the works schedule costs and they confirmed a letter would be sent confirming this was in order.</p> <p><b>b) Funding and Finance</b></p> <p>The Trust had still not received the £15,158 regarding our claim made to RPID (as per the Schedule of Works) made on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2017, The advice from them was that payment would be made within three months. Colin had spoken to the Inverness office last week and was told his message would be passed on. Not having had any response Colin phoned them again yesterday and spoke to a Higher Agricultural Officer. She reported that the path project had been randomly selected by their computer system for an inspection.</p> <p>Considering our claim was made in October and no mention of an inspection communicated to the Trust since that time, Colin had expressed his very grave concerns regarding the RPID delay in receipt of our payment and the issue of the Trust having committed to the SIS bridging loan and it is noted that Colin's concerns were fully endorsed by the Trust's Board at this meeting.</p> <p>Colin had spoken to SIS to apprise them of the situation with RPID and also had updated SNH with our concerns.</p> <p>A representative from RPID had arrived this morning and met up with Colin and Georgie to carry out the inspection which seemed to mainly consist of measuring distances. Colin reported the extra culvert the contractors had put in regarding an area of very boggy ground which had slightly altered the track of the path by causing it to slightly curve around the boggy area. At the end of the inspection the RPID representative confirmed all is in order and completed a pro-forma inspection report which she and Colin signed. We received an assurance that payment will be processed quickly and would be made before the end of the month.</p>	
<p><b>5. Land issues</b></p> <p><b>Damaged bridge</b> – top corner on nursery field. Lizzie has spoken to FCS again re obtaining old fish farm walkways (as a possible deck solution). FCS are due to contact her back</p> <p><b>Woodland Trust</b> – We are still awaiting the result of our application for saplings for plant.</p> <p><b>Allotment Road Fence</b> – Colin will approach the contractors to see if</p>	<p><i>Lizzie</i></p> <p><i>Colin</i></p> <p><i>Colin</i></p>

<p>they can place one or two strainers (we supply) along the length to pull up the fence damaged by cattle</p> <p><b>Field 10</b> – has been vacant since Dave's ponies left and it was agreed to advertise it for rent from April next month. It is noted that the field is in poor condition.</p>	
<p><b>6. Objectives and Plans for 2018</b></p> <p><b>a)</b> The Board briefly discussed ideas for an event to celebrate completion of the path. Ideas put forward were</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Involve local schools, i.e. competition to name the bridge</li> <li>• Ice Cream and Beer/Refreshments stall</li> <li>• A Duck race</li> </ul> <p>Any other ideas to be considered for our next meeting</p> <p><b>b)</b> Lizzie raised the point that as the path now nearing completion we should put a maintenance plan in place. Colin, through his daughter Ruth, has access to and can provide templates to help with laying out the maintenance plan</p> <p><b>c)</b> When the weather allows we need to complete the outside painting of the office</p>	<p><i>All</i></p> <p><i>Colin</i></p>

**Date of next meeting: 13<sup>th</sup> February, Achmore Hall, at 7.30 pm**

The meeting closed at 8.50pm