

## Minutes. Development Coll. 8<sup>th</sup> April 2015

Present Carol, Arlene, George, Nic, Juliette  
Apologies Lavinia, Margaret  
Welcome Nic welcomed those present.

Carol declared an interest in the Health and Wellbeing Network. There were no other declarations of Interest.

Matters arising from the previous minutes

- The data protection training still needs to take place. After that Arlene will chat with Karen and Caroline about how to approach the membership data base.
- Directors are to meet to discuss community engagement in the first instance and then decide if a strategy day is needed. All Directors to let Arlene know which weekends they are available.
- Suggestion was made that Nic takes directors through job descriptions. Lavinia has e-mailed job descriptions to Arlene. Nic and Arlene still to meet to go through job descriptions.

Mobile

- Derek Graham and Rab from Vodafone came across to discuss our obligations as mast owners. The Radio mast and cabin are owned by DC. Vodafone own antennae system etc. We need to do an annual inspection of the Cabin and bottom part of the mast. Any faults are flagged to Vodafone. Photographs are to be taken to show condition. If contractors come into work on the mast, the annual inspection is a year from that date.
- Scottish Govt are aware that PT cannot get a signal and are looking at putting in a relay, as PT are contributing to the mast. They have also talked about putting a repeater in the village to ensure full coverage there.
- Vodafone are going to send someone to Coll to speak to the community.
- Derek has offered to help with selling space on the mast to calmac. The feeling was that we don't need to try selling any more space at the moment (but this was said by Vodafone).
- Lavinia is writing letters to thank Vodafone and John Swinney mentioning Mono and Derek Graham.
- We have had a contribution from someone on Mull who is getting a signal from the mast.
- Derek passed on the 10 key messages that we can use to show what a good project this has been.
- Juliet suggested putting something on the website about the coverage. George to do this

## Management Committee Update

- We are to have another Artist in residence in the Bunkhouse in November this year which will help with winter income from the Bunkhouse.
- Electric bills are higher than expected and this could be the heat source pumps. Someone coming in to look at this.
- We discussed having a pet policy in the bunkhouse, this matter is ongoing.
- The Shed is being discussed again and efforts made to take this forward.
- We have 4 potential new members and are looking at the remit of the management committee and its relevance.
- Carol has done some work on Health and Safety related paperwork for the gym. Staff are now able to do a short gym induction for visitors who are regular gym users on the mainland. Advertising of sport and fitness facilities has gone out to Holiday home owners.
- We are hoping to get another piano. One has been offered but it needs to be looked at in the first instance.

## An Cridhe

- George is concerned for himself and Jane as the amount of work that they are doing is not sustainable. With all the recent extra work, George feels he is not giving his best to the Development Manager position. Staff are trying to spread the load but this time last year we had 85 hours staff time now we have 58 hours staff time and we are busier this year than ever before. We need to encourage MC to help more. Arlene offered to help and requested that she be asked if help is needed.
- George expressed how challenging it is getting people together to have a finance committee.
- George would like to simplify the process for funding applications. It was suggested that there be a director responsible for this. To help George narrow down the list of potential funders. George to then write the funding applications, the director to read applications and feedback to George. Juliet is happy to do this. The funding bids should be for funds that will make a direct contribution to operational costs. **Funding is to be a standing point on the agenda. George is to put out a timeline for funding bids. We need to think about how we want DC to be run in the future.** The original plan had been to not need external funding by now.

## Housing Update

- We still have no formal word from the Scottish land fund re the proposal despite chasing it. Ailsa will get back to us by the end of this week. Ailsa from SLF has been here twice, we have been engaging

with SLF for 8 months and have been getting all the right signals, It will be very disappointing if the SLF funding isn't a possibility..

- It is possible that if the SLF cannot make a decision on our proposal ACHA may go ahead without us.
- The housing needs survey has been discussed in draft form and demonstrates a need for affordable housing on Coll.
- ACHA have indicated they are not available until May/June to meet. It will thus be hard to make the June deadline for SLF funding. August then would be the last submission date for SLF funding
- Since George has taken on Fra's responsibilities the housing will be picked up by Jodie McLeod at Rural Housing Scotland. This is consultancy support at same rate of pay with the benefit of their expertise.

#### Finance

- George is working on end of month finance report and will send it round as soon as possible.
- **Arlene to take responsibility for organising finance meetings.** Nic to chair as she is the treasurer.
- Finance Group to look at latest monthly management reports, funding applications and actions from previous finance meeting.

#### AOB

George reported that we have been working with Jim Bennet as a Business Coach for 2 years and this is to be drawn to a close. Jim is going to provide a summary report of work done over past 2 years with any suggestions for moving forward. George is hoping Jim will come to the next board meeting to report. There may be some residual funding in this year's budget and this will carry forward.

We have been approached by Oban Lorn and Islands Health and Well Being Network to ask if DC can coordinate the funding (£5000) for this project. **George to go back to Eleanor (Network Coordinator) to clarify points before a decision is made.**

George left the meeting. The Volunteering post was discussed. A number of e-mails have been circulating and this has been unhelpful for George. We have been successful in getting funding for a volunteer post. George resubmitted an application form that had been previously unsuccessful. In future we have a new procedure for dealing with funding applications.

#### Important Dates

- 1 Next DC Meeting possibly on Wednesday 6th May at 6-30pm (No Juliet or Arlene)....**CF to check with the others.**