**Development Coll 11th Annual General Meeting**

**Monday 25th September 2017**

Directors Present Nic Smith, Lavinia McLean Bristol, Margaret Wheeler James, Heather Davis, Sammie Martindale

Staff Present Jane Metcalfe, Alison Jones

Members Present 13

Members of the public 0

1 Lavinia welcomed everyone to Development Coll’s 11th AGM.

There were no apologies

**2** Reading of notice of meeting. Lavinia reminded those present that while Full, Associate and Junior members are welcome at the meeting, only full members are eligible to vote. She reported that no full voting member had applied to stand as a director seven days prior to the AGM and that we welcome new directors at any point in the year.

Lavinia reminded the meeting of the structure of Development Coll, it being the umbrella organisation with 3 sub committees looking after various aspects of DCs work. These being the finance committee, mobile mast committee and the management committee which advises the main board about An Cridhe and Bunkhouse’s affairs.

3 Lavinia gave a precis of the minutes of last AGM which are on the website. The members agreed the minutes were a true and accurate record.

4 Lavinia read a statement from the independent examiner’s report who had reported that all was in order with the accounts.

5 Lavinia gave the chairman’s address.

**Mobile phone**

Currently the mast has equipment from Vodafone and EE on it providing mobile and 4G coverage. BT have placed apparatus on it as part of their plans to improve broadband speeds in the village. Tamara asked if this had community funding; Lavinia replied that the project is Government funded.

6 Nic gave the Management Committee Report

This was An Cridhe’s fifth year of operation and we seem to have got the hang of it. The regular events form the backbone of our operations and then the one-off activities fit around these. This year saw a fundraiser in February – The February Funfair which was organised by the Management Committee with minimal staff input. The highlight was the crazy golf constructed by Hannah with the help of some PT volunteers. Following this the office has organised music concerts, thaeatre, the bird festival, Coll and the Cosmos and liaised with everyone who books the building to ensure the smooth running of their event.

The Saturday Market is firmly established and we are encouraging island groups to use Saturday mornings as a fundraising opportunity by selling food and drink as well as hosting regular coffee and cake mornings ourselves.

The gym continues to be well-used and the hall is also used for sports.

The challenges this year were budgetary, we had very tight limits on what we could spend, and also a relatively new staff team who hadn’t experienced a summer at An Cridhe and the Bunkhouse.

We offer to run a bar at events and this year we have staffed it on a voluntary basis, and are very grateful to all the people who have offered to work a shift. We are also indebted to all the PT volunteers, the grass cutters, pot-hole fillers, those who help selling tickets, who bring raffle prizes and in particular everyone who helps with chairs and tables. We know from the work Tamara did as Volunteer Coordinator how many people contribute to the running of An Cridhe and I am very sorry if I have missed anyone, but my especial thanks go to Tim and Jane, and John and Margaret.

Please remember the Oscars on November 18th, and the 500 Club which will have its first draw in January.

I am looking forward to next year with optimism and excitement.

7 Jane gave the An Cridhe Report

**Manager’s report Development Coll AGM 25th Sept 2017**

With our shorter financial year for 2016 I see from looking at my report from last year’s AGM that I haven’t left myself much to say about 2016. October to December is always a quieter time of year events wise and no notable big events took place after the AGM. Nic has already mentioned some of this year’s fund raisers and I am sure more will be said in next year’s reports. We have a very thorough report from Alison on our finances and indeed our accounting systems have become much more detailed which will enable us to make decisions for future years with a much clearer understanding of our financial position and help us to look at ways of improving income in order to support An Cridhe as a community building because that is what all we do here is about.

The bunkhouse plays a large part in this and the figures show that it has continued to provide income for An Cridhe to the extent that we find ourselves paying corporation tax. We retained our 5 star Visit Scotland status for the bunkhouse, a testament once again to the hard work of staff. Sixteen bed changeovers during busy periods are not easy and Diane and Lisa do a great job. We feel that now is a good time to review our prices and look at how we can increase occupancy and income next year.

Nic has already said thank you to our volunteers but I want to add a few special thank yous of my own. When George left we weren’t sure what gaps might appear in our operation of both buildings. One gap we did notice was the setting up and running of bars. George enjoyed doing this and voluntarily took most of this on. I am not sure if I can adequately express my thanks to Nic for stepping into this particular gap. Setting up a bar is not just about manning the bar, being the responsible person on the licence and finding other volunteers to help. The bar has to be set up, stocked and then taken apart. It involves hours of work. A huge thank you Nic for your hours of work and especially for all those 2.00am finishes. We don’t have a budget for grounds work and I also want to thank Margaret and John for the hours they put in filling in holes in our drive, weeding our paths and lots of other outside work. Thank you to you both. John, Margaret and Darran have been part of our locking up/opening up team for 5 years now and I think that deserves a special thank you too.

Finally I want to personally thank our Directors for their hours of voluntary work in their roles as Directors and the Management Committee for their support as well as Alison, Diane and Lisa for all their hard work and support paid or voluntary. Every time anyone in the community comes to an event or activity here they are supporting An Cridhe and I want to thank the community for their support. We will face challenges as the buildings get older but like Nic I am looking forward to next year with optimism and excitement – we already have 3 weddings booked, the Tunnell Trust have already booked and Basking Shark Scotland will once again be block booking the bunkhouse during the summer. We are going to be busy.

Being 5 years old is a cause for celebration and plans are being put into place to do this once these have been decided I hope you will all join us in our celebrations.

8 Finance Report

Please see attached

9 Re-appointment of directors retiring by rotation:

Lavinia MacLean Bristol who, being eligible, offers herself for re-election and was re-elected. Proposed by John Wheeler James, seconded by John Wheeler James.

Election of further directors:

Heather Davis, proposed by Lavinia MacLean Bristol, seconded by Alison Fraser

Sammie Martindale, proposed by John Wheeler James, seconded by Chloe Steele

Brian MacIntyre, proposed by Karlijn Bakker, seconded by Rob Wainwright

10 Re-appointment of RA Clements as auditors and authorisation of directors to determine the remuneration of the auditors.

11 AOB

* Homecoming 2018. An Cridhe will be the main venue. An ambitious program is planned.
* RET. Ian Rae has been in touch with Calmac, our local MSP and councillors arguing for a reduction in Coll’s ferry fares as they do not comply with RET Guidelines.
* Playpark. Plans are underway to move this to ground within An Cridhe. Enquiries are underway about planning. Rosie asked about funding but planning permission will be needed first.

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Immediately following the AGM, the directors convened a directors’ meeting in order to appoint office-bearers.