

FURNACE FYNE FOLK SCIO

(NB. A SCIO is a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

Minutes of the meeting at 7.30pm Thursday 27 July 2022

- 1. PRESENT:** Karen Baird (Chair), Sharon MacInnes, Eva Paterson (Treasurer), Andy Henderson (Secretary), Lynda Syed, Carol Watt, Mark Boston, Peter Hogbin, Louise MacKellar, Kenneth MacKellar, Sarah Nixon.
- 2. APOLOGIES:** Adele Sinclair, Ann Dodd, Ronnie Dodd.
- 3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:** Approved. Proposed by Sharon MacInnes and seconded by Karen Baird.
- 4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:** A decision still has to be made on whether to go ahead with the new heating system that Ronnie got a quotation for. Mark made the point that the installation would need to be professionally done and that quotes would be needed for that. Sharon is concerned that the Hall would then have to be re-decorated again and Carol pointed out that instant heat is best for the way in which we use the Hall. We will arrange a separate meeting to discuss the heating.
- 5. TREASURERS REPORT:**
 - * Bank Account balance is £26,730 - Including £16,150 reserved for the Shop and Bungalow and the Leacainn Walk.
 - * An anonymous donation of £500 has been given towards the work on the Leacainn Walk.
 - * Sharon pointed out that the benches in the picnic area should be painted and asked for money to be available for that.
 - * The accounts have been audited and are ready to be presented at the AGM in September.
- 6. THE HALL:**
 - * Sharon has got 4 blinds and Donald MacNeill will put them up. If they are OK she will order the rest.
 - * CCTV System - Chubbs will be coming back next week to make some adjustments.
 - * Cindy and David have now hired the Hall to offer meals and coffee on 2 Wednesdays and have given Sharon the rental money to pass on to Eva.
 - * Kenneth has noticed that some slates have come off the roof on the Bar extension and he is concerned about the possibility of someone being injured.
- 7. SHOP AND BUNGALOW:**
 - * Carol has got the broken slab which was over the drain replaced. This drain was outside the Bar emergency exit door.
- 8. EVENTS:**
 - * The Village Picnic/Jam Session went well and was enjoyed by many. Alan Baird is willing to play with his group at future events, if he is given enough notice.
 - * Furnace won the Shinty Camanach Cup in 1923 and it would be important to organise a 100 year celebration, possibly in September. The Furnace Team not only won the Cup but hold the unbeatable record of playing through the whole competition without losing a goal - thanks to the goalkeeper who was Carol Watt's grandfather.
- 9. LEACAINN WALK:** Quotes for work to be done on the Leacainn Walk include £1,250 for painting the bridges and £2,950 for clearing the ditches - Eva suggested that we could

do the painting ourselves. Mark pointed out that any replacement wood used should be impregnated as it would be less likely to rot. Lynda said that the wood used to build the bridges is already treated and shouldn't really need painting but we should look into this. The grant money plus a contribution from the SCIO will cover the cost of replacing the steps, which means that the structures will be sound, but not for digging out the ditches and she will look for further funding for this. Carol pointed out that the wooden gates are in poor condition but these are the farmer's gates and they should be responsible for the maintenance.

Karen suggested that while work is going on we should have laminated notices warning people to be careful. Peter said one could be attached to the bin enclosure at the entrance to Bridge Terrace. Lynda suggested that a notice at the metal gates would be useful as they are close to the next set of steps. She offered to laminate the notices and put them up when Sean starts the work. Peter also drew attention to the need for all the red arrows to point in the right direction as some aren't at the moment.

10. PLANS FOR PLANTERS etc: The grant offered is half of the amount that Lynda applied for and so the number of items included in the application will have to be reduced - we could drop the hanging baskets and the workshop. Lynda also recommended that we buy the planters when any price reductions are available but wait until next spring before doing the planting as the grant money does not have to be spent until the end of 2024. Lynda will amend and re-evaluate the original list.

The public places where planters could be put include: - the Hall door, the shop door, the bridge and at the Furnace signs. Volunteers to place and maintain them will be needed. Kenneth was very impressed with the placing and planting of baskets at the approach to Pittenween, Fife, and he will enquire about the placing and maintenance decisions made there.

11. PLANS FOR USE OF SPACE AT THE BACK OF THE HALL: There are now 2 dates each year for grant applications to be made for An Suidhe Wind Farm Community Trust Funding - April and October - and Lynda will work on an application to submit in October to make the space at the back of the Hall useable. There could be links with the planting project. Work needed will include :- completing the wooden fence, resurfacing and making the disabled parking space useable. 3 quotes are needed and Lynda asked for suggestions of landscape gardeners we could ask. We have already asked for a quote from Cooks Creative Gardens (Sean) who is the contractor for the Leacainn Walk. Sharon was impressed with the work that DA MacDonald had done recently in the garden of a house in the village and given the good job that made of resurfacing the space outside the Hall it should be worth asking them for a quote.

12. MEMBERSHIP - INCREASING NUMBERS AND UPDATING RECORDS: Karen, Sharon and Andy will meet to check the current situation and discuss what we need to do to try to increase the number of members and update the Register.

13. AOB:

* Ruth will shortly stop her work on Everything Furnace Website and Facebook. The website is owned by the SCIO and so the SCIO needs to find someone to add information and keep the website up to date. Everything Furnace Facebook is owned by Lynda but she can allow named people to put on information and she is asking both the Community Council and the SCIO to nominate someone.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The AGM and the next meeting will be at 7.30 pm on Thursday 28 September 2023.