

FURNACE COMMUNITY SCIO

MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON THURSDAY 23 May 2024

- 1. Attendance:-** Donald MacNeill (incoming Chair), Eva Paterson (outgoing Treasurer), Lynda Syed (incoming Treasurer), Andy Henderson (Secretary), Sharon MacInnes, Adele Sinclair, Carol Watt, Peter Hogbin. Ann Dodd and Ronnie Dodd.
- 2. Apologies:-** Mark Boston
- 3. Minutes of the last meeting:-** Proposed by Sharon Macinnes, seconded by Ann Dodd and adopted.
- 4. Matters arising from the minutes:-** The Gentlemen's Club will not now work on the Memorial Garden and Ann offered to tidy it up and Lynda will help. **Action:- Ann and Lynda**
- 5. Proposals and vote for new Chair:-** Phil Nilsson has resigned as Chair and Donald MacNeill was proposed as our new Chair by Sharon, seconded by Ronnie and agreed by all present. Donald accepted and was thanked for taking on this role.
- 6. New Treasurer:-** Eva had resigned as treasurer as she will shortly be going to Sweden. Members had been emailed to invite interest in taking over this role and Lynda thankfully offered to take it on if we were stuck. Her offer was gratefully accepted. Eva had also been treasurer of the Social Club and we are grateful to Naline (Swales) for agreeing to take on this work. She will join the SCIO Committee as the 7th member.
- 7. Treasurer's report:-** The Bank A/C balance is £25,526.28, of which £17,826.20 is ring-fenced for Shop and Bungalow, £390.88 remaining from the Climate Change grant and £750.00 remaining from the An Suidhe grant. The Solicitor's bill for their work on preparing the new 5 year 'Rent to Buy' lease for the Shop has been paid from the ring-fenced amount.
- 8. Shop and bungalow:-** The new 5 year 'Rent to Buy' lease for the Shop, starting from 1 April 2024, has been agreed and signed. The lease for the Bungalow, which is based on the Scottish Government's pro forma residential lease continues without change. Work to the bungalow, which was both needed and required to meet the Scottish Government's new regulations for landlords, is almost completed. The

roof has to be cleaned and a tree will be cut down when the birds leave.

- 9. Hall garden:-** The work has been completed and a few more planters will be added. Thanks to Ronnie for painting the fence, to Lynda and the team who did the planting in the garden and at the front of the Hall and Shop. Thanks are particularly due to Lynda who masterminded the project and applied for the grants. It was agreed that as it is outside space smoking is acceptable but not drinking alcohol as we don't have the relevant licence. A sign indicating that no alcohol beyond this point should be sufficient.
Action:- Sign to be ordered and suitably positioned.
- 10. Events:-** The monthly bingo night will be on Friday but no other event are planned at the moment. Suggestions include about 2 barbecues in the year (with advance notice to the Fyne Homes residents) and a probable date of Saturday 3 August was suggested. Ronnie will ask the Gentlemen's club to help with the catering. Another suggestion is to have a Race Night in the autumn (when is hoped attendance will be better).
Action:- Ronnie to get Gentlemen's Club involved and Andy to contact Fyne Homes residents.
- 11. Suggestions for applications to the An Suidhe Windfarm Community Grant Fund:-** There are 2 application dates each year, in April and October, with the next date being 7 October 2024. Suggestions are welcomed and one is to upgrade the Bar by changing the lay-out and getting new furniture. Lynda suggested that the Bar Committee should meet and come up with a plan and costings.
Action:- Bar Committee to meet and put forward a proposal.
- 12. Information pack for new residents:-** Sharon asked the Headteacher of Lochgilphead High School about the possibility of making this a project for one or more pupils, but she has had no response. Peter suggested asking Mid- Argyll Youth Development to be involved.
Action:- Peter to approach Mid-Argyll Youth Development.
- 13. Issues relating to the renewal of The Film Club:-** It was agreed that given the problem with inadequate sound, light issues and uncertainty about numbers, that this idea should be dropped. Andy will contact the film licensing organisation, MPLC, to confirm that we will not be applying for a licence.
Action:- Andy to let the MPLC know.

14. **AOCB:-** Emergency Planning - this is a Community Council issue but applications for grants for upgrading any equipment needed will be submitted through the SCIO.

On behalf of the SCIO, Sharon gave Eva a bouquet of flowers to thank her for the considerable amount of work she has been doing as treasurer for both the SCIO and the Social Club. We wish Eva and Gavin well and hope that they will come back from Sweden at times to keep in touch with their friends here, as well as family.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE AT 7 PM ON THURSDAY 18 JULY 2024