

Portree and Braes Community Trust

Meeting of The Portree and Braes Community Trust Board – Tuesday 22nd August 2023, 7pm at Portree Community Centre

	Item	Minutes	Action Points
1	Welcome, Introductions Apologies	Present: Trustees – Peter Urquhart (Vice-chairman), Neil Campbell, Duncan Brown (treasurer), Graham Smith, Irene Deplano, Lorna Cormack Also in Attendance: Fiona Thomson (Development Officer), Pamela Simmister (trust member) Apologies: Tiffany Maberley, Annmarie Campbell, Bill Edgar, John Boyd, Ross Cowie, Iona MacDonald (Finance and Administration Officer)	
2	Adoption of Minutes	Approved: Graham Smith Seconded: Duncan Brown	
3	[Agenda Items]		
4	Check in / good news stories / updates etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PU welcome Pamela Simmister to the meeting who has come along to find out more about the trust and how to get involved. • The skate ramps facility is to be reinstated with thanks to Tiffany Maberley for raising the funds via the Just Giving platform to cover the costs of the insurance policy for the coming year. • The Agricultural Show evening dance took place in the community centre on 5th August. 230 people attended. Well done to LC and the Light Up Portree group for organising. The total raised is still tbc. • GS reported that the Skye Games event was a sell out event. • The helipad lights have been delivered. 	
5	Volunteer / Employee headlines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nothing to report 	

6	Development Officer Report	<p>FT provided an overview of the Development Officer Report (copies emailed in advance) and issued a hard copy of the treasurers report. The following points were raised:</p> <p><i>Allotments</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DB clarified that although the Allotments project total was showing minus £4,928.12 in the report this column is not in fact “in the red”. • The funds have been transferred to the new allotments bank account and are being managed by the allotment group directly. • Going forward the total will be shown as zero in the PBCT accounts. <p><i>Bayfield</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GS explained that the dispute about funds owed to PBCT by The Highland Council for the trusts percentage share of income generated at Bayfield carpark is ongoing. • Trust accountant Faye Macleod is preparing correspondence detailing the ongoing issue on behalf of the trust. FT will forward correspondence to the councillors to consider. • FT is to detail a timeline of events and submit alongside Faye’s summary. 	Action FT
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7	Issue List	<p><i>Sub-group financial contributions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The board revisited the proposal previously put forward by DB for sub-groups to make an annual financial contribution to support the general management of the trust. This contribution would for example, support development officer costs and other overheads such as insurance and accounting services. • FT will consider further, devise a more detailed proposal based on discussions and circulate before the next board meeting. <p><i>King George V Land Purchase Update</i></p> <p>DB explained that Fearann Eillean Iarmain (FEI) are willing to sell the land to PBCT [REDACTED]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Scottish Land Fund have confirmed that they will not fund more than the value of the land. This requires the community to raise the shortfall if they wish to progress with the purchase. • The PBCT currently has £40k in reserves as a financial buffer. The accountants have advised that £27k minimum is retained as a financial buffer. • FT to speak to FEI reps to clarify what the minimum amount is that the estate would accept for the land. • All present in support of using available funds if need be, given that ownership of the KGV is pivotal to delivering the future plans for Camanachd Square. • The board however would want to work with all user groups on a fundraising campaign to avoid eating into trust savings. • NC suggested issuing more communications aimed at the general public and the local councillors to keep them updated on the status of the project. FT is attending the ward business meeting on Monday with Neil Munro the Director at Rural Design to present an update on the masterplan and options appraisal project. FT to work on issuing further updates via the trust's various communication platforms. • There was a discussion about approaching the Skye windfarm trusts for financial support to help with the land purchase. There were mixed opinions on 	<p>Action FT</p> <p>Action FT</p> <p>Action FT</p>
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		<p>whether to approach the windfarm trusts now, wait until the PBCT is fundraising for capital funds to develop the King George V site, or not to approach the windfarms at all given the current debate around increasing the number and size of windfarm developments on Skye.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FT explained that if they Scottish Land Fund application is successful the land purchase will be progressed in 2024. <p><i>Playpark Bench Storage</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Outdoor Activity Group need somewhere to store the five benches that were commissioned until permission is granted by The Highland council to site the benches on the grassy area outside of the playpark. • FT explained that permission to site the benches in this area may take several months to be granted as amendments will likely be required to the lease. • PU can help provide storage in the interim period. <p><i>Light Up Portee Autumn Fling Plans</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plans are being finalised for the Autumn Fling event in September. • LC has organised inflatables, ACE Target Sports, Karaoke, and food during the day and an 80's and 90's night for the evening. • Volunteers are needed. 9-12 on Saturday morning for set up and 9-midnight to marshal the evening event. 	Action FT and PU
8	AOCB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has been reported to PBCT that there is Japanese knotweed at Bayfield. This information has been passed on to The Highland Council. • FT has requested permission to spend a few hundred pounds on shelving for the container. This was approved by the board. 	
9.	DONM	Tuesday the 26 th of September 7pm at the Community Centre.	FT to book room.
10.	Close	Chair thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting.	

Approved by And

Date.....