

Portree and Braes Community Trust

Meeting of The Portree and Braes Community Trust Board – 12 December 2023 at 9am at Jans Board Room

	Item	Minutes	Action Points
1	Welcome, Introductions Apologies	As Calum Matheson had been delayed, Peter Urquhart took the chair for the early part of the meeting. Present: Trustees: Peter Urquhart, Vice-Chair; Duncan Brown, Treasurer; Irene Deplano; Calum Matheson (Chair)(from 10am). Staff: Fiona Thomson, Development Officer; Iona MacDonald, Finance & Admin Officer. In Attendance: Roger Liley, Pamela Simmister, Morag Hannah (CEO, S&L CAB), Shona Cameron (Climavore) with 4 representatives from Abundance. Apologies: Ross Cowie, Neil Campbell, Graham Smith, Lorna Cormack, Annmarie Campbell, John Boyd, Tiffany Maberley	
2	Adoption of Minutes	Minutes of 7 November 2023 Approved: D Brown Seconded: I Deplano	Meeting was inquorate. Ratify at next meeting
3	[Agenda Items]	Presentations Morag Hannah was attending the meeting to acquaint Trustees with the work of the Skye & Lochalsh Citizens' Advice Bureau. Skye & Lochalsh Citizens Advice Bureau Free, impartial and confidential advice (slcab.org.uk) The CAB provide a range of services – e.g. legal, debt advice, benefits, advocacy, as well as assistance with obtaining food parcels and fuel vouchers. Volunteers are trained to certificate level (250 hours) and provided 6372 volunteer hours to the bureau last year. They can also assist those who are digitally excluded by offering a choice of office appointments, drop-ins and house visits. The CAB has assisted clients suffering from the cost of living crisis to access assistance totalling over £1m this last year. Morag was thanked for her very interesting presentation on the work of the Bureau. Shona Cameron , Climavore, was then invited to introduce the representatives from Abundance to the Trustees (https://www.in-abundance.org/). Climavore and Abundance have been co-operating on a local study. Abundance is established to offer bottom-up development services working with organised communities to develop public-common strategies, policy and strategy development and critical research	

		<p>partnerships. They advise on the avoidance of asset export, encourage retention of wealth in the local economy, community ownership of assets and social justice. There followed a discussion with the team regarding community ownership and natural assets within the island. Community Wealth Building was highlighted – a bill is currently in progress and PBCT should expect an approach. Abundance will provide a copy of their report of their findings in Skye to PBCT.</p>	
4	Check in / good news stories / updates etc	<p>KGV The Trust has been successful in its bid for funding in the amount of £53,000 from the Scottish Land Fund towards the purchase of the King George V Park, the old swimming pool site and some plots around Camanachd Square. This phase requires an investment from the Trust of £26,000 and a fundraising plan is in place to raise this. The remaining plots including the Nursery Building would form Phase 2 of the plan. A number of ideas to raise funds for purchase and maintenance were discussed.</p> <p>Bayfield A.C.E and Portree Primary School have been working together on outdoor learning classes in Bayfield. The school is unable to access the same funding this year and the board considered a request for support of £1500 funding and management fee. It was agreed that the Trust would approve this and seek funding from suitable bodies.</p> <p>APPROVED</p> <p>Speak up for Gaelic A funding opportunity to allow the group to continue had been identified and shared with the group. The group would take ownership of the application and factor in a management fee. APPROVED</p> <p>Lottery Proposal Pam Simmister (Member) introduced a presentation outlining possibilities for a lottery which could provide a regular income for the Trust. Pam had been instrumental in setting up the long-running Skye Camanachd lottery a number of years ago. The Trust lottery, run through Gatherwell who run the Western Isles lottery. Tickets at £1 each are limited to a total of 20 tickets per purchaser. 25p goes to the prize fund, 20p to Gatherwell and 55p to the Trust. The draw is made by Gatherwell and they notify the winners weekly. The set-up costs are £5000, and 8-10 weeks to create and open the website. It was suggested that the Trust should leave this point open in the meantime,</p>	

		<p>while the Trust was heavily committed to the KGV. Pamela, who had prior experience in this area, undertook to try to raise the set-up costs independently and carry out all required administrative tasks connected to the Lottery in order to get it established.</p> <p>APPROVED</p> <p>Membership</p> <p>A number of new members had applied to join the Trust – 3 Ordinary members and 4 Associate members. These were approved and recorded in the Register of Members.</p> <p>APPROVED</p>	
5	Volunteer / Employee headlines	No update.	
6	Development Officer Report	<p>FT provided an overview of the Development Officer Report. The treasurer’s report has been detailed in the DO report. The following points were raised:</p> <p>FT’s workplan was approved.</p>	
7	Issue List	No Update	
8	AOCB	<p>National Parks – Roger Liley (Member) reported that the website (in English and Gaelic) had now gone live at https://eileanacheoblog.wordpress.com/ and a range of informative and consultative meetings were planned. Both public open meetings and online meetings will be held in January, comments and opinions are welcomed. PBCT, in line with other Trusts, Community Councils and other agencies will be asked whether or not they support the bid. There are also bids from Glen Affric (2 bids), Caithness and Dumfries expected to be made and the Scottish Government has committed to at least 1 park to be designated. They will then engage in discussion with the successful applicant(s).</p>	

9.	DONM	<i>Tuesday 23 January 2024 at 7pm. Venue TBC. The date of the AGM was also agreed for Tuesday 7 February 2024</i>	FT to book room.
10.	Close	Chair thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting.	