

STRUAN COMMUNITY TRUST
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 25th JUNE 2012

AT

STRUAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

7.30pm

PRESENT: TRUSTEES – Donald Beaton (Chair), John Mackinnon, Christine MacLennan, Brian Morris (Treasurer), Alison Munro (Secretary).

APOLOGIES – Marion MacAskill, Linda Henderson, David Rodger (Senior Communications Advisor, Vattenfall).

PRESENT: COMMUNITY MEMBERS – Helen Urquhart, Kenna MacInnes, Lyn Hewitt, Geoff Semlar, Peggy Semlar, Alasdair Morrison, Susan Mackinnon, Jamie Mackinnon [minor], Chris Pilsbury, Maressa Munro (Non Community Member), Angela MacAskill, Neil MacAskill, Catriona MacAskill, Mrs Mycock, Mr & Mrs Emerson, Dave Till, Jenny Till, Niall Till , Finella MacKinnon, Maggie MacDonald.

APOLOGIES – None

Donald Beaton opened the meeting with a welcome to all.

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the last AGM held on 27th June 2011 were agreed to being a true representation of the meeting were proposed by John MacKinnon and seconded by Christine MacLennan and were duly signed. The minutes were also signed Mr Beaton (Chairman).

2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT. Donald Beaton read out his report, copy attached, and invited questions from the floor.

Questions concerning the criteria required for successful applications were discussed. The meeting questioned why some applications were approved and others not.

a) Why the Funeral Fund application had been unsuccessful but the Struan Football Club had been approved?

b) Who benefits from the Community Nurse Exercise Class which is based in Dunvegan?

Mr Beaton explained that the Funeral Fund did not comply with the criteria in the Deed of Trust. Struan Football Club however, was agreed by all Trustees would be of benefit to the young and old in the community, with Struan residents being involved in the running of the club and participating as players.

-The Community Nurse Exercise Class has been running for the past two years with Struan residents attending on a regular basis.

There being no further questions, Mr Beaton handed the meeting over to the Mr B Morris (Treasurer)

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

The audited accounts to 31st March 2012 are as attached. The Treasurer went through each item and explained that fees were due to the Auditors, Messrs Donald Rankin and that tax would be due on the amount of interest earned. He informed the meeting that accounts have been submitted to the Inland Revenue.

The balance in the Current Account at 31st March 2013 was £16,130.11 with Fixed Bond (1) £35,000 being available on 10th September 2012 and Fixed Bond (2) £32,000 being available in 25th February 2013, giving a total balance of £83,130.11. The next payment due from Vattenfall this year would be slightly higher than the last payment which means that funds will be in excess of £118,000.

Mr Morris invited questions from the floor.

Questions put forward -

- Is the Trust taxable?

Mr Morris replied with a yes and that tax has now been paid.

- Why does the Trust put money into Fixed Bonds?

Mr Morris explained that the Trustees' made the decision to put the funds into fixed bonds to earn more interest than they would in the Current Account, although it was marginal.

There being no objections the accounts these were ratified – proposed Mr Geoff Semlar, seconded Finella MacKinnon.

4. APPOINTMENT OF FINANCIAL ADVISORS

Messrs Donald Rankin were proposed to continue by Donald Beaton, seconded John MacKinnon.

5. APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

The three Trustees obliged to stand down this year – Christine MacLennan, Marion MacAskill & Alison Munro

No completed nomination form had been received from member of the Trust, Marion MacAskill, who had decided not to stand this year.

Four completed nomination forms were received. - Christine MacLennan, Mr Leslie Charteris, Alastair Morrison and Alison Munro.

As only three seats are vacant, the Trust is required to hold an election. Mr Morrison said that to avoid an election he would withdraw his nomination. This was discussed at length by the meeting and was generally felt that the democratic way forward would be to hold an election. Mrs Munro said that there was a possibility that four members of the Struan Community Council (SCC) could also be SCT members and wondered what the implications this would have when applications were received from the SCC to the SCT. At present SCC members have to withdraw from the SCT meeting. If four members were to withdraw from the meeting there would not be a quorum left to make decisions.

There was a lengthy discussion and it was agreed by the meeting that applications from the SCC were already acting in the communities' best interests, so members standing on both SCC & SCT should not be required to withdraw from the decision making.

It was agreed that an election would be required.

Mrs Munro will contact the **Highland Council Election Office** to organise the election.

Mr Chris Pilsbury asked if he could address the meeting with proposals he wished to put forward.

The meeting had no objections.

Proposal (a) Community Skip

Mr Pilsbury proposed that the Trust should have skips placed in the Struan area approximately three times a year. This would enable members of the community to dispose of waste that would otherwise have to be taken to Portree, with an embargo on trade waste.

Proposal (b) Household Fuel Bursary

Mr Pilsbury proposed that an annual payment should be paid to all members on the electoral roll to help with increasing fuel costs.

Mr Pilsbury's proposals instigated lengthy and varied discussion.

Proposal (a) being agreed by all would be beneficial to the community.

Proposal (b) however, raised the same questions as a similar, outline proposal that had been put forward by Mr Morris (Treasurer) at an Extraordinary meeting in February this year with **David Rodger** (Senior Communications Advisor Vattenfall) and **Ross Cant** (Onshore Site Manager, Vattenfall) regarding the possibility of free Broadband for all members of the community. Mr Beaton referred to the minutes of that meeting in which Mr Rodger had checked with **Vattenfall** legal team and they confirmed that the idea would comply with our agreement but that they were concerned with the amount of money that would be committed annually.

The majority of the meeting felt that all ideas mentioned would be beneficial to the community.

Mr Beaton re-emphasised that, although many ideas have been put forward, SCT cannot give money out until an application form has been received. Any ideas, initiatives or projects must be Community driven and cannot be instigated by the Trustees.

Mr Pilsbury was advised that, to take his proposals forward, he is required to make a formal application to the SCT.

6. AOCB

a) Web Site

Mrs Till motioned that the SCT should have a web site for easy access to minutes, criteria in the Deed of Trust and any other information this motion was seconded by Geoff Semler. This will be put onto the SCT's agenda at their next meeting in August 2012

c) SCT Applications

Mr Beaton informed the meeting that applications for consideration in August 2012 are required to be with the secretary by 30th June 2012

Mr John MacKinnon wished it noted the Trustees special thanks to the Chairman for his continue work

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Subject to School availability the next AGM should take place on Monday 24th June 2013.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked the meeting and closed at 8.45pm.

STRUAN COMMUNITY TRUST

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2012

The Trustees have had another busy year since last June's AGM dealing with the work associated with the running of the Struan Community Trust. Regular meetings were held in August, October, January and April with an extraordinary meeting arranged in February with representatives of Vattenfall to discuss issues raised at last year's AGM.

The payment made just after last year's AGM for our annual community grant amounted to £33,870. Our Treasurer will give you a more detailed update on finances in his report.

I wrote to Vattenfall after last year's AGM and asked for a meeting to be arranged to discuss issues raised. A provisional meeting date was arranged for October but it was not possible to meet until February 2012. David Rodger, Senior Communications Advisor, and Ross Cant, Onshore Site Manager, at Vattenfall attended this meeting. Ross Cant took over from Tony Francis with whom we had dealt previously. The main issues discussed at this meeting centred on criteria for individual grants and the suitability of the Deed of Trust to meet our needs.

The feelings of the community expressed at last year's AGM were that other trusts were able to make grants to youngsters attending university but David Rodger confirmed that this was not the case and Edinbane have not made such grants although like ourselves are looking at ways to do so. The setting up of a Life Long Learning Group as an independent organisation with its own constitution could apply to the Trust for funding and run a bursary scheme to raise skill levels in the area and create opportunities for all age groups. Mr Rodger and Mr Cant indicated that they did not see this as simply a way round awarding funding to individual applicants as had been the advice previously received from Vattenfall.

It was noted that the Deed of Trust was a legally binding document that had been approved by the community and although there was no reason why it could not be changed in the future it would be a lengthy procedure. This led on to a discussion around the relative roles of the Trust and Vattenfall's advisors Mr Rodger emphasised that Vattenfall do not want to be part of the decision making process but wish to be comfortable with the mechanics of making payments. They can give an opinion but it is not for them to veto any decision. The Trustees are responsible for these decisions and everything hinged on the phrase "Benefit to the Community".

At the August meeting an application was approved amounting to £315 for a minibus to Inverness for community members.

At our October meeting office bearers were re-elected and several funding applications were approved. The sum of £150 was given for a Halloween Party for Primary School aged youngsters. The annual bonfire and fireworks display was awarded £600 and the provision of a defibrillator situated at Cioch Direct was approved.

This also resulted in First Aid Training being offered over two evenings in November which was well attended and received. A further three minibus trips to Inverness was also approved totalling £945. One application was not approved, for a funeral fund to be set up.

A request was made in December for a larger bus to be used for the bus trip before Christmas and this was approved by email to the sum of £465.

At the January meeting an application was approved for a defibrillator to be sited at Caroy for £2500. The Dunvegan Community Nurse Exercise Class was awarded £400 to assist in the group's running costs.

The April meeting saw us discussing seven applications, the most we have had at one meeting. The Struan Parent Council received £600 for transport costs for school children's activities and the Struan Football Club received £3285 for set up costs following a season's absence from the league. The Struan Gala Committee was awarded £3293 for equipment and costs for the Annual Gala, and St John the Baptist's Chapel received £500 for repairs to the grounds and the cemetery at Caroy. The Way Forward Group received £1000 towards a group respite trip to Nairn.

There were two unsuccessful applications. The Highland Hospice sought sponsorship of £2500 for an event later this year. The North West Skye Recreational Association asked for £4000 for a feasibility study into the suitability of a site for a recreational facility in Dunvegan. Neither fulfilled our guidelines criteria as in the Deed of Trust.

The Trust was represented on the North West Skye Tourist Information Centre group who were looking into the possibility of re-opening the centre that had been closed in Dunvegan.

I would remind you that minutes of meetings are displayed in the Notice Board so that everyone has the opportunity to find out what is going on.

I am in regular contact with Vattenfall through David Rodger. However David left Vattenfall on 15th June to work for Shell UK in Aberdeen. He has suggested to Vattenfall that it might be an idea to employ someone locally as a part time contact for the Edinbane and Struan area who could also arrange site visits and school visits.

I would like to once more thank all trustees for their work this year and their support and commitment. Special mention must be made of the work put in by our Secretary on whom a lot of work outwith meetings fall.

Finally I would remind the community that the Trustees are there to make decisions on applications received. There is a large amount of money coming into the community each year and it up to members of the community to apply for funding for projects, not for the Trustees to come up with ideas how the money should be spent.

DONALD G BEATON

CHAIRMAN

25th June 2012

STRUAN COMMUNITY TRUST

Income & Expenditure Account for the Year

1.4.2011 to 31.3.2012

Balances at 1. 4.2011	Treasurers A/c	26,100.70
	Fixed Bond	32,000.00

INCOME

Vattenfall Windpower	33,870.00	
Solicitors Refund	20.00	
Bank Interest Net	12.39	
Bank Interest Bond Net	577.22	
Total Income		<u>34,479.61</u>
		92,580.31

EXPENDITURE

Total Grants (9):		
Way Forward Group	1,500.00	
Inverness Bus Trips (3)	1,095.00	
School Halloween Party	150.00	
Fireworks	600.00	
Community Dibrillators(2)	5,000.00	
Community Nurse Exercise Class	400.00	
<u>OTHER</u>		
Secretary Hononarium	500.00	
West Highland Publishing (AGM Notice)	115.20	
C Pilsbury-Logo Design Award	75.00	
SLCVO Membership	15.00	
Total Expenditure		9,450.20

Balances at 31.3.2012	Treasurers A/C	16,130.11
	Fixed Bond (1)	35,000.00
	Fixed Bond(2)	<u>32,000.00</u>
		92,580.31

Brian Morris - Treasurer