

Minutes of the USCA Committee Meeting held at Ulva School, 16th July, 2015

Present: Cally Fleming (LDO), Barry George, Anna Hogan (acting Chair), Don Lambert, Treasurer, Jeannie MacColl, Sarah Palmer (acting Secretary)

Apologies: Susie Carmichael, Pauline Inglis, Mari Kluczynski, Chris Leitch, Helen Mackay, Iain Thomson

1. Minutes of the USCA AGM (13th January, 2015)

These were read and discussed.

Matters arising:

Concerns were raised about the costs of the housing project. **AH** to ask **MH** to pass on these to **HMcD** and to ask for a copy of the Housing Project budget to be sent to **DL**.

DL expressed concern about the whereabouts of the polytunnel. **AH** to make enquiries about this.

The AGM minutes were approved: proposed by **J MacC**, seconded **DL**.

2. Minutes of the Committee Meeting of 13th January 2015

These were read and discussed.

Matters arising:

The Burns Lunch was thought to have been a great success. **DL** reported that the profit from this was £482 (including £200 from the 100 club – many thanks to **DL** for running this). Thanks were recorded to everyone who had helped on this occasion. Thanks also recorded to **JMacC** for the Bingo Nights which have raised over £800 since their introduction into the USCA social calendar. It was agreed that holding Bingo at the Salen Hotel was more successful than at Ulva School, especially in the winter – the catchment area was wider, with people coming from both Tobermory and Craginure.

DL reported that the Craginure Tourist Office could not accommodate the Big House collecting box which is still at Ulva School, in the entrance hall.

The minutes were approved. **SP** proposed, **BG** seconded.

3. 2014 AGM Minutes

It was noted the Minutes of the 2014 AGM, which had not been read at the 2015 AGM, had been distributed via email and post. Further copies were available at the meeting, but due to the length of time since the 2014 AGM, **AH** proposed that these minutes be taken as read, and this was agreed.

4. Skiff Launch:

CF reported that the Skiff Launch Day in April raised £82 for USCA funds. She was warmly thanked for having liaised with the Western Isles Yacht Club to organise the event.

5. AH reported that in May the Villiers-Stuart family had presented a musical evening at the school, which, after payment of the school let, raised £60 for the Housing Project.
6. Housing Project

An update on the Housing Project, kindly provided by HMCD was read. (see additional attachment).

Matters arising:

JMacC asked if the allocations of the new houses for rent would come under the domain of the West Highland Housing Association. CF replied that Helen McD would clarify after further discussion with WHHA. CF reported that HMc D had received 7 substantial expressions of interest in the houses. She also confirmed that a Housing Needs Survey would take place at the end of August. **CF or HMacD** would inform AH so that members could be notified by email. AH asked if all could take any opportunity which afforded itself to invite former residents of the area, who might like to return, to take part in this survey.

AH to arrange display of plans on USCA website, when these are sent to her.

Safe Route to School

This was mentioned in HMacD's update. It concerns a safe path from the new houses to the school. DL suggested that construction of a path could be incorporated with the erection of the polytunnel. BG felt that the children wouldn't necessarily use a special path but would come by the shortest route, and questioned the need for a designated path. **CF** to ask ThorneWyness for clarification as to how this idea could be worked into the plans and for details of costings.

There was brief discussion about a possible playpark, which, it was agreed would be deferred as a topic for a future meeting.

7. Bus

BG reported that interest was growing, including from visitors. There are now 6 drivers in total. Ideas were proposed and discussed about a Park and Ride system and also BG also suggested arranging children's trips in the holidays. Some concern was expressed that the level of organisation needed for the latter might be beyond USCA resources at the moment.

8. Salen Show – 13th August, 2015

DL kindly offered his gazebo for USCA use. **BG** kindly offered to drive/fetch/carry/set up on the day, and to help Jean Scarlett take Jim around the field, if Jean wishes. DL, JMacC, HM and SP all have other important commitments at the show, but DL and SP hope, if possible, to spend a little time at the USCA tent. AH suggested that an extra driver be sought for the day, so that BG is free to help Jean and Jim. It was agreed that money raised on the day will go to USCA funds, so that we are able to build up for future community project needs.

DL and **AH** to review the games/prizes which DL has stored since last year. **AH** to email MK to check if she is available to help on the stall.

9. Community Lunch Club

AH reported that Jean Scarlett is interested in reviving the lunch club one Saturday a month, from October to April. BG suggested inviting speakers, from time to time. It was noted that, for the bus to be used to get people to the lunch, there would be a need to reorganise the scheduled service timings for Saturdays.

10. Treasurer's Business/Finance

Insurance

DL reported great difficulty in getting a better price than £683. Insurers unwilling to provide 'one-off' cover if we went down the route of insuring events outwith the school (such as fetes and beach barbecues) as and when they are planned. AH suggested asking Moray Finch for advice on small organisation cover, and **DL** said he would do this.

DL presented the Profit and Loss a/c.

Summary:

USCA funds:	£4046.21
All Our Stories:	£1, 642.98
Total funds held:	£5,689.19

DL said that he would like to step down as Treasurer, but very, very kindly offered to carry on for the moment, until a replacement could be found. He was very warmly thanked for all his work and his expertise, and for his generosity in carrying on at this time.

AH reported that PI would in future invoice USCA for photocopying costs. It was agreed that this was only fair and right.

11. LDO Update

Pontoon Project:

CF gave an update on the Pontoon project, and showed copies of the altered plans.

Matters arising: BG asked if parking space for the Community Bus could be designated in the plans, and the space clearly defined by posts and chains, to deter others from using the space. **CF** to look into this, and also to send copy of the plans to **AH** for display on the USCA website.

Defibrillator and Cabinet:

These are now ready for installation in the outer porch of the School. Will need to be fitted by an electrician. Quotes being sought by **CF/SJ**. When these are available, **CF/SJ** to contact USCA to ask that USCA meets the cost of installation. (This may be around £200). **AH** will

then contact members to collect views on this, if it would delay installation to wait for the next quorate meeting. There was a question about whether or not there would be a 'first responder' trained in the area. No clear answer was reached on this.

Renewables:

Moray Finch has put in (for planning permission?) for Solar Panels on the hill above the school. This would supply the houses and provided a feed-in tariff to the local community.

12. Newsletter

AH regretted that there had been no regular newsletter, as had been produced in the past, but she hoped to produce one in August, and asked for contributions.

13. Recruitment:

AH asked all to keep considering inviting new members to join the committee. This will be one of the topics in the Newsletter.

14. Next Meeting:

10th September, 2015, at 7pm.