

**Applecross Community Hall Committee Meeting 20/3/2023 at 7pm (Applecross Hall)
Minutes**

Minutes taken by Anne Macrae

Present: Barbara Gillies (BG), Ishbel Ferguson (IF), Rhona McPartlin (RM), Anne Macrae (AM), Christian Burgin (CB), Sean Kilbride (SK), Debs Carr (DC), Agnes Rymowicz (AR)

Apologies: Saara Viitanen (SV)

Agenda items

Approval of minutes from previous meeting on 27/2/23

Committee approved the minutes.

Committee members

Elaine Glover and Debs Carr stepped down from the committee but remain as 'associate members'. Derek MacLennan also stepped down from the committee. The committee gives thanks to Elaine, Debs and Derek for their time and efforts.

Treasurer's report

- CB reported that the accounts were looking quite healthy. Some savings had been made with e.g. changing the phone contract.
- Accounts were being filed and needing to submit to OSCR, however we have no accounts created before three years ago and eight years had not been filed with OSCR so CB is working with an accountant to state the accounts for previous years based on the bank transactions and has been liaising with OSCR on this.

Bar report

- AM to put bar order away.
- AM and AR to man the bar for Elvis film night, and AR for Jennifer Ewan concert.
- Premises licence holder change - application filed, update in next meeting.

Report of action points

Phone

- The mobile phone donated by the McPartlins has been factory reset and will operate with an EE Sim card at a cost of £10 per month. This brings the cost for phone down from £500 per year (old payphone) to £120. It is planned to have the phone set in a box on the kitchen wall by the serving hatch.

Grants

- Funding is available to help reduce social isolation and loneliness through Applecross Healthcare Association 2023-26. £5,000 a year to Lunch Club & performances with ideas for activities helping people come together such as a singing group and physical exercise.

Events

- 26 attended the Banshees Film. It is hoped to start a Film Club in the autumn with films chosen from a list provided.
- Success in joining the Micro Touring Network with funding for Applecross to join Eden Court and three other venues. £3,000 for 2 or 3 events to be held, one in the autumn and perhaps one in Spring 2024. There is also £1,000 towards workshops and volunteers.
- Following success in gaining funding from Highland Cares for Children & Young People – Mental Health & Wellbeing, a meeting is planned for Friday 24th March at 5pm in the Hall Lounge to discuss ideas. £2,000 will go towards CYP events held in the hall. **BG plans to liaise with Jenny in Glenelg.**
- It was noted it will be 21 years since the hall was built in November. A Christmas Ceilidh was suggested for the Friday before Christmas (22nd Dec). The Black Rock Ceilidh Band are booked for Hogmanay.
- The canopy drapes need to go up before the wedding in May. There has been a request for information on a possible piper to play for a wedding in July.

Building

- Building Maintenance Order. **CB will bring it up in April.**
- George has agreed to work on the boiler roof and do shelving. He does not do taping but SK can do the work if materials bought.
- Possibility of changing provision of toilet rolls and paper towels to save money. Concern was expressed that the quality would not be so good though Barbara thought the Community Company were happy with that provided at the public toilets.
- Roofer TBC.

- Phil Collins to look at gas bottle regulator as a drop in pressure in the heating system. SK has changed gas bottles over.
- DC to take over as Hall Cleaner from 1st April. Jill to cover next week.
- Proposal to cut down the tree by the back door. Clean leaves and moss from gutters.
- Still to hear about Public Entertainment Licence.
- Logic – 2 new fire emergency lights failed. 2 other lights in the ladies' toilet and disabled toilet are the old style, SK recommended replacing them with new round ones as they will be needed for EICR in 5 years' time.
- Fire alarm that pulsates a light in addition to sound to be heard.
- Sports Equipment – Needs to be tidied and space in corridor. AR and parents to help put the blue gym mats under the stage. Repair the table tennis table that needs screws replaced.
- The bouncy castle is stored to the back, below the stage and the inflation device is in the loft.
- Updated Child Protection & Safeguarding Policy. AR agreed to be the Named Person. May need separate PVG.
- More space for Music Room. Some sound equipment to go to Lochcarron hall.
- Possibility of moving wooden portable bar to outside container.

AOB

- Need to offer Jack some money towards all the printing he has done for the hall. A laser jet printer might be more cost effective. Suggestion that Judith may have one spare at the Inn. BG to ask.
- Painting – Outside gable end of hall is looking very weather beaten. There is also a need to freshen up internal paintwork. Agreed to seek suggestions from Tery McCowan.
- Installing a hearing loop has been suggested. £1,400 + VAT quoted. BG & SK to look at dimensions needed for amplifier.
- Now have a new retro popcorn machine. Elaine has kindly provided a quantity of popcorn kernels.
- Thank you to KLP & businesses for donation of £4,200. (KLP £2,500, Gale Force £500, Northwind £1,200.) Applecross Trust still to reply. £10,000 has been given by hydro scheme via the Applecross Forum.
- Rachel Smart plans to do an article on the Hall as a Community Hub.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 17th April at 7pm.

BG concluded the meeting.