



## Minginish Community Hall Association Annual General Meeting 2020

### Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 11.12.20

1. Welcome and apologies.

Graham Campbell, Chair of Minginish Community Hall Association, opened the meeting and outlined the protocol for this, first, online AGM. 8 Directors were present along with the MCHA Project Officer and 3 members of the Minginish community. Apologies were received from: Janice Page; Paul Rees and Alastair MacKenzie.

2. Approval of minutes of December 2019 AGM

The minutes of the AGM held on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2019 were circulated prior to the meeting to all attendees who had registered for the AGM. These were approved at the meeting, being proposed by Rod Mills, and seconded by Nick Duffill.

3. Chairman's statement / Directors Report 2019/20

The Chairman's report for 2019/20 was presented to the meeting by the Chair, Graham Campbell. The report summarised the activities of the past 12 months focussing on the restrictions and impacts of COVID19 on the Minginish Community. In particular, the Hall has not hosted the number and variety of community events as in previous years. That said, the Hall has been open for the local food hub and been used by the Carbost Medical Practice to administer the flu jab and public toilets.

The Association has also been focussing on its community development function, albeit in a limited capacity due to COVID19. Headlines include:

- Toilets at Fairy Pools carpark are now complete. Focus is now on path improvements and installation of bridges. MCHA are contributing £20,000 to

these projects. Of this, £18,900 has been raised from external sources with £1,100 coming from MCHA's own funds.

- The Fairy Pools Community Fund has funded the following projects: £5,000 to the Minginish Community minibus; £1,500 to North Skye Health Services project officer post; £955 to Minginish Oral Histories project.
- Working with local stone mason to complete a replica of the Fiscavaig Stone. This will be located adjacent to existing Eynort Stone. Work will also include interpretation associated with both stones.
- MCHA was identified as a Community Anchor Organisation to facilitate the distribution of COVID19 emergence support, providing food vouchers, supporting volunteers to collect and deliver essential items to vulnerable and shielding residents.
- Exploring potential to upgrade playing pitch in Carbost to an all-weather pitch, as well as investigating how MCHA can address the issue of low-cost local housing and tourism impact at local areas such as carparking at Talisker.
- MCHA recognise the importance of communication and have secured funding from Highlands and Islands Enterprise to develop a new website.
- MCHA Directors have agreed to continue supporting the Project Officer role for the forthcoming year.

The report was noted for the records.

#### 4. Approval of Treasurer's Report & Accounts 2019 – 2020

Copies of the 2019/20 accounts were circulated to attendees prior to the meeting, as was a summary of the income and expenditure for the Fairy Pools car park. Julie Burnett summarised the financial position.

The income strategy for Fairy Pools car park income was circulated earlier in the year, however, COVID19 impacted on this strategy and spend was put on hold as income for the year was unknown. Hall income from rental remains stable although this will be non-existent for 2020/21. Expenditure continues on the building to ensure a properly maintained, safe and accessible environment. Such expenditure meant the Hall operated at a small loss. It should be noted that MCHA contributed to the memorial plaque located at the entrance to the Hall, as well as to the Eynort Stone which is located outside the entrance to the Hall. The initial loan from the Hall funds to the Fairy Pools project continue to be paid back in accordance with the EGM in November 2016. The balance of this loan is now £4,000 which will be paid back in this financial year (2020/21).

The report was proposed by Steve Bailey and seconded by Peter Meister.

5. Appointment of Accountant for 2019 – 2020

It was recommended that Rankin of Portree is maintained as the MCHA accountant.

The recommendation was approved by Peter Meister and seconded by Keith Sadler.

6. Retirements, election and re-election of Directors

Keith Sadler and Janice Page all offered their resignation from the post of Director and both stated they would not be standing for re-election. This satisfies the requirements of the MCHA constitution.

Peter Meister stands down by rotation, in accordance with the MCHA constitution. Peter noted his interest to be re-elected for another three years. Graham Campbell proposed to re-elect Peter, this was seconded by Steve Bailey.

New Directors: There are no new directors proposed this year but following last year's AGM the meeting needed to ratify the appointment of Steve Bailey. Steve was co-opted to the Board post the AGM. His appointment was proposed by Keith Sadler and seconded by Rod Mills.

7. Any other business

No other business noted. The formal business of the AGM closed at 19:20.

8. Update on community projects.

- The Fairy Pools car park;

Henrik Micski, Project Officer, updated the meeting about progress on the fairy pools project. Carpark construction is complete and the toilet block with treatment facility was signed off in November 2020. Disabled toilet currently open but the rest closed until February half-term at the earliest.

Line painting and bituminous crossing at carpark entrance and start of path are still outstanding. 20 parking spaces were added during winter 2020! This was helpful as post first lockdown the site was very busy.

Ticket machines have been installed and working off the EE 4G mast. Fencing and pedestrian gates are causing issue with access for sheep but plans afoot to improve these.

Plans for the year ahead include internal infrastructure upgrades such as:

- Internal path between upper and lower tier to keep visitors within the carpark.
- Improve sharp bend between the two tiers.
- Install bay-marking for spaces and marked disabled parking.
- 1 more ticket machine
- Picnic benches
- Another welfare unit to provide access to information and potential concession.

Path improvement and environmental protection continues with 2x bridges and improved, more defined, path with 'viewpoints.' Work expected to start Jan/Feb '21.

Pilot studies for improving visitor management also taking place with University of Edinburgh.

- BT phone kiosks.

BT announced they would close and remove kiosks in Portnalong, Eynort and Glenbrittle. Following input from the Community Highland Council consultation concluded the Glenbrittle and Eynort to remain. The Portnalong kiosk is to be adopted by MCHA. Awaiting official landowner approval before progressing to the next stage.

- Development Plan.

Henrik Micski provided an update on Development Plan. This is based on the community survey completed in summer 2019. Three priorities were identified:

- Social affordable housing. MCHA working with organisations to investigate whether MCHA can address the lack of provision in the area.
- Environmental issues associated with tourism in e.g., Talisker Bay is also being investigated.
- Health and Wellbeing. MCHA investigating the potential (options appraisal) for an all-weather pitch in Carbost to improve health and wellbeing. Also working with the Skye Cycle Network to address lack of walking, cycling, mobility, and active travel access in the area.

9. Questions from the floor welcome

Jim Towers noted historical issue with BT kiosk in Portnalong regarding vandalism.

Nick Duffill reiterates that MCHA have received additional funding via the Community Recovery Fund that can help residents struggling with COVID19 impacts and encourages members to spread the word.

There were no further questions and the meeting closed at 19:55.