

Plockton & District Community Trust

Urras Coimhearsnachd Sgìre a' Phluic

Minute of Trustees' Meeting: 13 February 2024

held at Duirnish Oaks

Present: Mary Jane Campbell, Catherine Will, Bill Taylor, John Maclean, David Skilling, Alaisdair Mackenzie, Sandra Holmes

1. **Apologies:** Matt Jones, Alexander Mackenzie,
2. **Conflicts of Interest:** No conflicts of interest declared.
3. **Previous Minutes:** approved unanimously. No matters arising.
4. **Previous Actions:** The Action List has been updated and will be circulated.
5. **Memberships:** Two new Ordinary/Full Members were approved: Neil and Camilla Marshall.
6. **Correspondence:** Nothing to report.
7. **Old Post Office:** Campbell Smith, our Solicitors had submitted an offer of purchase but no response has been received so far. Our Solicitors were awaiting a plan from the National Trust. Our Architect, Olli Blair, had suggested a Structural Engineer, Derek Thomson of Narro, be appointed and following discussion between Bill, Sandra and Alaisdair this had been done with Alaisdair being the contact. These actions were homologated by the Trustees. The Structural Engineer had inspected the property the previous day and his Report was expected. A Building Warrant has been applied for. Alexander is to report on VAT registration, for and against. This will be decided at a future meeting.
Energy Efficiency and Renewables
Sandra had a call with [CARES](#) re funding. They will only provide insulation/energy improvements to a building where renewables are being installed. A PV array on the land behind the old PO,

with batteries, is likely to be the only viable option for us but options not fully considered. First step is to do an energy audit. Sandra is still to follow the energy audit up with [Business Energy Scotland](#) – she is getting different opinions as to whether we need to own the building first, so will contact them directly.

8. **Short Term Lets – Control Area:** Council Planning officials have circulated a paper which only includes the village of Plockton. It was felt that using the wider area might reduce the impact. However nothing had yet been agreed. Alasdair, Sandra and Bill will meet with Planning officials to discuss this. Bill thinks the Community Council should be involved but the majority opinion was that that did not need to happen until later in the process. Mary Jane will have updated Plockton details in time for this meeting.
9. **Social Events - update:** A Race Night will be held in the Village Hall on Friday, 16th February. Trust Membership forms will be available at the event. Community lunches restart on February 15th in the Plockton Hotel.
10. **Note-taker for next meeting:** Sandra volunteered to take notes at the next meeting to be held in 43 Harbour Street, on Tuesday 5th March, 2024 at 7.30 pm.
11. **AOB:** Sandra supplied the following updates:

Tourism Place Plan

Our funding for the Tourism Place Plan has been approved in full - £15k awarded. There will be some conditions attached to this which we won't know about for a couple of weeks.

SCOTO

A couple of weeks ago Sandra had a call with SCOTO re the 'Press Pause for Tourism' workshop we have funding to deliver. The content of the workshop will be agreed once we hear the

outcome of the CRF application. Funding for this is now approved.

CRF funding

£15k approved but awaiting formal offer letter which will contain some conditions. Highland Council want us to expand the work beyond tourism to cover traffic as well. The issues are interlinked so this is not an issue. We purposely separated out traffic (to be led by the CC) and tourism (to be led by us) on the original advice of the Council (Lochaber). Alaisdair and Sandra had a helpful chat with the Council (Portree) re this the previous Friday. Once we get the paperwork Sandra will email all those who attended the November meeting and will arrange a follow-up discussion.

Logo and Website

Matt and Sandra have offered dates to Marissa for a call, but nothing in the diary yet. Matt and Sandra also had a chat with Sam Bilner re photos and logo ideas.

