

Shiskine Valley Improvements Committee
Minute of Meeting held in Kinloch Hotel on Mon 20th Sept at 7.30pm
(Rescheduled from 23rd August)
www.shiskinevalley.org

1. In Attendance:

Robert Waine (Chair), Liz Kerr, Angus Adamson, Barbara Crawford, Sheila Gilmore

Apologies:

Willie Robertson, Charles Currie, Colin Cameron

2. Minutes of Last Meeting 28/6/10

Approved by Angus, seconded by Robert.

3. Matters Arising from Minute

Sports Field

This is ongoing. Sheila has registered for change of land use, Rural Gateway, and we now have the BRN. Unfortunately our contact at Rural Priorities is off until 4th October. Sheila will run application past him before submission – from this we can then gauge how much finance we will require from Sports Scotland.

Action: Sheila

Shiskine Football Club

Fundraising efforts have been ongoing. Liz advised that the Football Club had assisted at Shiskine Valley Sports Day and will receive a donation accordingly, in return for their efforts behind the bar and in organising the event.

SVSD

The event had gone very well – see above. There had been a raffle for Shiskine Valley Trust funds which had generated over £600. Caroline Fleming and her sons had sold tickets on Sports Day and various others had sold them at and after the golf on Sunday. Robert had been able to secure additional vouchers from local businesses, complimentary to those Caroline had sourced. He had also posted the amount raised, and thanked all those who contributed on the website immediately after. It was agreed this was a good money raiser for the village funds.

War Memorial

This is ongoing. Willie and Angus had not anticipated the job not starting until September anyway.

Action: Willie/ Angus

Noticeboards

Sheila has asked Steve for prices. It was agreed that there would need to be a deadline to this – after the October Holidays.

Action: Sheila

Dog Fouling

There had been no response to our letter to Brodie Pearcey on 1st July, and as a result there was no bin at the Graennan area or bags in the paper shop. Sheila to chase up. Sheila also noted that there had been an increase in dog fouling around the surgery area – they will be asked to take bags too. Barbara will see if Irene might consider the school doing some promotion regarding owners picking up poo.

Action: Sheila/Barbara

Cemetery Steps

No action has been noted. Sheila to chase this up when enquiring about dog bin.

Action: Sheila

Christmas Lights

Still no further forward regarding prices for solar tree lights. Barbara will ask Arran Electricals for a price, and the tree will be resited in the playpark. The Scouts are keen to be involved in carol singing – and Barbara feels the Guides will also be keen. It was suggested that the Committee arrange for some food to have at the lighting ceremony (out of our £600), and the money raised by the carol singing can be donated towards another charity. There will also be a local prize for the best house illuminations. Robert will ask Taste of Arran for a hamper. Sheila to do a flyer which can be distributed through school, with votes lodged on the website, if possible. A sub committee will consist of Barbara, Kay Stout, Willie, Colin and Sheila.

Action: Sub Committee/Robert

String Road

Reply correspondance from NAC indicates that better consultation would occur in future, although they do not consider the bridge at Monyquil to be a health & safety issue.

Website

Robert feels we need to promote this further. Everyone to be encouraged to post events on the website. Angus will ask that the church coffee morning is posted on the front page and Sheila will speak to Hall groups. Robert also felt that if we could engage some local experts then we may be able to expand the website to encourage greater use. Anyone who has a walk that they enjoy (no matter how short) within the area, is to be encouraged to send it to the website, or alternatively contact a Committee member. Business acards were suggested as a way of publicising the wensite generally. People could then pick up a card when in local shops/hotels. Angus noted that these could be printed free of charge initially. Sheila to enquire.

Action: All

Clachan Church

Angus advised the project is ongoing pending completion hopefully by Easter 2011. Bids have been submitted for funding to cover finishing touches and signage, which will incorporate historical information by Bill

McLauchlin and Scott Wood. Robert had had a meeting with Sheila McLean about other issues and she had commented favourably on the application. The Committee felt that the working group are to be congratulated – George Bannatyne, Jack Murchie, Peter Harper and Angus. It was noted that George in particular has been a driving force.

SEPA

We had received a response from SEPA which indicated that the smell of rotting seaweed is a 'natural phenomenon' and there are no traces of sewerage in samples taken. Robert confirmed that NAC are of the same opinion.

Shiskine Valley Trust

It was noted that there has been no word on a meeting to let members know if the Trust is being disbanded or to stay as it is – this would also allow for the possibility of changing the constitution to increase membership, and thus increase income. Robert and Liz will both take these views back to the Trust. In the interim, felt that we should invite Donald Galbraith as Chair to our next meeting, to let him see firsthand how things are developing from the Improvements Committee.

Action: Robert/Liz

4. AOCB

Shelter

There was discussion about the possibility of siting the old bus shelter (now stored behind Kinloch) on the sports field or surrounding area. Robert will liase with the residents in the near locality to see if they have any objections.

Action: Robert

- **Community Outdoors Access Grant Scheme**

This is a funding opportunity that came from NAC, but via a number of channels. Robert had submitted a bid for funding for £500 for picnic tables etc. If we are successful, then monies must be spent by end of March 2011. Robert has been advised that he should hear soon.

- **Funding**

Robert advised that Maureen McKenna has agreed to keep us informed of any fundraising opportunities that may arise as she gets this information through her work with Visit Arran.

There being no further business the meeting concluded.

Date of Next Meeting

It was decided that Mondays are unsuitable. The next meeting will be on Thursday 4th November.