

Collieston Pier Group Minutes 3rd February 2014

Present: David Stewart (C), Robin Mackie, Sally Sheehan, Trish Davidson, Roddy Junor, Chris Stewart, Councillor R. Merson, Meg Wallace, Roger Berl, Councillor I. Davidson, Lewis Cowie, Susan Taylor, Trish Cowie, Anthony & Anne Craig & Huib Attema

Apologies: Ewan Cowie & Mike Wallace

Minutes: After agreeing two small amendments the minutes were proposed by Anthony Craig, seconded by Lewis Cowie and approved.

Matters Arising: Calendars: Of the 1,000 printed, approximately 650 have been sold, 250 have been given out as publicity for the village and 100 are surplus. There was discussion about whether a smaller print run should be done in future. No conclusion was reached but what was agreed was that the calendars need to be ready for Gala to ensure they sell.

Treasurer's Report: Trish Davidson reported that the balance in the bank account at present is £5,172.90. David requested some cash to cover expenses for the Marcliffe dinner and advised that to date less than £200 had been spent on arrangements. Lewis asked about a payment from the Council but Councillor Davidson said that the budget goes from year to year and the money to which Lewis was referring would have been paid several years ago. Lewis is anxious about the condition of the Boatie Shore and the wall along the road past the Smuggler's Cone which has been undermined by exceptionally high tides. As this latter is not a public road, we need to find out who is responsible for it and if personal insurance would cover any incidents, etc. The Scottish Maritime Office's budget is £400,000 per annum for non-standard repair work for the whole of Scotland. The Scottish Communities Fund might be worth looking at but some fishing would need to be going on in the village for any application to be considered. Money is still awaited from Collieston and Slains Community Trust from the sale of calendars and framed photos and from the photographic exhibition

Charitable Status: David apologised for rushing the group to agree a name for the new body at our last meeting. It was felt that the name agreed on that occasion was not appropriate and after a short discussion it was agreed unanimously that the new group should be the **Collieston Harbour Heritage Group**. Sally said that the application for Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation status is straightforward and only 2 people are required to submit the forms. The aims of the group will be set out so that they meet the charity test and the draft constitution will cover issues such as elections, AGMs, etc. A question was raised about insurance for the new body. Until now, the Pier Group has paid the insurance premium on the pier but Roger suggested that, in addition to doing this, in future the Collieston Harbour Heritage Group would also need its own insurance. Sally and Chris will take this up with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator and with our current insurers. David then asked members to indicate if they would be interested in standing as trustees of the new group. A very welcome level of enthusiasm was expressed and the following people offered their services:

Robin Mackie

Trish Davidson

Sally Sheehan

Roddy Junor

Roger Berl

Huib Attema

David Stewart

Acceptance of the potential trustees was nominated by Anthony Craig, seconded by Lewis Cowie and approved by the group. Only three named trustees are required when the SCIO application is lodged but since our draft constitution allows for a total of seven trustees it was agreed that all seven names should be submitted.

Fundraising Dinner at the Marcliffe: To date ten tables have been sold but we hope that at least 14-15 will eventually be sold. Alan Whyte has kindly offered to do a brief presentation which guests will be able to see over welcoming drinks. The Press and Journal will be contacted about publicity and Lewis suggested that the Leopard magazine might also be worth considering.

Delft University: Huib reported that he has had contact with the lecturer who came with the group of students and that he is finalising a proposal. There are a number of students who are interested in being involved. We should hear more in the next few months. Huib is also following up some concrete work being done elsewhere.

Pier/Boatie Shore Work: Ongoing storms are taking even more earth and gravel away from the Boatie Shore and remedial work will need to be undertaken when conditions allow. Lewis will look at the new Donations Box (a defunct parking meter kindly supplied by the Council) and see how to secure it.

Beach Huts: Roddy has done some research about beach huts on the internet and thinks that we could hire out a basic hut for £15-£50 per day. The cost of a hut would be in the region of £500 and it would have to be portable. Bookings could be administered by the shop (if the shopkeepers were agreeable) or over the internet in which case a key would be collected from an agreed point. Rules for usage would have to be applied. A basic table and two chairs would be supplied. A question of rates liability was raised along with a number of other issues. Roddy agreed to pursue the subject further and come back to the next meeting with more detail.

AOCB: Roger extended a welcome to members to the next meeting of the Community Council which will be held at 7pm. on 12th February at Slains School.

Next Meeting: To be held on Monday 24th February 2014 at 7.30pm at 11 High Town, Collieston.