

GLENURQUHART RURAL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

MONDAY 18^h JUNE 2018

Annual general meeting

Present: Susan Clark (SC) Chair, Carolyn Wilson (CW) Secretary, Nicola Vestey (NV) Treasurer and 18 others

Apologies: 5 apologies were received.

Full list of attendees and apologies is attached as Appendix A

1. Previous minutes and matters arising:

The minutes of the AGM held on 12th June 2017 were read. Approval of the minutes was proposed by Fiona Urquhart and seconded by Jan Bell.

2. Chair's Report:

SC gave the following report;

“The past year has been an exceptionally active year for GURCA. Since converting to a 2 tier SCIO in 2017, a new Board of Trustees was elected at the last AGM and it has been my honour to act as Chair over the past year. I would like to thank the previous trustees for all the work done over the year and for creating a sound foundation for GURCA as it heads towards the new era. Can I also thank the incoming Trustees, this includes those who remained, for all their commitment over the year.

Key achievements over the past year are as follows:

Fireworks – for the first time we were required to submit an application for a licence for this event. Thanks go to Anne Fraser for this. We were given an event licence for this which lasts for 3 years and whilst this cost us money it did allow the successful event to continue while many other communities were not able to hold theirs.

Children's Parties – these were, as usual a huge success and the funds from the Halloween parties help fund the Christmas parties. We hope that Angela & Karen can find their apprentices soon to continue organising these super events.

Thank you to Nicola and James Vestey for the donation of Christmas trees to decorate the Hall and to all those who came along to help with the decorating.

Glenurquhart Public Hall – we have been going through the very tedious process of legally transferring the Hall over to GURCA. We were required to get a valuation for the building and appoint legal advisors for this. HIE kindly provided funding for this. As part of this process OSCR have to consent to this transfer and we are currently going through the OSCR consultation process for this and expect conclusion in the next couple of months. Following this the conveyancing can be concluded.

Hall Refurbishment – the funding applications for this are reliant on the legal transfer. Once this is complete we can start the funding application process.

Local Energy Plan – GURCA have been represented on the Steering Group for this project. The draft plan is in place and Soirbheas are planning a “Green Day” on Saturday 29th September to launch this.

Waste to Heat Project – GURCA were lucky enough to be given funding from a European fund – RECENT - to undertake feasibility on a project to take excess heat from the waste water plant in Drumnadrochit and use this to heat the hall and Glenurquhart Centre. This funding also allowed us to create a short video to showcase GURCA, the local energy plan and the project. We have now applied to Local Energy Scotland for funding to develop this further.

Community Action Plan – we have been out to tender to select consultants to undertake a Community Action Plan and help create our vision for the next 20 years. Soirbheas have provided funding of £5k to assist with this. Unfortunately the Big Lottery have turned down our request for funding for the balance but we continue to seek other funding providers. We hope that this work can start in the autumn, subject to funding.

Community asset transfers – we recently held a community consultation to discuss 3 potential community asset transfers.

- Loch Ness Homes Parkland – there was strong support to pursue this and so an agreement is being negotiated which will come back to the trustees for approval.
- TIC- we are aware that the TIC will be vacated by Visit Scotland in the autumn. We advised Highland Council that the Community would like the opportunity to look at taking over this facility. At the community consultation, there was strong support to pursue this. Since then a Working Group has been set up to drive this forward. Updates will come to the GURCA Trustees monthly and to the open GURCA meetings.
- Urquhart Castle – there was 2:1 support for pursuing this further and a working group has also been set up.

We urge volunteers to come forward to join these groups.

Market on the Green – following an idea from a member of the Community, these have now been running successfully since April. There have been 2 trials and the first main market was held last month. Following this the number of stands is being raised to 12. Thanks go to Marj Tait and Karen Price for organising and running this. Proceeds from the stands go to GURCA funds”.

3. Finance:

NV advised the meeting that the accounts had been independently examined and no issues had arisen from this.

The accounts would now be submitted to OSCR.

A summary of the accounts was provided:

**GLENURQUHART RURAL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2018**

		2018	2017		
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
INCOME					
Donations	- Games	100	100		
	Other	<u>-</u>	<u>25</u>		
		<u>100</u>	<u>125</u>		
Fundraising - Bulletin		1090	1178		
	Fireworks	589	566		
	Children's parties	406	513		
	Games Day Stall	587	-		
	Etape	250	-		
	Bingo	<u>-</u>	<u>650</u>		
		2922	2907		
Grants		4871	390		
Building society interest		<u>46</u>	<u>51</u>		
		<u>7939</u>	<u>3473</u>		
EXPENDITURE					
Fundraising - Bulletin		780	744		
	Fireworks + licence	932	493		
	Children's parties	354	482		
	Bingo night	<u>-</u>	<u>30</u>		
		2066	<u>1749</u>		
Grass cutting		720	750		
Donations		100	200		
Professional fees		4871	390		
Other expenses: Hall		46	55		
	Insurance	<u>98</u>	<u>106</u>		
		<u>7901</u>	<u>3250</u>		
SURPLUS		<u>38</u>	<u>223</u>		
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
	Cobb	Play	Green	AED	CAP
	Memorial	Park	Space		
Balance brought forward	4795	113	906	145	
Income	66				300
Expenditure	<u>-222</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-450</u>	-	-

Key points to note are that the Association has generated a surplus of £38 for the year. The Bulletin continues to provide a good contribution to funds. This year, there had also been significant funds raised via the work of volunteers in relation to the Etape; these efforts were much appreciated.

Approval of the financial statement was proposed by Fraser Mackenzie and seconded by Gordon Watson

4. Election of Trustees:

In accordance with the Association's constitution, three of the current Trustees were required to stand down, although they were eligible to be re-elected.

There was a vacancy for one trustee, created by the resignation of Bruce Nelson. The names of two more Trustees to stand down - Anne Macdonald and Carolyn Wilson - were drawn. Prior to the meeting, Ms Macdonald had indicated her willingness to stand again as a Trustee, and Carolyn Wilson confirmed she would also be willing to be re-elected.

Gordon Finlay and Fraser Campbell had also indicated willingness to stand as Trustees.

The meeting voted on this, and Anne Macdonald, Carolyn Wilson and Gordon Findlay were elected. The full list of Trustees, along with the other bodies they represent, for the coming year is:

Susan Clark (Games Committee)

Carolyn Wilson (Hall)

Nicola Vestey

Fraser Mackenzie (Shinty Club)

Anne Macdonald

Gordon Watson (Hall)

Pam Lucas (Community Council)

Gordon Findlay (Chamber of Commerce)

5. AOB:

Alan Bell proposed a vote of thanks to the existing Trustees for their efforts during the year.

Post meeting note: The Shinty Club submitted a report to the AGM which was received just too late to be included in the business of the meeting. However, the report is attached as Appendix B

Appendix A

GURCA meeting 18th June 2018: List of attendees and Apologies

Attendees:

Susan Clark

Carolyn Wilson

Nicola Vestey

Erik Trelfer

Gordon Findlay

Jan Bell

Alan Bell

Fiona Urquhart

Mhairi Marshall

Gordon Watson

Karen Mackenzie

Elizabeth Owen

Helen Maclennan

Neil Macinnes

Ann Macinnes

Leona Joiner

Darren Reid

Dick Beach

Fraser Mackenzie

Jennie Macfie

Adrian Varwell

Apologies

Pam Lucas, Margaret Varwell, Anne Macdonald, Margaret Crichton, George Cruikshank

Appendix B

Glen Urquhart Shinty Club – GURCA AGM Report 2018

Premier division shinty has been especially challenging this season, the senior squad is brimming with young players that are showing great commitment and potential beyond their years, life in the Premier league however is not easy and the team will need to be at their very best if their future in this division is to be secured.

The junior team continues to play in North Division 1 with our Women's team continuing to strive from strength to strength playing in WCA North Division 2.

GUSC continue to maintain and improve where possible the playing area and pavilion within Blairbeg Park, ensuring continued accessibility for shinty for all ages and by the wider community. This season the pitch area has been lengthened and every care has been taken to ensure the weekly availability of a full youth, ladies and men's schedule. The club has recently invested in renewing their gang mowers - essential for the weekly maintenance of the field, along with this there has been the purchase of a Polaris utility vehicle that is not only fit to utilise the mowing equipment but serves as an excellent addition when setting up and packing down the field on match days. The club envisages the utility vehicle also being very useful for the Highland games over their setting up and packing down period.

GUSC aims and has succeeded in continuing to providing a full youth structure from primary age through to secondary school groups, which then lead into the first and second senior teams. Now with the addition of a fully fledged women's team covering many age groups the ladies sport is growing in popularity on a monthly basis.

The Old skate park has been an excellent addition to GUSC to facilitate our growing numbers of primary school children, the club plan to rejuvenate the perimeter fence over the school holidays. The club is currently exploring several opportunities:

- a)** In the last 12 months the club has undertaken a feasibility study to assess the possibility of purchasing the solum on which the pavilion stands, GUSC received a favourable quotation from a local firm of solicitors and have equally secured funding to progress this. A map representative of the intended purchase area has been put forward, subject to approval from GURCA.
- b)** Contact has been made with Mr John Cameron about the purchase of the adjoining field at the school road end of Blairbeg Park the negotiation of an acceptable sum and the funding have been looked at by GUSC and we are currently seeking to raise extra funds towards this ongoing project. However it was decided that the imminent need for a new minibus would require priority for club funds.
- c)** GUSC have identified the need for a new minibus and are currently actively raising funds for this project with various fundraising events throughout the year as well as applying for the appropriate grants.

We feel that the money we are on an annual basis spending on our old minibus is unsustainable but this is a vital piece of equipment for GUSC so every effort is being made to achieve our target.

GUSC would like to complete at least two of the above projects if feasible within the next twelve month term.