



Management Group Meeting Minutes

Monday 26th August 2013, 7pm, Estate Office, Applecross

Present: Archie MacLellan (AM), ALPS Chair (Applecross Trust), Richard Wills (RW)(Applecross Trust), Mike Summers (MS)(Applecross Crofters), Alasdair Macleod (AML)(Community Council), Alistair McCowan (AMcC)(Historical Society), Gill Fairweather (GF)(Walks and Traditional crafts group), Owen Kilbride (OK)(Archaeological Society), Tom Kilbride (TK)(co-opted member), Jackie Liuba (JL), (co-opted member), Jess Whistance (JW), Elodie Matthews (EM), Lesley Kilbride (LK).

Apologies of absence: Derek MacLennan (Bealach Group), Lorna Lumsden (Applecross Trust), Mary Gibson (adviser)

Approval of minutes: the July MG meeting minutes were approved. JL requested that an additional note be added to the June minutes to clarify discussions had about wood fuel (**Gateway Woodland**).

Updates

See attached document.

Kenmore path: RW asked for clarifications regarding the Kenmore path brief and asked if works were planned from the other side of the fence into the glen. JW answered that this portion of the path had not been included in the specification.

SCDF: AM will be meeting CCAGS to resolve the last issues remaining with the claims. One roe deer sighting has been reported in Milltown. JW has been in contact with David Abraham regarding other deer sightings in the Toscaig area.

Barns: The painting of the barns roofs was raised by OK. AMcC pointed out that it was included in the specification but had no consequence. The group agreed on a rusty red colour to make it look like the old roofs but also agreed to wait for the new ones to weather down.

Gateway woodland: A meeting with Bill Watson was organised the morning of 26 August to discuss the contract and pin down details for Applecross Pier and Gateway Woodland. Planning application and exploration are to start in September 2013. The project has to be finished by March 2015. SRDP grant funding has been approved and confirmation is expected shortly.

Plans for the pier have been provided by Bill Watson and were presented to the group. OK expressed concerns regarding the preservation of historical features. RW reassured the group that the look of the pier had to be in-keeping with the old pier and samples of the proposed stone-imitation concrete mouldings (fabricated by Solway Precast) were requested. The option of a drystone wall is still possible, but would require a high maintenance cost. AMcC pointed out that the proposed pier was a very good practical solution to an engineering problem. RW highlighted this project as a good

opportunity for creating legacy for Applecross but agreed that no decision should be taken before the sample is seen by the group.

It has been agreed by the Trust that Bill Watson, as part of his contract, would sell 300T of timber from Gateway to the Applecross Community Company for the benefit of the community. This timber will be stored at Keppoch and will be sold at a discounted rate to ensure that the Community Company gets the best deal.

Bealach dykes: The question of safeguarding the newly restored dykes on the Bealach was raised. A meeting with the Highland Council will be arranged to discuss the issue. JW explained that additional works could be organised within the remaining budget and asked for suggestions to be made. JL felt that Camusterrach bay could benefit from the opportunity. JW agreed to meet with Geoff Walker, AMcC and JL to look at several options.

Hazel woods and Roundhouse: the Management plan drafted by Sam Bridgewater and completed by Les Bates was approved by the group. LK and GF agreed to keep monitoring the woodland in the fenced area.

GF suggested collecting more nuts with the primary school to replace the saplings that were planted previously and died.

A series of workshops will take place at the Roundhouse from 9th to 13th September (this is now rescheduled for 7-11 Oct).

Greenhouses: AMcC wants to see the pit cleared and where the lead pipes go. MS noted that the gully between the two buildings needed replacement. OK asked for the valuable features to be taken off site for the time of the works.

Land Conditioning & habitat Improvement: the bracken spraying that was scheduled to take place in Keppoch and Milltown has been cancelled due to unsuitable weather forecast. There will be no further bracken spraying through ALPS.

Any other business: JL reiterated the need to display the meeting minutes on available notice boards. EM to print and pin the minutes to the community hall, Post Office and Visitor Centre boards.

The next meeting is set for Monday 23 September 2013.

An open meeting with the Trust is set for Wednesday 18 September 2013.