

Carron Community Hall Council - Management Committee Meeting

Date: Thursday, 16th January 2025 **Time:** 7:30 PM

Location: Carron Community Hall

Linda, Chris, Howard, Stuart, Aart, George, Lorraine

Agenda

1. Welcome and Apologies

- Introduction by Chairperson (Linda)
- Apologies: Sheena, Marion, Sally, Paula

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

- Review and approval of the minutes from the meeting held on 5th December 2024.
- Approved without comments

3. Matters Arising

- **Update on funding opportunities:** Paul's Hill and Berry Burn windfarms (Howard/Chris).
 - 1. **Paul's Hill:** Howard: £80,137 available at the moment.
 - 2. **Berry Burn:** Chris: They have £180,000 available in funding for 3 application rounds Jan 25, May 25, Sep 25, Jan 26. Usually, a decision within a month of submission date.

Most people sign up for £10,000-£15,000.

Very broad scope of purposes.

Proposal is to try and apply to this fund for the roof.

Case needs to be well written, no representation from Speyside.
- **Hall heating replacement investigations:** Current status and next steps (Sheena/Chris).

Sheena has gone round to other halls, in terms of their approached.

Strathdee recommended gas, which is available in the village, but it is unclear how to connect.

Chivas has not responded.

Chris: Fulcrum pipeline Ltd own the pipeline and will request them for a quote for a connection.

Howard has brought an example of an infrared heater with a thermostat as an alternative approach, without the need of bringing in gas.

Chris as a next step proposes to contact all renewables installers locally, to come with proposals and demonstrations.

Howard proposes an experiment in the small room with infrared heaters, to see if that is satisfactory.

Chris emphasises the lack of insulation which has impact on almost any solution selected.

Halls in the area which have recently upgraded heating have selected a 'wet' system.

Stuart proposes to contact REAP for advice.

Agreed that Stuart will take the lead in this and will update us in the next meeting.

Addendum from Sheena (via email):

- She contacted Steph Gravell of REAP in Keith, who advised requesting a free Energy Efficiency Assessment from Business Energy Scotland. She completed the application with the Charity Reg. No. from Chris.
- Initially told there was a 40-week wait but was later contacted by Craig Sinclair (Business Energy Advisor) who is now available.
- Sheena requested that either Linda or Chris arrange an appointment with Craig Sinclair. (meanwhile picked up as an action by Stuart)
- Form submitted to Local Energy Scotland about the Community Heat Development Programme, but no response yet.
- Sheena emphasised the need for clarity on the committee's preferred heating system (gas, electricity, or other options) and urged prompt decision-making to avoid further delays.

- **Update on shelter:** Discussion on progress (Marion).

Carry forward to next meeting.

Aart to follow up to see if there is any news to report.

- **Roof repair:** Updates and quotes for re-slating and solar panels (Chris).

No further progress at this moment. Chris will contact more slaters.

- **Post-event comments on Christmas Carols:** Feedback and discussion.

Thanks to Howard for organising and to those supplying mince pies and refreshments

Will return on the schedule for Christmas 2025

- **Trees update:** Progress on resolving the issue behind the shed (Linda/Howard).

Linda has contacted Angus Dixon, who confirmed the tree had been overlooked.

Agreed to do it, when the weather improves, at no cost.

- **Information map repair:** Updates and plans to keep the topic live (Howard).

No further updates at this moment. Howard will try to get a direct contact to the ranger.

4. New Topics

- **Financial report:** Proposal to include a copy on Facebook with AGM minutes (Stuart/Linda).

Chris: AGM minutes can go online, financial report as soon as it's verified. Will be published on the notice board as well.

- **Aims and objectives:** Overview for trustees and office bearers (Stuart).

Stuart asks for the office bearers' goals for the upcoming period.

Linda shares the first aim to be getting the hall technically and structurally in order, to enable the second step to be to use an improved hall for an increase in community events. Linda also highlights how there seems to be a lacking interest in the activities organised.

Stuart proposes to contact the other halls in the area to find out what events have been successful.

Linda emphasises that today, a key issue is that our hall is not attractive at the moment.

Agreed that suggestions can be made, just by e-mail, without the need to wait for meetings.

- **Constitution review:** Relevance, charity test success, and potential name change to "Association" (Stuart/Linda).

Stuart indicates the constitution may need to be properly reviewed, as there seems to be some obvious flaws in it.

Chris will send Stuart the amended version.

5. AOCB (Any Other Competent Business)

- **Howard** : List of committee members on the notice board should be updated
- **Stuart** : Proposes the general e-mail to be handled by the secretary; agreed
- **George** : Imperial cottage road update carried over to next meeting
- **Stuart** : Facebook statistics for "How Many Views" and/or "Seen" is not visible for all posts. Admin kindly asked to review and amend, if possible.
- **Chris** : shared some draft options for reorganising the toilets while adding a ramp. Major concerns are cost and sewage.
- **Stuart** : highlights the meeting on 31st January 13:00 - 16:00 regarding the Moray connect buses in Archiestown Hall.

6. Date of Next Meeting

- Next date to be determined based on progress on open actions.