

**Arran Community Land Initiative Trustees Meeting
Thursday 7 February 2019
at Benview**

Present- Rob Cowieson, Joanne Godwin, Jill Wilkinson, Nick Burgess

Apologies- Keith Robertson

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| 1. | <p>Previous Minutes Minutes from the previous meeting of 10 January 2019 were approved as an accurate record</p> | |
| 2. | <p>Actions/Matters arising from 10/1/19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Ayrshire creditor account- Jo to supply headed note paper reply to North Ayrshire. • Barbed Wire removal- Action complete. • Forest hut records- have been recovered and being sorted, filed and indexed. We have also cross referenced with Mail Chimp. This should form a decent baseline for the database and future communication. • Trustee personal information- Action complete • Caroline and social care involvement- Unfortunately Caroline couldn't make it-to be re-arranged. | JG |
| 3. | <p>Financial Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are currently sitting with £7432. This allows the SLA with green futures for the 2019 calendar year to run, purchase the necessary tools and materials, and complete the Glenashdale path connection. • Rob advised that he had received verbal notification from Nineveh that ACLI are being awarded £5000. This will assist work over and above the current plans and is very pleasing to receive. • Jo noted a payment of £40 required for Pauline's work and had received a payment of £30 from Woodside. • Jo also noted that our basic income from horses, allotments and members should come in around £1800 during 2019. | |
| 4. | <p>Grant Update We discussed the need to try and secure future funding for core tasks in 2020 and beyond, improving our ability to develop the land further up the hill.</p> <p>Nick listed several potential sources and their aims which agree with ours. Further information to come back to next meeting.</p> | <p>NB - to explore the Ayrshire venture fund</p> <p>RC – to explore the Robertson Trust Community Fund</p> |
| 5. | <p>Land Management Strategy We discussed the need to try and marry up our land strategy with our grant strategy. In principle we agreed on the need to phase our approach dependant on the state and geography of the site. This could take the form of reserving the area around Field 15 for conservation, Fields 12 and 13 for broadleaf woodland supported by Forest Scotland grants. These fields are likely to take too much intervention to bring into other productive use and do not seem to have been cultivated for some considerable time. Those fields which are amenable to being topped should be topped and made good to allow grazing. While the bottom</p> | |

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| | <p>area of the site is gradually improved to extend allotments and productive ground.</p> <p>Nick also suggested that ACLI could benefit from a greater range of equipment, such as a farm quad bike with trailer. This would give us more ability to efficiently manage the land ourselves. We agreed to explore this further.</p> <p>As part of the strategy the Glenashdale connection will be boardwalked where necessary and we will take the opportunity to open up some gaps for horses between fields, ensure that sections with boardwalk also allow passage for horses and mark future path routes.</p> <p>We discussed the use of the area covered by membrane. The consensus appears to be to scope out using the area for wild flowers with a view to start collecting seeds for future use. Wildflower seeds can be expensive and producing our own could cut down the cost of extending a meadow approach to some of the grazing land.</p> | <p>NB – to explore additional equipment</p> <p>RC/JG to produce large scale map to aid strategy formulation.</p> <p>NB/RC to work with Darren to produce timescale for boardwalk construction.</p> <p>NB/DT to prepare costings for wildflower planting.</p> |
| 6. | <p>Volunteer Strategy</p> <p>Nick advised that he had met Sophie at Arran CVS who is happy to contribute to ACLI’s strategy once we have a suitable draft for her to comment on.</p> <p>We noted the Volunteer Day on the 9th will be largely to improve the allotment holder’s polytunnel, but if numbers/time permits Rob/Nick will measure out the metres of boardwalk needed.</p> <p>The volunteer day on 9/3 is likely to concentrate on tree planting.</p> | |
| 7. | <p>Communication Strategy</p> <p>Nanette has put in a lot of time and effort to update and cross reference membership records with MailChimp. Rob considers that this should allow ACLI to have a good baseline of information from which to contact members.</p> <p>Rob confirmed that he is now the main editor for the Facebook page and website. He has produced a circular to members this week to give information and also check whether people wish to stay involved.</p> <p>We also agreed that minutes should be circulated to members and available on the website, with the proviso that on occasion personal or confidential information may need to be redacted.</p> <p>Nick advised that Arran CVS would be happy to put information on their Facebook page as well.</p> | <p>Action- Rob to contact Arran Banner with updated information on plans for the year and volunteering information.</p> <p>Nick/Darren to provide outline of tasks for the volunteer days.</p> <p>Rob/Nick to prepare draft newsletter for consideration at next meeting.</p> |

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| 8. | <p>AOCB</p> <p>Scottish Water- Juliette passed a letter from SW to ACLI.</p> <p>Education- Arran HS have written asking about future arrangements with ACLI. We agreed this was a suitable opportunity for Rob/Nick to meet with the school and discuss a service level agreement around ACLI/education partnership.</p> <p>Charity regulations- Jo to write to the charity regulator requesting a change of correspondence to secretary.</p> <p>Environmental studies student- A student wishes to meet with us and discuss the site. Rob to suggest he visits on the volunteer day on the 9th. Rob advised that more people are interested in obtaining allotments. We agreed to make more space available.</p> <p>Horses - Jill reminded us about the problems horses have crossing the burn next to the boardwalk. (Rob and Nick later walked there and thought as a first step we could cut the vegetation back)</p> <p>Additional polytunnel - ACLI has been offered another polytunnel. We need to arrange a time to dismantle and transport/erect on site. Possibly a volunteer day.</p> <p>Allotment Track - The unadopted track leading past the allotments has some potholes. A resident has asked whether ACLI can contribute towards filling them in. We agreed that we should contribute.</p> | <p>RC to write to SW giving NB address for future correspondence</p> <p>RC/NB to meet with HS about future plans</p> <p>JG to contact Regulator</p> |
| 9. | Next meeting- 7 March 2019 at 16.30, Benview. | |