

**Arran Community Land Initiative Trustees Meeting  
Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup> of May 2019 at 4:30pm  
at the Hub**

**Present-** Nick Burgess, Rob Cowieson, Jill Wilkinson, Jo Godwin

**Apologies-** none received prior to meeting

1.	<p><b>Previous Minutes</b> Minutes from the previous meeting of 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2019 were approved as an accurate record</p>	
2.	<p><b>Actions/Matters arising from 4/4/19</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arran High school- We agreed to contact the High School after new timetable issued (27/5/19). We noted that Suzie Dick is forest school trained (precursor to outdoor and woodland learning) RC/JG</li> <li>• New school activities-WB primary sowing meadow seed on 23/5/19. No other school activity notified by Keith. KR</li> <li>• Boardwalk- Gavin delivering wood prior to volunteer day on 11/5. RC</li> <li>• George Watsons college- Rob has been in contact with school for reimbursement. RC</li> <li>• Ceilidh- We agreed to revisit in June and Jo, Jill and Nan tentatively agreed to help organise. Jg/jw/nc</li> <li>• Free Rotavator- Rob to follow up offer. rc</li> <li>• Mountain Bike Club- No written proposal received re pump track. The group are not convinced that a pump track is the best idea for acli. The preference is improving paths connecting to the forest track. action complete</li> <li>• Young Farmers- Action complete-Colin McKenzie walked the land with Nick/Rob and is invited to this meeting. action complete</li> <li>• Green Partnership- Rob has worked with Arran cvs and we are on course to start the 'Friday garden party' on 17/5.</li> <li>• North Ayrshire venture trust (Lochranza event)- Rob attended.</li> <li>• Volunteer strategy- Nick advised that he had found a variety of templates from Volunteer Scotland. It seemed to him to make sense to use these as a basis for our strategy rather than create our own from scratch.</li> <li>• Website- Rob advised that it was being updated and Nan was wrestling with setting up a revised mailchimp allowing regular mail shots. nc</li> <li>• Storage- Darren has tidied up the barn. Rob to speak with Jimmy about allotment storage arrangements. rc</li> </ul>	

3.	<p><b>Agenda</b> <b>Financial Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jo provided a financial update to trustees. Currently acli had £12184 in the bank Given agreed financial commitments to date Jo estimates we will have circa £7909 at the end of December 2019.</li> <li>• We still await payment of £200 from Nac.</li> <li>• We discussed the commitments from Green futures Arran. The volunteer days and Friday garden party do not include all his time as days like 15/5 and 23/5 with schools are not included on the volunteer day poster. Currently 10 hours per month Garden Party, 7 hours per month volunteer day and 11 hours when Darren is at acli undertaking work such as clearing the barn and maintenance with Kieran. We also wondered whether there may be any appetite for evening volunteering. Action- Nick to discuss further with Darren.</li> <li>• We agreed that with grant income from various sources it would be helpful to have a grant tracker. Action- Jo to draft such a tracker for Trustees.</li> <li>• Jo advised that she had received communication from Juliette that Comic Relief were asking for evidence about how we had spent a grant of £2010, ostensibly for a trailer. The trustees present had no knowledge of this. Action- Rob to obtain original application and speak with Comic Relief.</li> <li>• We agreed that for the foreseeable future Acli would not be an employer. If this changed we would need to set up a new arrangement with hmrc. Action- Jo to notify Pauline/Hmrc</li> <li>• Whiting Bay primary are due to sow the wild flower seed on 23/5. Jo agreed to complete the form to claim the money back depending on information from Nick/Darren. Action- Nick/Darren to provide information to Jo to allow her to complete form.</li> </ul>	<p>NB</p> <p>JG</p> <p>NB</p> <p>RC</p> <p>JG</p> <p>DT/NB/JG</p>
4.	<p><b>Grant update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We await word from the Scottish Government re a £3000 application for community production.</li> <li>• The North Ayrshire trust would support us becoming more self-reliant, improving skills and employability. We felt that our bid would be strengthened by working on it in partnership with Green futures Arran. Action- Nick to raise in principle with Darren</li> <li>• Nick advised that he had spoken with Alex Pirrie from Scottish government's rural payments division. In principle</li> </ul>	<p>NB</p>

	<p>there could be support to prepare an integrated land management plan, for keeping grazing fields in good order, woodland development/management, orchards and community production. There may also be assistance to promote bio-diversity. Alex intends visiting Arran in late May, early June and he is happy to visit us and discuss possible support.</p> <p>Action- Nick to liaise with Alex to try and arrange suitable time for two or more trustees to meet with him.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rob intends to prepare an application to the Robertson trust for 50% matching of funding from our own income and grants received.</li> <li>• We also discussed delivery on plans for monies received. Actions underway include- Board walk construction starting 11/5. Green partnership starting- 17/5.</li> </ul>	<p>NB</p> <p>RC</p>
5.	<p><b>Land Management strategy-</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nick advised that he had started a document re a land strategy and had also looked online for templates, as well as discussing with Alex Pirrie (see above) re the integrated land management plans promoted by Scottish government. Scottish Government provides 80% of the cost of preparing these strategies. If the overall cost is £1-2,000 then 80% subsidy may be worth a/c investing the 20% to get a document accepted across Scottish government and we could use to support future grant applications. Action- Discuss further in meeting with Alex Pirrie in due course.</li> <li>• We discussed the need to top certain fields and keep the Rush down. Whether or not we can actively do anything with the fields now, it will become increasingly difficult to manage if we do not keep under some level of control. Action- Rob to seek a price from suitable contractors.</li> </ul>	<p>Rc</p>
6.	<p>Aocb</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We discussed when might be the best time for an open day. Traditionally it has been the Summer holidays. There was also a thought that it could be harvest time in September. Whenever we decide to have it we need to agree a date</li> </ul>	

	<p>and prepare for it very soon. Action- Decide at next trustees meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Similarly we need to agree dates with Darren for two children's summer activity days at next meeting.</li> <li>• Access track- Rob has spoken to Johnny Kelso to arrange filling potholes.</li> <li>• Colin advised that if we wanted a stance at Kenny Baines event in August we would need to decide by the end of may.</li> <li>• The makers festival at Brodick castle-if we are attending needs covered. It also coincides with the 7<sup>th</sup> garden party and Darren cannot be at the makers festival and garden party. Nick and Jo may be able to help, but we need to know more about it to see if worth our time investment. Action- Rob to supply information for us to decide if we attend.</li> <li>• At the solstice we need to inspect allotments. Last year it was Keith and Darren. This year it could be Nick and Darren?</li> </ul>	RC

Next meeting Thursday June 6th 4:30 at The Hub