

Rum Community Association Minutes
03/03/2024

Present – Colin Kerr, Lauren Murphy, Fliss Fraser, Alex Mumford, Sean Morris, Neil Boyd, Jennifer Thompson, Stuart Mckie, Lesley Watt, Buffy Cracknell, William Stephen, Sareth Brown, Nick Murphy, Ali Morris, Sylvia Stirling, Benjamin Lalande

Apologies – Hywel Lewis

1) National Park.

FF said that other local communities on Skye, the other Small Isles etc have rejected the idea of the Lochaber National Park. Main concerns from the community are whether local infrastructure could cope with the influx of tourists, such as the ferries and car parks in Mallaig, how prices rising would affect locals wanting to travel, funding has been delayed for the new Belford hospital etc. General concern that it's being used as leverage to get things the area desperately needs. It was felt the initial survey was flawed, and that more information is needed before we can make a decision. The planning for the NP has gone onto the 2nd stage, so consultations will now be taking place – this may be organised through SICC but best to keep an eye out for information ourselves.

2) Kinloch Castle.

Previously, Lorna Slater had stated that a consultation would happen in Sept 2023. This did not go ahead. IRCT has been in contact with Lorna Slater since, reply was that Nature Scot and other rural group would be putting together a proposal for a consultation with other stakeholders, but the Rum Community didn't seem to be involved or included. Would be ideal for us to be a part of the pre-advisory group – IRCT are currently waiting on a reply from their last email.

3) Housing.

SB had been asked by various residents for clarification from the trust about what is happening with the sale of Farmhouse. The sale is in progress, and currently with solicitors. Because of the Standard Security regarding housing that previously belonged to NS, there are various parts of the contract, that IRCT have to show they are keeping in line with, such as where the money from the sale goes etc. IRCT are still looking at housing for Rhys, but there is no doubt that the Trust are working towards housing Rhys after the sale of Farmhouse goes through. A plot for Nev has been found, renting from IRCT with a plan to stay on island around 8 months of the year.

4) Skips, pier, boathouse.

Both the IRCT and RCA have tried to contact the council regarding sending a white goods skip, but not had any success thus far. SB had asked David Beaton (harbour manager) if he was able to organise one, he said he had also tried but no luck yet. LW has spoken to DB and he had agreed to make a start on clearing the boathouse. FF

mentioned spray painting a line on the ground to help the skip lorry see where to land the skips.

Action points

IRCT will email again HC with photos of the current pile of white goods. WS will also try to contact HC regarding skips.

SB will email residents regarding a general pier and boathouse tidy up, including moving cars. Date set for Sunday 10th March at 2pm.

IRCT will email residents regarding clarifying road charges.

5) Village Hall

LW would like the hall to have the ability to be locked, particularly before events when the hall has been cleaned in preparation as things have been damaged in the past.

There is still grant money for the cooker and new crockery etc for the hall. Rum Stores require access to the Hall Kitchen for the freezer, it should be locked otherwise. FF said a village hall code of conduct would be a good idea to have posted up.

Action Points

SB to put together a hall code of conduct.

SB to pay Debs Ingram £100 for fridge/freezer.

Date to be set for hall and kitchen clearance and tidy up – would be great to have this done to remove old cooker and broken fridge for when the white goods skip arrives.

6) Big Hannah

Large broken composter left in NS shed, (which is now fallen down) needs to be disposed of.

Action Point

LW to ask Jamie/Spanish John if he'd be interested in it for scrap and he can take away when he's next here.

AOB

- Insurance for RCA due in March/April. Public Liability, costs around £300 for the year.
- Date set for a quiz/community meal – Friday March 15th

Next RCA meeting will be the AGM – 14th April, time TBC.

