**Balloch Community Association**

**DRAFT Minutes of Committee Meeting on Monday 4 July 2016** v 5

**Present**: Billy Lowrie, Linda Lowrie, Jenny Card, Morven Reid, Emma Campbell and Allan Robertson.

**Apologies**: Isobel Brill, Val Houston (Val’s School of Dance), Cheryl Heggie (‘s School of Dance), Kathy Higgins, Solihin Roberts (Shubud), John and June Foster (dancing) and Gaener Roger (Brownies)

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| **item** | | **discussion** | **Action by** |
| **1.** |  | **Minutes of previous meeting on 30 May 2016** |  |
|  | 1 | Adoption proposed by MR and seconded by JC. |  |
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| **2.** |  | **Matters arising from minutes of previous meeting** |  |
|  | 1 | Previous minutes item 2: BL had purchased the additional tables and also, of the same type, 6 smaller tables to replace the old wooden tables which were deteriorating, the total cost being £943. |  |
|  | 2 | Previous minutes item 4.2: after a discussion of an alternative option of purchasing a laptop for the treasurer it was left that a memory stick would be purchased.  It was also suggested that files could also be safely ‘stored’ by sending them as attachments to e-mail messages. | **BL** |
| **3.** |  | **Snooker Room** |  |
|  | 1 | Referring to previous minutes item 6.1.2, BL explained the background to the replacement of the Snooker Club window for which he would obtain a quotation: | **BL** |
|  | 2 | - the window, being newer, had not been replaced at the same time as the rest of the Hall windows. |  |
|  | 3 | - the Snooker room had been built and equipped with its 2 tables and racks and cues by the BCA which still owns the room and equipment. The BCA provides its heating by radiator supplemented by electric heaters when required.  - the Snooker Club ran as a non-profit-making organisation which accepted membership and table-time fees and is responsible for replacing the cloth on the tables when required. When its annual accounts show a profit the Club donates it to the BCA: in some past years this has amounted to some £2,000 but in other years it has been nil. |  |
|  | 4 | - at present the Snooker Club had 10 members from Balloch and more from outside the village. BL said that fees for the Balloch Snooker Club were cheaper than elsewhere in the area but that, in general, interest in snooker appeared to be declining. |  |
|  | 5 | With an apparent decline in snooker playing and a resultant reduction in the Snooker Club’s surplus BL said that the BCA should be aware that it was subsidising the Snooker Club. He said that if the BCA were to receive a proposal for a more profitable use of the Snooker Room then that would have to be considered by the Committee. |  |
|  | 6 | A general discussion of possible and acceptable alternative uses for the Snooker room, and previous unsuccessful proposals for Hall lets, centred on ‘community hub’ types of use for young mothers and retired residents.  MR suggested asking the community what it would want. |  |
| **4.** |  | **President’s report** |  |
|  | 3.1 | BL reported that from a meeting with representatives of McGregor, the Council’s contractor for the School’s new kitchen, that: |  |
|  | 3.2 | - the contractor would start work on Monday 11 July 16 with the construction of a sewer on BCA land between the Hall and the School. This would involve the shed used by the Culloden Football Club being moved (see also item 4 below); |  |
|  | 3.3 | - after completion of the sewer the contractor’s welfare cabins would be installed and the school area fenced before the end of the school holiday; |  |
|  | 3.4 | - before they left the site the contractor would leave the BCA’s area kerbed and chipped as previously reported. The path alongside the Hall gable may be wider than previously intimated; and |  |
|  | 3.5 | - procuring the School’s new stage, which was to be stored in the Hall and available for the BCA’s use, was proceeding as planned. |  |
| **5.** |  | **Shed used by the Football Club** |  |
|  | 1 | As in item 3.2 above, BL reported that the wooden shed used by the Football Club would be moved from the side of the Hall and placed on the ground beside the football pitch to the North of the Hall and would not return to BCA land. |  |
|  | 2 | EC said that the Balloch Village Trust had acquired that piece of ground for the installation of a children’s play park. This led to a discussion of where the shed should ultimately go. |  |
|  | 3 | BL explained that the BCA had been left with the shed when an earlier let of the hall by a playgroup had ended. The BCA had left the shed where it was and for £1 per year had leased it to the football club on the understanding that it would have to be moved when the BCA required the space. |  |
|  | 4 | BL reminded the meeting of his earlier proposal for a combined storage and barbeque and outside sitting space (see also 3.4 above) and considered that the shed should be disposed of - the present opportunity to move the shed from BCA property should be followed by not allowing the shed to be returned to the BCA. |  |
|  | 5 | AR considered that such a change of use of ground and taking away a facility used by some of the community or (as 3.5 above) potentially doing away with the snooker room, ought not to be decisions for the committee alone but for the wider membership of the Association to consider.    BL disagreed and said that the Committee could not work on such a footing – it had been charged with managing the BCA’s property as it considered appropriate. |  |
|  | 6 | Following a general discussion JC suggested a compromise would be to leave the Council’s contractor to move the shed. Thereafter, the BCA, the BVT and the football club should agree a solution before the BVT started work on the play park.  It was accepted that this should be done. | **MR** |
| **6.** |  | **Treasurer’s report and Budget for 2016** |  |
|  | 1 | JC tabled a summary of the BCA’s year-to-date income and expenditure showing an increase in the balance of £239-58 to £10,339-41. |  |
|  | 2 | MR tabled a draft budget for 2016 (see item 5 of the previous meeting’s minutes). |  |
|  | 2.1 | The projections for the rest of the year, based on the first half, were discussed and altered in some cases: maintenance expenditure was increased to allow for increased wear during the period of the School’s use; and (post meeting note) the recently received invoice for £947-69 from Business Stream for the Hall’s water and sewerage services for the sum of (the law had changed last year and, like similar organisations, the BCA no longer had exemption from paying). |  |
|  | 2.2 | Budgeting for cleaning was difficult and required an agreed policy on how to manage cleaning after parties at the weekend.  BL cited a recent party where damage included the removal of hinge pins from toilet seats which had to be rectified before a party the following day – such instances, found on a Sunday morning were difficult to manage for a cleaner alone.  This subject, and the review of the Convenor’s remuneration, were deferred till the next meeting. See also item 7 below. |  |
| **7.** |  | **Hall cleaning** |  |
|  | 1 | MR tabled a ‘tick sheet’ which could be used in determine whether the deposit held during a private hire (generally for a party) should be returned at the end of their let. (See item 5.2 of the previous minutes and 6.2.2) |  |
|  | 2 | The Committee appreciated the Convenor’s difficulty and awkwardness in dealing with hirers who had left the hall in an unsatisfactory state and agreed that a detailed list of requirements should be part of the conditions of let. |  |
|  | 3 | LL had previously intimated (and also BL in his comments at the AGM) that she did not want to continue to act as the Hall cleaner in the long term. For personal reasons she now wished to stop doing that work sooner rather than later.  The meeting was grateful for her time and work, especially in carrying out the combined cleaner and Convenor roles, and agreed that a replacement had to be found soon. |  |
| **8.** |  | **Date of next meeting** |  |
|  |  | The next meeting would be on Wednesday 31 August 2016 in the Village Hall at 19.00. |  |