



HOPEMAN Community Association

MINUTES OF GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING 24th October 2024

1. Sederunt

Dennis Slater (Chair), John Butcher (JBT), Adam Csenki (ACS), Janice Craib, Rhona Grant (RG), Mary MacDonald (MMD), Wanda Clark (WAC), Carol Wood, Jack Wood, Cllr Neil Cameron (NC), John Massie (JMA), Pedro Abreu, Syanness Tunggal (STG), Catherine Main, Ellen Stewart, S. More, Fiona Wilkes, Peter Goodwin (PG), Lesley McPherson (LMP), Paul King (PK), Norma McPherson

2. Apologies:

Carole Thomson, Pat MacKay, Cllr James Allan, Cllr Bridget Mustard, Stevie McPherson, Ken McDonald, Zander Craib, Annette Gault, Mandy Butcher, Cllr John Cowe, John Bray, Pat Bray.

3. Minutes of previous Committee Meeting

The minutes of September's meeting were accepted after LMP proposed and MMD seconded.

4. Correspondence

a. Ethan Hendry

EH gave a presentation on his successes so far, including a very exciting trip with Team Scotland to America. He is preparing for the Scottish Championships in November, and is planning another trip to Thailand in the new year to fight there. Ethan informed the committee that he is looking for sponsorship and any funding would be helpful.



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5. Matters Arising from previous minutes

a. Whins Cutting

DS informed the committee that the Youth Justice team had finished cutting the bushes at the steppies at the back of the school and also near the beach huts, right up to the Daisy Rock. We are still waiting for the firebreaks to be done and DS has organised the Council to do it.

Thanks was given to Raymond White for extra tidying up at the Lodge Road path.

b. Seafarers' Memorial Dedication

DS mentioned the memorial dedication which took place in memory of all the fisherfolk in the community who have lost their life over the years. Murray Campbell took the service and there was a good turnout including the current skippers in the village.

c. Playpark renewal

ACS informed the committee that Moray Council is progressing the renewal of the play park. In particular, the council felt it best to leave the slide out of any discussions, as replacing the steps would eat a significant portion of the budget.

The council confirmed that they could help with ideas and sources of funding for adult play equipment, but not with any of the cost. There is to be a small HCA group set up to take this forward.

ACTION: ACS to send out the proposal plan to the HCA.

d. Remembrance Sunday

The arrangements for the Remembrance Sunday event were confirmed.



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6. New items for discussion

a. Open afternoon for Kirk Community Transfer

ACS informed the committee that there were a total of 145 letters back, around 18% of the households of Hopeman, which support exploring a community asset transfer for Hopeman Kirk. The Open Afternoon, scheduled for Sat 16th November, 3pm - 5pm was discussed and arrangements made. LMP kindly volunteered to try and find some figures for current expenses including heating and insurance.

ACTION: ACS to source large paper and pens for the event.

7. External Reports

a. Councillors' Report

NC advised the committee to prepare for the council to take measures to reduce spending, inviting all to an event on 2nd November with the promising title of 'Budget Cuts Session'. After a question about no salt in the salt bins, NC agreed to look into it.

b. Planning Applications

The application to erect a detached domestic storage building at 7 Lower Backlands, Forsyth Street was brought to the committee's attention.

8. Sub Committee Reports (by exception)

● Memorial Hall

JBR confirmed that the Beeline Transport Group would start paying for Hall hire from 1st December, at a reduced rate. The Hall committee also requested a meeting with the HCA Trustees after the AGM.



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- Playing Field & Beach,

Committee members were reminded not to park on top of the tanks at the beach, and that work is still ongoing to the outflow pipe (see minutes Sep 2024).

- Pavilion Sports Hub,

JMA thanked MMD and LMP for weeding around the pavilion. Chuckies will now go down, the pavilion has been painted and bookings are up by 20%.

- Skate Park - as email.

IR sent an update by email, noting that:

- He carried out some more repairs/ strengthening of the big half pipe. This will be a continuous process to keep it safe to use,
- They are up to around 22K of fundraising,
- He has ordered just under 20K of parts on Monday. There will be 8-12 weeks lead time for delivery,
- The plan is to install the new pieces on the smaller ramps which is less work, then to look at repairing the big half in the spring and holding a new opening skate jam.
- The facebook page now has 267 followers.

The committee thanked IR in absentia for his hard work.

- Gala

PG encouraged more volunteers to join the Gala committee. The trustees requested to attend the meeting on 29th Oct with the Gala committee.



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- Floral Committee

MMD gave the report, noting the new trees which are in at East Rd and around the Hall. The pots outside the hall will be tidy by Remembrance Sunday. Seeds have now been ordered for a wildflower meadow, along with a bag of daffodil bulbs.

- SOS Group

STG informed the committee that the SOS Group attended the annual review of NHS Grampian, and also met with the HSC partnership, noting a change in attitude and now being listened to, including agreeing to read a resubmitted proposal from SOS. The next meeting will be with them on 10th December.

A vision of a nurse-led practice was outlined, and all were again encouraged to fill in the survey which is online and in paper copies at the local shops.

- Kirk Group

As above, pt. 6.

9. Finance

JBT gave the report and reminded the subcommittees to submit their accounts before the AGM. The balance was given as £21,816.48 with very little movement on the account from last month.

10. Any Other Business

- a. PK reported a pothole at the roundabout at the Harbour. A cone was there with reflective tape, but has since vanished.
- b. WC reminded the committee to encourage any teenagers to come to an open meeting on Thursday 5th December about creating a youth space for them.
- c. DS informed the committee that he intends not to stand for re-election at the AGM.



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11. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was set for Thursday 28th November, 7pm, which will be the Annual General Meeting.