



HOPEMAN Community Association

AGENDA FOR GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING Last Thursday of the Month 7pm - 8.30pm

1. Sederunt: Wanda Clark (WCL), John Butcher (JBT), Adam Csenki (ACS), John Clark, Sandy More, Jim Ferguson, Wilma Ferguson, Grace Angus, Jack Wood, Carol Wood, Alan Munsie, Jeanette McKee (JMK), Isa Aitkenhead (ISA), Lesley McPherson (LMP), Cllr John Cowe, Pat Bray (PBR), John Bray (JBR). Paul King, Alison Anderson, Stevie McPherson, John Massie, Kate Mathieson, Cllr James Allan, Pat MacKay, Mandy Butcher, Jim McPherson, Janice Craib, Dennis Slater, Jennifer Middlecote.
2. Apologies: Maggie Taylor, Cllr Bridget Mustard, Cllr Neil Cameron, Frith Noble, Ellen Stewart, Norma McPherson, Annette Gault, Alexander Craib.

3. Minutes of previous Committee Meeting (Jan 2025)

The minutes were accepted after JBR proposed and PBR seconded.

4. Correspondence

The DLL Lucy McKenzie had got in touch by email, asking if there were any plans for an event in Hopeman to celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE Day.

ACTION: ACS to share the website with the mailing list, and if anyone has any ideas, please get in touch with the trustees.

5. Matters Arising from previous minutes

- a. Outdoor Gym Equipment

ACS updated the committee in the absence of SYT who has been working hard to secure two quotes for equipment. There was a brief discussion, points including who will maintain the equipment, and how quickly it would rust in the sea air. The committee then agreed to find out how much this would cost through the council's procurement system before proceeding further.

ACTION: ACS to send the quotations round to the mailing list, SYT to ask Moray Council if they could help with this.

6. New items for discussion

- a. Hopeman Monopoly

The committee agreed PAB could get in touch with Hasbro Games to ask initially about creating an official 'Hopeman Monopoly'. It is hoped this would make attractive Christmas gifts for folk since moved away or habitual tourists.



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ACTION: PAB to take this on as a project.

b. Feedback from Groups and Subcommittees (WCL)

WCL thanked the various subcommittees for having her at the meetings and being welcoming. There is a wish to have a more coherent vision for the charity as a whole, not least to avoid the same funders being approached by different arms of the charity without each others' knowledge. It was reiterated that the HCA account balance is low and serious fundraising needs to be thought of. A meeting on 12th March with all subcommittee heads and the Trustees was scheduled.

7. External Reports

a. Councillors' Report

JCO gave the report, noting that the libraries have had a stay of execution, there is a leisure review live at the moment, and a new banking hub will be introduced in Lossiemouth. The Council have been able to deliver a balanced budget this year which has not been possible for many years; this includes a 10% increase in council tax.

b. Planning Applications

None relevant

8. Sub Committee Reports (by exception)

• Memorial Hall

JBR informed the committee of potentially major repairs that need to be done to the Hall roof which have been identified from a drone survey initiated (at no cost to the hall and through a favour) after lost slates and water ingress were detected following the recent storm. The committee were made aware of the seriousness of the situation and it was made clear that the cost of this work is higher than the Hall can pay for.

ACTION: JBR to have the figures for the next meeting, Trustees to meet with the Hall committee about this.

After WCL recounted the Hall damage due to the flood in October 2024, and praised the team including JBR who pulled together and got the repairs totalling £1400 done, the committee were informed that, following a meeting with the family of the hirer responsible, it was proposed that the hirer be liable for one third of the total cost of



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repairs, with the HCA being unable to do business with this individual again until the balance was paid. The committee agreed to this. JBR acknowledged that in light of this incident and guidance received from The Moray Federation of Community Halls & Associations, certain Hall procedures will also be tightened up.

After a question from LMP, it was made clear that the insurance company was not brought in to deal with this as, had it been sorted through them, the bill would have been closer to £4000 with additional lost revenue (and grave disappointment) from having to cancel the panto and other events from October 2024 to Feb 2025, possibly further.

ACTION: WCL to contact the family and issue an invoice.

- Playing Field & Beach,

DS informed the committee that he had met with the team who repaired the pipe at the beach and complained about the state of the path. Assurances have been made for its reinstatement.

Concerning firebreaks, the committee agreed to Grant Nicholson doing this work as soon as possible.

After a request from a resident to cut down a bush next to the car park at East Beach (one frequented by many sparrows during the summer) the committee voted against doing anything to this and stated it should remain.

DS gave a personal thanks to JMK and ISA for their work on the flower beds.

- Pavilion Sports Hub,

SMP gave the report, noting the planned tombola on Friday 11th April. Some masonry work needs to be done and possibly work to replace the side doors at some point. Bookings are strong.

- Skate Park

IR sent an email noting that the parts were delivered a few weeks ago and are being stored at Tullochs. Repair work is due to start once the weather improves.

- Gala

JMC gave the report, noting that:

- The programme lead role has been resolved with JMC doing this with support from the committee.



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- There will be a rota in place for the Sweeties to enable our Hopeman teenagers to volunteer to support this throughout the week.
- Although the events diary is filling up, volunteers are still sought to help with the following: Royalty Crowning, Family Disco, Soup and Sweet, BALL Group and Rural Coffee Morning, Family Fitness session.
 - Floral Committee

JBT confirmed that the group has enough money to purchase and plant lavender; he can reimburse.

9. Finance

JBT gave the report, attached as a separate document, which showed the balance to be £26,673.72. WCL encouraged the committee to look at the numbers in the context of the roof repairs, and again warned that serious fundraising was needed to keep the charity from running out of money in a couple of years' time.

10. Any Other Business

- a. Permission was given to plant a small rowan tree at the bushes near the school.
- b. JBR thanked the roads department for after reporting 40 potholes, they have started to repair them.
- c. The 200 Club was drawn.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was set as Thursday 27th March 2025, 7pm in the Hall.

Meeting closed 20:18