

Assynt Resilience Group

**Assynt Development Trust, Assynt Community Council
Community Care Assynt, Connect Assynt working together**

Minutes of the meeting Friday 8th May 2020 2:00pm Zoom

No	Item	Action
1	<p>Attendance: Willie Jack, ADT, Liam Taylor, ACC, David Slator & Bill Wardley Smith CCA and Andy Summers Volunteer co-ordinator</p> <p>Invited & not present: Jane Young & Roddie Kerr CA and Nigel Goldie ADT</p> <p>Apologies: Ewen McLachlan and Adam Pellant ADT</p>	
2	<p>Any conflicts of interest? None</p>	
3	<p>Published statement: WJ outlined the feedback he had received through a third party who was concerned that ADT was creating a new food bank and ignoring the work done by the 'existing' food bank providers. It was agreed that when there is a new newsletter published that the ARG needs to set minds at rest that this is hopefully a short-term measure and that it was not taking over food distribution from existing providers (who had temporarily ceased distribution Blythswood, Albyn, KLB CAB) and instead was working with them and adding to their provision. WWS agreed to write a description of the existing and proposed set ups for publication</p>	WWS
4	<p>Food bank: AS and Kirsteen Gordon had used the CA bus to move all the food, including six bags food from HC, from The Assynt Centre to Assynt Leisure. Food storage / delivery boxes ordered through HNI / Sainsbury's haven't arrived yet. AS & LT agreed that it should be possible to start food deliveries from Tuesday. WWS advised that there were 22 people on the food bank delivery list at present. The meeting discussed the practicalities of running th food bank and what was necessary. LT advised that he thought that shelving would be necessary and would investigate. The meeting agreed that a Confidentiality Agreement was essential and LT will put this together from links provided.</p>	AS LT LT
5	<p>PPE: LT described the PPE that is necessary for volunteers to operate the food bank safely; this includes Gloves, masks, aprons although aprons have not yet been obtained. Hand sanitiser is available and a dispenser will be required. Zoning of the floors with tape can be carried out, similar to in retail shops, allowing for 2m social distancing.</p> <p>DS described the routine which will be required of volunteers putting on, using and removing their PPE. He advised that a training programme and standard operating protocol was vital.</p> <p>LT advised that as ACC had received £500 from HC and £1500 from SSEN they were able to buy the PPE already acquired and have resources to buy more.</p>	LT DS/ AS
6	<p>Masks for local people: WJ explained that CCDC have bought 150 masks for Coigach residents and these are being made in Assynt to be handed out to those in Coigach who request them. WJ has approached craft makers to see if masks could be acquired and the cost quoted is £3.50 per mask plus the cost of fabric. The ARG decided to approach craft people to see if there were people who could start making masks. If the population all need masks then ideally we will need over 2,000 as they need to be 90degC washed after every use. Some people locally may wish to donate their time and some people may need money to replace their lost income. It was agreed that volunteers and the vulnerable should receive free masks and all others would be asked for a donation. WJ agreed to go back to the crafters who are interested and start agreeing to source fabric and have the masks made.</p>	WJ
7	<p>Hot meal provision: There was a lengthy discussion of the existing provision of hot meals at lunchtime which has moved from within the Assynt Centre to the recipients home. At present the</p>	

	<p>numbers vary from 10-13 per day Monday to Friday. They are each charged £5 per meal towards the cost. It would be possible to provide hot lunchtime meals in other parts of Assynt but logistically it would be challenging due to the distances and the time involved as it would be essential to keep the food hot. A battery charged 'Hot Box' can be used in a vehicle. DS advised that he had heard that there was no extra provision required in Nedd & Drumbeg and he was concerned about the overall need. If hot lunchtime meals are provided then should they be charged or not. Any difference between existing & new clients could be inequitable. WWS had spoken to InverLodge Hotel and the manager Nicky and her chef husband had approached ARG to say that they could make the Inver Lodge kitchen and chef available at no cost and this possibly included food. The meeting discussed the possibility of IL making a different type of meal – ready made & frozen - as this could be easier to produce than the existing hot meals and would create a different product able to be delivered more easily. No decision was taken on the possibility for charges for hot meals. WWS to go back and speak to Nicky to discuss the options further.</p>	WWS
8	<p>The Food Cycle: this had been distributed earlier in the week by WWS and DS. LT observed that existing clients would have to be able to be accepted into the system straightway while new clients would be referred and triaged to ensure that they are in need of assistance. The meeting agreed with this approach. WWS agreed to give thought to the triage questions that would be asked of potential new clients to ensure they are in need of our help. Publicity will be essential as some people may not come forward unless they know that it is available.</p>	WWS
9	<p>AOB</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hand sanitiser dispensers – it was agreed that ARG needed to buy more dispensers, ideally the automatic type if possible 2. Publicity : It was agreed that an updated newsletter/ statement should be produced asap 3. AS asked whether it would be appropriate to consider representatives from each township or area of Assynt should be involved. LT advised that this is the thought behind the list of volunteers. It was agreed that the volunteers should be approached to ensure they are happy to give consent for their names to be published in this regard 4. Testing: The meeting discussed testing for Covid19 in Assynt. AS said that volunteers are now able to be tested but that they would need to go to Inverness. DS agreed to talk to FH at AMP to see what the possibility is of testing more locally 	<p>LT</p> <p>WJ</p> <p>LT</p> <p>DS</p>
10	<p>Date of next meeting: Friday 15th May 2020 2:00pm</p>	