

Assynt Resilience Group

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

Minutes of the meeting Friday 26th June 2020 2:00pm held via Zoom

No	Item	Action
1	<p>Attendance: Willie Jack, Sarah Ann MacLeod ADT, David Slator, Bill Wardley Smith CCA , Jane Young, Roddie Kerr, CA , Liam Taylor, ACC, Andy Summers Volunteer co-ordinator</p> <p>Observing: Adam Pellant, Ewen McLachlan ADT</p>	
2	<p>Any conflicts of interest? None, except JY and LT for discussions about the Village Hall</p>	
3	<p>Minutes of Last meeting – The minutes are an accurate record of the meeting, Proposed JY & Seconded AS All agreed</p>	
4	<p>Income & expenditure report: The meeting discussed the figures presented and there were no queries. The meeting agreed to publish the PIE charts on FB and an amended version in AN (due to non-colour printing)</p>	WJ
5	<p>Food bank:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) AS Update – this week there were 27 food parcels delivered to 56 individuals. Feedback was good from the recipients b) WWS reported that the coal & fuel ordered has now been delivered together with toiletries. All orders were up-to-date and there will be another order for Williamsons on Monday morning and possibly another trip to Bookers if necessary. WWS reported that the Dornoch FairShare / CFine food bank is moving to KLB; we will still need to collect, LT feels that this increases the resilience of west coast communities. c) AS asked the meeting what their view was on the long term future of the Food Bank: LT felt that the ARG will not be around in the long-term. JY talked of the need to support local people and local retail businesses by considering some form of voucher scheme. LT advised that presently the local shops cannot take the food vouchers issued by HC. AS wondered if an exit strategy from the current arrangements could be found in the example of the Larder at Scourie Stores. LT & WWS explained that some local people are now returning to work, but some only part time. SAM feels that this may be so now but it might only last till September – October when it may need to re-start. Others felt that the future may be wholly funding dependant. WJ asked the meeting if they could think through these challenges so we could re-consider the future in the coming weeks. d) Future site of Food Bank: As JY & LT are members of the Village Hall Committee and there by having a conflict of interest they left the meeting for this discussion. It has been suggested that the Food Bank could move to the Village Hall and following on from a proposal by the Village Hall committee the AS & WWS had visited the Hall. They felt that the Community Room on its own is not big enough but together with the Bar area and the chair storage area it was adequate. Food received requires three days fallow before they are processed while fruit & veg are different as they have separate protocols. The new arrangements for food in the Village Hall may not be as secure and the layout will be more labour intensive for food handling. SAM asked if there was a better alternative in Lochinver while WWS feels that the VH is an eight week alternative to the Leisure Centre. Summing up WWS said that SAM will have her shelving returned before she needs it back, ALC will get their space back and the VH will receive £500 for the period to 28th August. All present agreed to move the FB from ALC to LVH. LT & JY re-joined the meeting. 	<p style="text-align: center;">ALL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AS & WWS</p>

6	<p>PPE</p> <p>a) Buying hand dispensers: JY advised that CA will use hand sanitiser on the CA bus. LT advised the meeting that he now had 30 automatic hand sanitisers waiting to be distributed. The meeting agreed that they should be distributed to public places where people congregate with the following priority:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. For those businesses open now ii. For those opening in the next few weeks iii. For those opening later in the year or next year <p>b) Distributing the dispensers – it was agreed that the dispensers will be distributed to those businesses who require one and who agree to refill at their own cost and maintain as necessary. WJ agreed to draft a note to go out with the dispensers and they would be distributed from Monday.</p> <p>c) NHI £1,000 grant - EM advised the meeting that ADT's application to NHI for a £1,000 grant towards hand sanitiser & push dispensers for accommodation providers has been successful. An order will be placed and the dispenser & gel distributed to those accommodation providers who request it.</p> <p>d) Hand sanitiser – LT advised that he currently had 40litres of gel for existing dispensers and the meeting agreed to buy more</p>	<p>LT/ WJ</p> <p>EM</p> <p>LT</p>
7	<p>Supporting local businesses:</p> <p>JY had spoken to local businesses and ascertained that staff are very concerned that they will be unable to cope with extra customers when travel restrictions are lifted. SAM said that self catering operators are advising their clients to bring as much food with them as possible. LT said he feels that it is a fine line between promoting and supporting local businesses and protecting them. EM asked if it might be possible for the CA bus to deliver food from local shops. EM and JY agreed to consider plans to contact local food retailers to see if ARG can be of help</p>	EM/JY
8	<p>Other funding decisions</p> <p>a) Colin Masterton the new head of Lochinver Primary school had asked if ARG would support a purchase a number of outdoor clothing items for some pupils at the school. The meeting discussed this and agreed to support the request</p> <p>b) WJ advised that Heather MacDonald had agreed to buy new mum & baby supplies for ARG and then to box them up and distribute them. The supplies have already been bought and they will then be delivered on Sunday & Monday</p> <p>c) WJ advised that he had spoken to local producers who had an interest in producing arts & crafts materials and they had said they were developing a different project. WJ has ordered 30 Arts & Crafts boxes for £300 including delivery to Lochinver for primary age children from Mindful Creations and these will be delivered on 3rd July</p>	<p>WJ</p> <p>HM</p> <p>WJ</p>
9	<p>Face masks</p> <p>LT advised that all masks have been delivered expect some which need to go out to Torbreck to Achmelvich and Clachtoll. AP & AS agreed to collect masks from Monday from HC's Harbour office and arrange delivery in their areas.</p>	AP/ AS
9	<p>AOB</p> <p>Scotlands Town Partnership – The meeting agreed to develop a project for the STP for funding plans to help Lochinver Main Street businesses adapt to the easing of restrictions and freedom to travel. HC will need to support the application and EM suggested contacting Colin Simpson</p>	EM/ AP
10	The meeting ended at 3:45pm	
11	Date of next meeting: Friday 3 rd July 2020 2:00pm	