

**MINUTES OF ELKCAL BOARD MEETING HELD  
19<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 5PM AT FIR CHLIS**

PRESENT – Stuart Charlton, Sian Curley, Kate McSweeney, Wendy Wright.

APOLOGIES – Helen McQueen, John Venters, Roddy Houldsworth.

**LEASE UPDATE**

Simon has negotiated changes to the lease with Highland Council. Stuart has a copy of the tracking documents. Wendy proposed the lease be approved and signed, everyone present agreed unanimously. Stuart, Sian and Wendy signed the lease and Kate witnessed the signatures

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**INSURANCE UPDATE**

Stuart explained we now have three big bills to pay, these are:  
Highland Council Insurance for 25/09/10 to 31/03/11 which is £303.  
Highland Council insurance for 01/04/11 to 31/03/12 which is £597.65 for the year.  
Highland Council Legal fees which are £650.

**BUSINESS PLAN**

Stuart will send the business plan off to Andy Mackay.  
We have had the report back from the Energy Savings Trust Green Community Energy. This recommends keeping the white electricity meter, upgrading the storage heaters, installing a wood burner and insulating the building. The report concluded that installing a windmill and/or a hydro-electric system would be uneconomical. Stuart will also send the energy report to Andy. Wendy will ask one of the electricians in the village to look at the storage radiators and lights which need mending.

**PURCHASES**

Sian suggested we buy a tea urn, vacuum cleaner and wheelie bins. Everyone agreed and these will be investigated by Sian and Kate. We will put an advert appealing for a free vacuum cleaner in the Ullapool news.

**MARKETS UPDATE**

Sian only has two or three stalls still to be taken at each market. Stuart will leave the laminator in the school for all to use while he is away for posters for the markets and dog show.

### SPEED LIMITS IN ELPHIN

Sian is concerned about the speed of traffic travelling through the village and has written to local councillors expressing her concern. The point was made that Elphin and Knockan are quite difficult to be sociable on foot!

The following points were discussed:

The possibility of a 30 mph speed limit.

Better signs i.e. warning sign children about, smiley speed sign.

Installation of a pavement (suitable for pushing buggies)

Combining a pavement with a “round the village all abilities track”. This could take in historical/ interesting sights around the village.

We may be able to get funding from Healthy Scotland/ historical/tourist organisations.

### CRAFT GROUP

Jan has offered to initiate a craft group along the lines of “Stitch and Bitch”. Everyone thought this was an excellent idea.

### AOB

Sian and Kate are taking over running the Toddlers Group, the first has been advertised for 25<sup>th</sup> March. They will run this weekly in the main hall. Stuart suggested they remind the lads to put away the table tennis table on Thursdays. Heaters need to go on about 11am to ensure the room is warm.

Kate asked if it would be possible to run a pre-school nursery when the girls are older. We would need a teacher willing to organise the educational syllabus. Stuart suggested speaking to Elsa who runs the Ullapool nursery and Mary who runs the KLB and Scourie nurseries. A pre-school will not be needed for two years so we have time to investigate and plan.

Kate, Sian and Wendy have had a meeting this week to start planning the dog show. It was suggested we ask mountain rescue if they could do a search and rescue display. The police may also give a police dog demonstration. Kate will chase both of these up. Sian will investigate doing “slush puppy” drinks at the show.

Sian made the point that our disabled access is poor. Although we have a ramp, the corner is very tight and only allows access for an unmotorised wheelchair. “Made in Ullapool” have taken some stalls at the market; any of their workers in wheelchairs will have difficulty gaining access to the building. We may be able to get funding for this.

Sian has been investigating running a keep fit course. The leisure centre will charge £190.00 for a six week body balance class. We will use money obtained from the Macphail centre for their hiring of the hall to fund part of this. We agreed a £20 charge for the course was fair. Any money made could be put towards subsidising following courses.

Stuart suggested we have a get together to celebrate signing the lease. Everyone agreed to 1<sup>st</sup> April 8pm at the school. We will ask people to bring a plate of food. Wendy will put this in the leaflet she is preparing for the leaflet drop.

Kate has come across a website called [easyfundraising.org](http://easyfundraising.org) which donates a small amount for purchases made on line from participating companies of which Amazon is one.

Wendy will draft a letter to the surrounding estates informing them of our progress. Jan is doing a newsletter.

Meeting finished 7pm.

W Wright

21/03/11