HIGHLAND WOODTURNING CLUB, Club Premises, Munlochy Village Hall

Minutes of COMMITTEE MEETING held online by ZOOM on Sunday 29th November 2020 at 6.30pm

1. WELCOME

Present :- Alec Mutch, Geoff Potter, Cliff Sim, Douglas Stewart, John Ruickbie,, Nick Simpson, Mike Day, Errol Levings and Peter Lawrence(PL for the last part of the meeting only)

APOLOGIES: John Cheadle, David Hobson, Jim Kelman,

Geoff Potter (GP) welcomed everyone to the online meeting. The Zoom meeting was hosted by GP with prior e-mail invitations sent to all the Committee. A copy of the Agenda and 'Additional Information' paper was emailed to all the Committee before this meeting and a paper copy was posted to JC in advance of the meeting.

GP informed the Committee that the Zoom meeting was limited to 40 minutes but a new Zoom meeting could be arranged immediately after this meeting if that was necessary.

It was intended that the 'Additional Information' would not be discussed in full as its contents were already known and agreed to by all.

2. BRIEF OUTLINE OF WHERE WE ARE

Alec Mutch (AM) explained that he hoped we would have more frequent Zoom meetings so that the Committee can be contacted and remain in touch at all times. Decisions and opinions were needed quickly and e-mail responses were proving to be too slow. It was accepted that meetings would take place 1 per month or more. Any discussion, comments or opinions by Committee members would be allowed by the Chairman AM as the meeting proceeded.

The 'Additional Information' paper had been tabled and its contents were noted by all.

3. MEMBERSHIP FEES

AM explained that there had been requests for reduced fees in 2021. There had only been 3 meetings in 2020. However in light of the current restrictions and the necessity to improve our Club premises so that we could meet in the future - he had concluded that we should use our cash reserves and fees for ventilation/extraction equipment and necessary improvements.

Errol Levings noted that the AWGB had come to a similar conclusion about their fees and were not giving refunds. They were using the surplus fees to give grants to Clubs to assist them with their continuing restrictions and costs.

NS said that the existing Club facilities were not particularly good in any case - and we needed to make improvements as a priority.

It was agreed by all - that this years fees would remain and next years 2021 fees would be collected in full.

4. NEXT YEARS FEES 2021 AND HOW TO COLLECT

CS has provided details of the Clubs bank account. It was agreed that an e-mail request for the 2021 fees should be issued now (to be sent by post if there was no e-mail). Members would be given information about the Club's bank account and could pay by BACS direct or by cheque to Cliff Sim's home address.

It was agreed Mike Day's proposal that an explanatory note would be included with the posted requests which would inform Members of the reasons for the full 2021 fees.

5. NEXT YEAR'S AGM

Next years AGM would normally be held in February 2021. This meeting of all members was impossible due to the current restrictions. AM proposed - and it was agreed by all - that 2020 would be rolled over onto 2021 with no changes other than changes to Committee members explained in the following item.

6. COMMITTEE MEMBERS DECLARED

David Hobson and John Cheadle had indicated that they would not be continuing as Committee members in 2021. All other Committee members had agreed to continue - making 10 Committee members for next year.

7. CHAIRMAN'S POSITION ? CONSTITUTION

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Because Item 5 involves a rolling over of 2020 into 2021 then as a consequence the Committee and Chairman also roll on. AM agreed to remain as Chairman. AM proposed and it was agreed by all that the Constitution would be disregarded and the Committee would continue next year and the Chairman would be Alec Mutch.

Cliff Sim advised, that as normal, he would complete a set of accounts for 2020 and separate set for 2021 going forward. This was accepted by all.

8. NEXT YEAR'S PROGRAMME

AM proposed and it was agreed that the 2020 programme would be rolled over to 2021. The Programme would be amended as necessary to allow for the leaving of two Committee members and the replacement in part by NS.

9. AOCB

Nick Simpson - as teaching Co-ordinator - thanked everyone for their contributions. He explained that training would be a problem due to the Covid restrictions and that teaching online was not feasible.

It was agreed that NS would continue circulating a bulletin once a fortnight and he asked everyone for contributions for it.

A couple of names were suggested for possible Committee members to fill the vacancies. AM requested that all the Committee contact him with names of other potential members.

10. VENTILATION AND EXTRACTION

AM explained that John Ruickbie had done extensive work on a proposed ventilation and extraction system for the Club premises. A full list of the necessary equipment had been made and this list was being held by Peter Lawrence to be acquired as soon as the circumstances were right.

11. MARYBURGH SCHOOL BUILDING

AM advised that there was a meeting planned for December with the Highland Council for the Community Asset Transfer application made by Maryburgh Mens Shed (MMS). Andy Barnett MMS and AM would be at that meeting. Following which it was anticipated that a decision would be made by the Highland Council at their meeting on 26th February 2021.

12. END OF MEETING

The meeting was terminated by Zoom after 40 minutes but it was decided that all the proposed business had been concluded – thanks to all for the smooth running of this first Zoom meeting.