MINUTES of MEETING of OBAN COMMON GOOD FUND held in the MCCAIG SUITE, CORRAN HALLS, OBAN on THURSDAY, 15 NOVEMBER 2012

Present: (Chair)

Councillor Elaine Robertson

Councillor Fred Hall Councillor Iain A MacDonald

Charles Reppke Head of Governance and Law Tricia O'Neill Central Governance Manager Andy Newiss Associate Member (R A

Clements)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were intimated by:-

Councillor Alistair MacDougall

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (IF ANY)

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING - 10 OCTOBER 2012

The Minute of the previous meeting held on 10 October 2012 was approved as a correct record.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

(a) **OBAN BOWLING CLUB**

A thank you letter was received and noted from Oban Bowling Club for receipt of funding from the Common Good fund.

(b) OBAN WAR AND PEACE MUSEUM

Oban War and Peace Museum had written requesting clarification as regards the previous expression of support from War and Peace Museum. It was agreed that a letter be sent on behalf of the Trustees to the museum to clarify the position that they had receive a payment for the current financial year and indicating that the trustees had reduced funds at their disposal for future years but that they could apply for funding next year.

5. WIDENING THE TRUSTEESHIP /INVITING OBSERVERS TO COMMON GOOD FUND MEETINGS - VERBAL DISCUSSION

The Committee discussed options to widen Trustee Membership and/or invite observers to the meeting to ensure greater visibility to the

community of the application of the fund.

Having heard from the Head of Governance and Law in this regard it was noted that clarity was required on the role of additional members/observers in the decision making process.

The Committee proposed to invite the Chair of the Oban Community Council and a Church Representative to participate in future meetings however they would not have voting rights.

Decision:

The Trustees agreed to invite observers to attend one from the community council and one representing the religious community in Oban. They would not have voting rights but would be invited to offer views on the business of the fund.

6. DISTRIBUTION POLICY/CRITERIA FOR APPLICATIONS

It was noted that Agenda items 6 and 7 would be taken together and having heard from the Head of Governance and Law in this regard the Trustees agreed that the revised criteria for applications and a refreshed distribution policy should be developed and presented to a future meeting for noting.

Decision

The Committee agreed that the Clerk should incorporate the revised criteria for applications and a refreshed distribution policy to be presented to a future meeting for noting.

7. REPORT ON INCOME AND EXPENDITURE - 1.4.12 - 14.11.12

A report was presented by Andy Newiss as independent advisor and the Committee noted the current financial position and outstanding commitments.

Updated information was requested in relation to the current status of projects with committed funding as agreed by the previous trustees and it was agreed this would be taken forward by the Chair in respect of Shopmobility and by the Area Governance Manager for all other matters.

The Committee requested that consideration be given to inclusion of the current financial status of the Common Good Fund being hosted on the website.

Discussion took place in relation to future predicted income and costs associated with the investment of funds. It was noted that the Chair had been in discussion with the Head of Strategic Finance in relation to stockbrokers fees and that a report would come to the February Committee in this regard.

Decision

principles associated with the distribution of Common Good Funds however the response should include reference to further avenues of support that may be available from the Council.

(b)

Christmas lights and recent correspondence from the town traders, it was understood that funding of £16,000 was in place to support this which included:

£8,000 – Common Good Fund

£6,000 - Traders

£1,000 – Community Council

£1,000 – McQueen's Family Trust

The Chair advised the trustees that it was her understanding that the funding might be in place as outlined and requested that the Head of Governance and Law confirm the position.

(Note: It was subsequently confirmed by the Chair of the Oban Town Centre Traders Amenity Association that there remained a shortfall in funding of £2,950. In accordance with the previous decision of the Oban Common Good Fund to underwrite the shortfall, the sum of £2000 was released)