

# Glendale Trust AGM

20<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

2pm at Glendale Community Hall

**Present;** 28 members, directors, Councillor Ian and Mrs Sandra Renwick and Councillor John Laing

**Apologies;** Linda, Nancy, Rhona and Scotty

**1. Welcome;** Ian Blackford welcomed the Members and the Councillors

## **2. Adoption of the Minutes of 7<sup>th</sup> February 2009**

Proposed Brian Smith

Seconded Joy Talbot

## **3. Chairman's Report;**

Thank you to all the directors and to particularly to Graham Davies, Margaret MacPhee and Joy Talbot who are standing down as directors but are all willing to continue to help.

We worked closely with the hall committee for the St Andrews night Ceilidh and The Burns Supper. This we hope to continue to do. We also put on a Midsummer and Hogmanay Event.

Heritage and Cultural Centre

I want to clarify our position on this and I will also ask the company secretary that given the importance of this statement that it will be recorded in the minute of this meeting. Firstly as set out in our business plan our aim is that The Glendale Trust will develop a permanent '**Heritage and Cultural Centre for Glendale**'. The Centre will serve as an educational and social resource to showcase the rich history of Glendale and its people. Our business plan also states the following:

"Our preferred location is Borrodale School that has been mothballed since October 2007. The Highland Council have been approached with a view to leasing the buildings to the trust. This business plan is not dependent on securing the school buildings and if this is not possible then the Trust will have to examine other opportunities for premises in Glendale.

Situating the museum at the school locates the museum at an important position in Glendale presenting easy access to other tourist attractions such as Neist Point lighthouse and The Glendale Toy Museum amongst others.

Leasing the building from Highland Council is our preferred option, as it would retain ownership of the buildings in the hands of the council whilst sustaining the use of the building for educational and cultural use within Glendale. "

Let me deal with the school itself. The school is currently mothballed. The council previously informed us that the future of the school was due to be discussed at its education, cultural and sports committee meeting in January 2010. We now understand that this will be deferred to the March meeting and is likely to lead to a period of consultation on the future of the school with an assumption that the council will consider this report in August. We would be delighted if it could be demonstrated that if there is sufficient demand for the provision of a school in Glendale that the buildings revert to such a use. The business plan of the trust allows for an alternative use of the buildings until such times as it can be demonstrated that there is sufficient demand for a school.

As far as 2010 is concerned we would like to utilise the asset for an exhibition whilst the building is unoccupied. This of course is consistent with what happened in 2009 when we were able to utilise the portacabin at the school.

Proposed Margaret MacPhee

Seconded Joy Talbot

#### **4. Secretary's report;**

Membership;

Full: 95

Associate: 7

New: 5

We met, monthly through the year. We had a special meeting to discuss the Heritage and Cultural Centre plans. We had a well-attended open meeting to bring this to the membership on 17<sup>th</sup> Dec Members of the community came to meetings to discuss the provision of a nursery and the Meanish pier proposal.

We divided ourselves into project groups some people working on more than one group. The project groups put in time and energy throughout the year with some positive results and some fun events.

We published 2 newsletters this year, by e-mail and in the Glendale post office these had forms at the back for some of the projects we are engaged in, and if you were waiting to complete these and hand them in, soon would be good, today would be better. We appreciate your participation it helps keep us relevant, and the projects alive.

Proposed Ann Blackford

Seconded Brian Smith

#### **5. Treasurer's Report;** The Verified annual accounts are attached.

Ewan noted that the financial accounts were not the only investment; there was a great deal of personal investment in time and energy to the running of all the projects.

Proposed Liza Clelland

Seconded Joy Talbot

#### **6 Reports from the project groups:**

##### **Meanish Pier Area – Brian Smith**

It has been slow and fraught getting something done. The Council's ownership runs out next year. The idea is to have this as a destination for yachts. We need to amend the Memorandum and Articles of Associations in order to get funding and to ensure that the area will remain in community ownership. There is wear and tear of the pier that need to be addressed and the slip way is short of requirements. We hope to take the Meanish Pier area into community ownership to avoid these falling into private ownership. Concerns about public liability can be resolved.

##### **Heritage and Cultural Centre – Ann Blackford**

Ian Blackford, Margaret MacPhee, Brian Smith and Natalie Bayfield

We had a successful exhibition, with a lot of community involvement. We have met every month. We hope to run the exhibition from Easter – September this year and have a small café. We will possibly employ 4 part time staff for the café and the exhibition. We wish to have Gaelic language events and attract artists with workshop space and temporary exhibitions. Ian saw the exhibition in Lismore and was impressed. This Project stands alone

##### **Renewable Energy Report – Ocean Graham**

Stuart Bell, Graham Davies, Joy Talbot and Ocean Graham

We have created 2 projects to reduce waste; our Glendale Freecycle lists things that we can exchange for free. This has a number of entries in it and could use some more. So if you have finished with something in useable condition please enter it in the Freecycle at the Glendale Shop and Post Office with Nancy Bell, This directory appears on [www.theglendaletrust.org](http://www.theglendaletrust.org) and in the Post Office

We have also a car/fuel share list in the Post office and on the website for those who can give a lift to anywhere and those who would like to have a lift. Again remember to use it.

The group is looking into the renewable energy facilities that may be appropriate for the projects that are underway such as the Heritage and Cultural Centre and will move as these projects develop.

We are attending the Renewable Energy NWE10 event at Sabhal Mhor Ostaig in March, which looks at the practical experience of energy projects and the equipment and resources that have been effectively used for community and individuals. We are also learning about 'Transition Towns', which is a citizen led project in which communities develop their own strategies for lowering co2 emissions.

In the Newsletters we have published articles on renewables, to improve our understanding of the basics and added a section on practical actions we can take at home.

The Renewables group look forward to welcoming new people to the group.

### **Communications – Stuart Bell**

Has been looking at whether there are improvements to make in the Broadband service to Glendale area. We have sought feedback and have had 6 responses and this is insufficient to make an analysis. Many people are largely happy with their service W have a very good average download speed typically 3-3.5 mpbs. There are isolated areas where there is insufficient service. The target plan of BT to do unbundling of the exchange so it can be opened to competitors is 2011. We have a relatively good infrastructure here compared to the remainder of the Highlands and Islands and we do not want to rock the boat. Please feed back your download speeds through the website and the form. It is likely that the service will be under increased pressure in the future, due to telecommunication changes in terrestrial transmissions.

#### **7. Election of Directors;**

##### **The returning directors;**

Ian Blackford  
Ewan McLay,  
Ocean Graham  
Ann Blackford  
Dave Perry  
Brian Smith  
Natalie Bayfield  
Stuart Bell

##### **New Directors;**

Ann Bowes  
Ian Whitehill

#### **8. AOCB**

HIE might be looking at investing in a community project worker to assist with the development of the GT projects.

Date of the next AGM 19<sup>th</sup> February 2011