

## ALPS update for Management Group 5 April 2013

### ➤ **Claims & funding:**

- **HLF** – a claim is currently being submitted for HLF for the period Oct 2012-Feb 2013.
- **LEADER** – all required information has been submitted to LEADER for consideration. We are awaiting final approval of the following:
  - an extension of the project to 30 September
  - a change of project for the Bardic School
  - use of contingency & inflation for the Bardic School
  - use of underspend on Bealach na Ba Interpretation and Archiving Training

➤ **Medieval Chapel:** management of The Applecross Chapel has been with Highland Buildings Preservation Trust (HBPT) for over two years. ALPS will provide match funding, utilising Heritage Lottery Fund grant when full funding is secured. In the meantime, Alistair McCowan has agreed to look over the project brief (drafted by Rowan Tree Consulting) and Martin Wildgoose has been contacted to visit site and assess possible costs for bringing the building to consolidated ruin status.

➤ **Path works (Kenmore-Applecross glen):** work began on the Kenmore-the Applecross glen path w/c 5 Feb and is progressing well. The first section of the path which begins at the road and reaches the fence (approximately 1.5km) will be undertaken as a separate job. JW has contacted Katrina Johnson (crofting clerk for Kenmore) about match funding this section through CCAGS.

➤ **(Lost Path):** it was agreed at the previous MG meeting that additional work would be undertaken on the Lost Path to bring the path to its original layout. It is advised that this work will cost no more than £1,500 and will take no more than two weeks to complete.

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➤ **South Coast Deer Fence (deer grid):** the deer grid and layby is complete. We are awaiting top soil from the Highland Council and verging will then take place. **(fence)** Kevin Ronaldson returned w/c 18 March, completing the additional fencing at the top of the road and down to the grid. The final stage of fencing down to the water is almost complete and Kevin is returning within the next few weeks to finish. There are some small snagging issues along the fence line which Kevin will address when he returns, as well as the area at the gorge in Toscaig where the deer are getting in.

➤ **Hebridean barns:** completion of the northern hebridean barn is underway and will be totally complete when Jane Wilkinson arrives in June to produce the panels. Cathy Dagg has been in touch and will be supplying comment for the Conservation Plan - JW will circulate for approval as soon as this has arrived. Jane Wilkinson will begin work on the screens 21 June and will complete 28 June. Lesley

Kilbride and JW have been in touch with Monique Bervoets who will take a basket making workshop the following week (6 July) for the community. **(south barn)** Duncan McCowan is about to begin work on constructing the roof.

- **Lime kiln:** we are awaiting completion from Martin Wildgoose who still has work to do on this project.
- **Gateway woodland project:** update to be provided by Archie MacLellan.
- **Bealach dykes:** contractors, Geoff Walker and Darren Jones have been working on the Keppoch section, heading down into Applecross. Already there is a great improvement. **(Bealach Phase Two and Keppoch)** Further dyking work was advertised 28 March in the West Highland Free Press with a closing date of 4 April. The contract for this work will be awarded at the next Management Group meeting 15 April.
- **Interpretation:**
  - **Booklets – (Wildlife & Heritage)** the booklets are now for sale at the Visitor Centre and will be for sale at the Heritage Centre, Post Office and hopefully The Walled Garden. It was agreed at the MG meeting that the booklets would sell for £1 with 10% going to the administrator. Stands have been ordered for the booklets.
  - **(Geology)** text and images have been received. Valerie Hodgkinson (designer) is dropping both into a draft copy so that editing can begin.
  - **(Archaeology)** JW and Owen Kilbride have worked on the draft copy and JW to edit and send to Owen for approval. Cathy Dagg has sent over an illustration of the broch which will be incorporated within the booklet. JW to source other illustrations and images for this booklet.
  - **Interpretation Panels** – panels are in place at various locations across the bay.
  - **Signage** – signage is on order. Twelve week lead time. We are awaiting final proofs before giving the go ahead.
  - **Bealach Interpretation** – Dan Macrae has been working on top of the Bealach since 11 March and has almost completed the job. The stone seat, the stone flooring and the engraving – all look really high quality and will provide a great introduction to Applecross.
- **Hazel Woods & Roundhouse: (Hazel Woods)** A fourth coppicing event was held on 9 March within the fenced area of Càrnach Woodland. Much of the day was taken up with moving the coppiced wood and clearing the site. The next event is 6 April. That will be the last coppicing event for the winter. There will be further events in the summer for monitoring wild flowers, growth and such. Les Bates will supply a report outlining all elements covered over the winter months. **(Roundhouse)** The reed will be ready to collect during April. Brian Wilson (master thatcher) has confirmed that he will begin work in

June and that the job should take no more than three weeks. He will be sending details of requirements, costs, lead time etc.

- **Broch: (leaflet)** Owen Kilbride has the drafted text for comment and will have this with JW on his return end April.
- **Walled Garden Greenhouses:** Alistair McCowan has produced plans of the greenhouses as they would have been, as well as a specification for contractors. Duncan McCowan has been asked to provide costs for restoring the greenhouses. Once we are in receipt of costs, we will be able to consider which elements can be included within the project. However, the main aim is that the greenhouses are sympathetic to the original architecture and provide a practical space for Peter and Jackie to work.
- **Bardic School:** we are at present still awaiting confirmation of the following from LEADER funders:
  - extension of project to 30 September
  - change of project plan to 3x one week course over three years (2011-2013)
  - use of contingency & inflation to bring budget to £8,125 for 2013

However, we have been told that this will all be approved and all information has been submitted. In the meantime, we have now had confirmation that match funding has been approved with Coman na Gaidhlig and also Bord na Gaidhlig. This means that, once LEADER funding is secured, the Bardic School will be 100% funded.

- **Land Conditioning & habitat improvements:** CCAGS and SRDP funding applications have been submitted for small scale woodland at Milltown, hedging and species rich grassland in Toscaig, as well as reseeding in Toscaig. JW is to meet with Duncan Fraser to go through his application for ditching and drainage on Toscaig.
- **Policies Woodland:** Rhys Llewellyn at Scottish Woodlands visited Applecross 27 March to undertake a tree surgery survey for the policies. He has sent over the report which will now inform the work to be done and how much budget is remaining to plant trees.