

Applecross Landscape Partnership Scheme

Management Group Meeting

Wednesday 25th august

Present

Archie MacLellan (Chair), Alistair McCowan, Alasdair Macleod, Owen Kilbride, Mike Summers, Tom Kilbride, Gill Fairweather, Jacqui Liuba, Elodie Chopin, Sam Bridgewater

Apologies for absence

Derek MacLennan, Lorna Lumsden

The writing and distribution of management group minutes

It was agreed by the group to have the minutes written and distributed by EC (administrator). They will be distributed by e-mail between the Management Group, displayed on the ALPS notice board, and be made available on the ALPS website once it is established.

Frequency and timing of future management group meetings

The group agreed on gathering once a month, on a Monday night. The date set for the next meeting will be Monday 20th September at 7pm.

The co-option of Mary Gibson [SNH] onto the management group

The group is in favour of inviting Mary Gibson to be a co-opted member of the management group, although due to her position with SNH which is providing financial support for ALPS, she may prefer not to be formally allied in such a manner. EC/SB to check with Mary as to what association would be most appropriate.

Funding plan

Clachan Church: although some funding is in place from HLF (£124,352) and the Garfield Western Trust (£30,000), there is still a shortfall of the estimated £264,000 required to undertake all necessary repairs. Historic Scotland will not provide funds. One potential further source of funding is LEADER, and it was agreed that SB will submit a LEADER enquiry form to gauge whether an approach would be positively received.

It was agreed that a priority for work is the repair of the windows before the winter to prevent the potential catastrophic loss of the roof resulting from them being in-blown, and that HLF should be approached to see whether they would agree to work starting immediately on this sub-component of the restoration project. Concern was raised about the extremely high architect fees written into the project, and that ways of reducing these should be investigated, although it was understood that expert architectural input is essential. It was pointed out that much of the architectural work has already been done and paid for.

The bat survey planned for autumn 2010 will be postponed until May 2011 because of the need for the survey to investigate the presence of maternity roosts which can only be done in the summer period (May/June). It was thought that bat surveys might need to be done this autumn if crevices around the windows due for repair support bats. SB/EC to liaise with SNH about this.

South Coast Deer Fence: a meeting with the crofters of the southern area to discuss the development of plans/funding for the proposed south coast deer fence is scheduled in the Community Hall on Monday 30th August. It will be attended by David Wright (Scottish Government Rural Payments and Inspection Directorate (SGRPID)). It was thought that this initial meeting should primarily target crofters, but that other meetings open to everyone should be arranged at a later date once plans develop.

Referencing ALPS in future promotional material

It was agreed that an ALPS logo is not required, and that promotional material related to the project should just mention the name of the scheme in full. All funder's logos would be included in materials where relevant, and that ALPS partners would not use their logos.

Open Meeting

An Open Meeting on the theme of ALPS for all the community is scheduled for Wednesday 22th September, at 7.00pm at the Community Hall. It has been advertised on the notice boards and a notice will appear in the next edition of An Carranach.

Composition of Heritage Manager interview board

The post has been advertised locally, in An Carranach, the West Highland Free Press and the Press & Journal, with the deadline for applications being the 22th September. Interviews are scheduled for the 6th October. It was agreed that members of the interview board would include Alistair McCowan and Archie MacLellan with at least one other member of the Applecross Historical Society. It was suggested that Ian MacKenzie should be invited to participate if he is available.

ALPS project updates

Due to finding more archaeological features within the broch than anticipated, the excavation phase of the project has been more expensive than the original budget originally allowed for. Consequently some funds have re-allocated to the excavation phase from the presentation/interpretation phase, although it is still believed that sufficient funds are available to fulfil all the project's objectives. Quotes are now being sought for the final landscaping and path building components of the project which jointly will need to come in below £6,785.

Management Group Training

The group agreed that their training was not a current priority and that this subject should be revisited at a later stage.

ALPS priorities

In addition to completing work on the broch, the following were regarded as immediate priorities: starting the tendering process for the Community Interpretative Planning Project, the Evaluation Project, the Coastal Trails project; procuring the final funds for the Bardic School; replacement of the windows of Clachan Church; procuring further funding for the restoration of Clachan Church.