

HEN Minutes 30 January 2007 Glachbeg Croft at 1.00pm

Attending: Bob Bull, Marion MacDonald (Chair), Toni Clark,

Apologies: Susan Kruse, Sue MacKenzie, Sheila Wickens, Anne Bonsall

Matters arising

- **In it Together (Mini Grants Scheme)**

Bob had letter of refusal of a grant detailing the reasons and offering assistance in further the application from their Investing in Ideas programme. This includes a possible grant for piloting which Bob will progress. He will also investigate the possibility of becoming a training provider.

ACTION Bob

- **Plot to Pot update**

Toni reported that RHS had been approached for further funding but is unable to assist at present. However there may be future support from Focus on Food.

Correspondence

Letter received from George Hogg of SNH regarding Anne Murray's withdrawal from Committee but stressing continued support for groups such as HEN. It was decided not to take the matter further.

Finance

Current balance is £6435.41 following refund of grant and payment of organising fees for Plot to Pot.

Small Grants Scheme

Marion had circulated committee re documentation. There was further discussion and it was agreed to circulate to schools with deadline of 5 March for applications. Bob will scan applications and contact others in case of doubt re eligibility. Final decisions will be taken at the next meeting of Committee.

It was decided to issue a press release then also.

Action Bob

HEN Conference 2007

Marion had attended meeting at Grantown Primary School on Monday 29th January which included Community Woodlands, HC Ranger Service, and Environmental Arts providers. The format will be similar to last year and the event will tie in with Strathspey in May. It will be thrown open to the general public in mid afternoon.

Events were as detailed in the previous minute. Also mural construction and playground painted games; use of community arts project to create interpretative materials; drama sessions; story telling.

Marion considered that approximately £5,500 is required to run the event and approaches will be made to SNH, Cairngorms National Park and Hi Arts. Marion will also submit an Awards for All bid.

Toni will take on the organisation as per last year.

ACTION Marion, Toni

Newsletter

The next issue will be pre Conference to be issued by mid April to allow the necessary 21 days notice of the AGM. Susan Kruse has volunteered to assist. Toni will also work on it.

ACTION Toni, Susan

Insurance

It was decided to overtly ensure that risk assessments are carried out both by HEN in setting up the Conference but also flagging up to each participant (including the venue) the need to carry out risk assessment.

Any Other Business

- HEN as a training provider

There was discussion regarding the possibility of HEN acting as a training provider and attracting funding to deliver specific training. Further investigation is required on this.

- Bob flagged up three events
 - an Open Day at Glachbeg in the last weekend in March
 - a Network Meeting before the end of March on Community Gardens and Therapeutic Gardens organised by Trellis and Federation of Advanced Community Gardens at Glachbeg
 - Rural Skills Conference at Kingussie High school run by Careers Scotland on 8th February
- HEN will make further attempts to have a web link on the Highland Council Education virtual Library
ACTION Toni

The meeting closed at 3.00pm

The next meeting will be on Tuesday March 20th at Glachbeg (1.00pm – 3.00pm)