

**Foyers Bay Steering Group Meeting – Notes**

**Date: 23rd May 2024**

**Meeting time: 7pm**

**Meeting location: The Hub, Lower Foyers**



**Present:** Malcolm Stewart (MS) – Chair,Caroline Tucker (CT)

Alfie Taylor (AT), Bob Main (BM), Craig Lightbody (CL), Ken Sinclair (KS), Vaughn Devlin (VD)

**Apologies:** None

1. **Welcome**
2. **Actions arising from previous steering group meeting:**
3. **Signage**
* Ordered and ready for collection. MS to collect and will put up on fence surrounding the bay.
1. **Electrics**
* CT updated that some electric works had been carried out. CT to confirm with Matt Rhodes, SFCT’s Facilities Officer what has been done and speak to the Contractor if required.

**Action – CT to confirm extent of works**

1. **Installation of floating moorings**
* Moorings to be installed on Monday 27th and Tuesday 28th May.
1. **Approval of minutes**
* Notes of previous meeting approved.
* **Action – CT to circulate to Board and add to project page on website.**

1. **Site Clearance works update**
2. **Review of quotes**
* 4 quotes received, two from local contractors, one from Strathnairn and one from Newtonmore.
* Each quote summarised. Need to ensure that they are all quoting for the same work - consideration needs to be made for landscaping as well as the slipway.
* Noted that we do not have a formal plan for works, but that this was the decision taken by this group at a previous meeting. All four contractors are known to members of the group and therefore there is confidence in their work. Each has been to the site and spoken to either MS or BM about the works required.
* Group unable to reach decision with current information.
* BM suggested it might be a possibility to involve two of the contractors. Group agreed this might be a viable possibility.
* **Action – CT to write to each contractor and ask for further credentials and availability. This information will be circulated via email.**
* BM raised the safety issue of having the path around the bay open while works were ongoing.
* CL pointed out that one of the planning conditions was that this path needed to remain open.
* KS said that if we put a diversion in place as an interim solution while works were ongoing this would not be an issue.
* MS suggested closing the bridge entirely for safety reasons and putting the diversion across old shinty pitch.
* BM asked if a survey had been carried out for the whole area. Acknowledged the existence of bathymetric surveys, but wondered about shoreside. Perhaps Caintech could be engaged to carry out the work for us.
* MS said that he was not aware of anything, and that there was no masterplan available on file.
* BM suggested that perhaps the group could have a collective look at the wider requirements for the area – maybe arrange a meeting onsite to discuss ideas?
* Meeting arranged for 4pm, Thursday 30th May at Foyers Bay.
* **Action – CT to establish whether there are surveys on file and if not, get a quote from Caintech for carrying out the work.**
1. **Removal of waste material**
* MS asked what was to happen to the recently deposited contaminated topsoil.
* Discussion had about whether, if contaminants are removed, this would be useful onsite for upcoming landscaping works. Consensus was yes.
* **Action – BM to remove contaminants and leave remaining soil onsite for use.**
1. **Terms and conditions of use and Fare Harbor Booking system**
* CT noted she had not progressed with Fare Harbor booking system and passed this to MS.
* **Action – MS to take this forward.**
* CT summarised work already done in pulling together a Terms and Conditions document. Discussion had on what should be covered, with a particular focus on the floating moorings:
* Minimum booking is 1 week, which can be renewed, dependent on demand, at the end of this period. Cannot book for more than four weeks consecutively.
* SFCT has the right to remove your boat if you go over your allotted booking period.
* CL asked what would happen if a member reaches the four week period, how long would they need to wait until they were allowed back. No decision reached on this, but there is a system on Fare Harbor that allows us to only open bookings up on a monthly basis so this would help us monitor use. Along with point above about SFCT being able to remove boats, a clause needs to be added that SFCT reserves the right to terminate membership at any time.
* Discussion had on who would cover the cost of boat removal, consensus was that this would be covered by the owner. This could be done by introducing a refundable deposit paid by each Foyers Bay member at the beginning of their membership. Suggested figure of £200.
* AT pointed out that we would need to consider a size limit for the boats using the moorings.
* MS responded that we should go with weight (max. weight of 2.5T), but as any boats using the moorings will be entering the water on a trailer this should be easy to control.
* Discussion had on cost of use of moorings – fee of £35 per week agreed.
* **Action – CT to continue work on this and incorporate points above.**
* Further discussion had about wider membership of Foyers Bay:
* This should be open to community members, you do not have to be a member of SFCT to become a Foyers Bay member.
* Membership will cover slipway access, boat storage and access to booking of floating moorings.
* Question raised about whether each member would need their own insurance. Consensus was that insurance should be in place at Foyers Bay that would cover all users. Their membership would help cover this cost.
* AT pointed out that what we are promoting is allowing the community access to the loch. We need to make sure this is accessible to all and avoid becoming elitist.
* CL asked if SSE would need us to produce a business plan.
* KS indicated that this probably would not be needed as this is not a commercial enterprise.
* **Actions – CT to incorporate the above into membership documentation. CT to find out what current SFCT insurance covers and requirements going forward. CT to contact SSE to ascertain the requirements of a business plan.**
* Suggested membership fee of £10 per year. This will require new keys to be issued.
1. **Next steps**
* Group agreed to focus on current works before moving forward with anything else.
1. **AOB**
* None.

Next meeting to be decided after site visit on 30th May.

Meeting closed 8.20pm