Assynt Resilience Group

Assynt Development Trust, Assynt Community Council Community Care Assynt, Connect Assynt working together

Minutes of the meeting Friday ${\bf 15}^{\rm th}$ May 2020 2:00pm held via Zoom

No	Item	Action
1	Attendance: Willie Jack, Sarah Ann MacLeod, Ewen McLachlan and Adam Pellant ADT, Liam Taylor, ACC, David Slator & Bill Wardley Smith CCA and Andy Summers Volunteer co-ordinator, Jane Young CA Not present: Roddie Kerr CA	
2	Any conflicts of interest? None	
3	Published statement: There had been a few emails giving feedback in relation to a local shellfish market, the food bank and face masks. WJ reported that ADT had received a £50 donation towards the Food Bank and offered a £100 donation towards the Face mask project. Gift Aid has been offered on both donations and an extra 25% can be claimed due to ADT being a charity registered to claim Gift Aid by HMRC.	
4	Food bank: WWS is keeping the list of recipients up-to-date. In this last week there were 23 food parcels sent out including 7 to families, so probably around 30 individuals benefitted from the service. There were 11 volunteers and despite a few teething problem such as incomplete addresses everything went well. Almost all the food supply stored at AL was sent out. A new order has been placed with Williamsons for delivery on Tuesday morning. FairShare has allocated two pallets of dried food which although currently it is in Aberdeen it should be delivered to Dornoch on Monday morning. Two volunteers will drive the Connect Assynt Bus to the east coast to collect this food and also the pallet of flat pack food delivery boxes from Tain which have been donated by Sainsbury's through the NHI. AS & WWS thought that the food box delivery service should be changed from Tuesday to Wednesday. WWS has already sent two additional names for food boxes to AS. DS asked about provision of toiletries within the food bank scheme – SAM agreed to look into the pricing of items that can be supplied by Bookers WWS - said he would go on to In Kind and see what they had and try and get items. You have to be a member of this site to buy. WWS also explained that the Manager of Fareshare in Aberdeen was on holiday so it would be Monday before Dominic Corcoran would be in touch with him to get a time and date for collection of food stuffs from Dornoch. WJ raised the issue of shopping collections from Ullapool for some in the community. LT advised that this was to do with HC's provision of food vouchers which need to be spent in larger stores such as Tesco. He is unsure as to how many are affected as these vouchers are available to all those who are in receipt of Universal Credit. WJ advised that he will send group members a mileage expenses claim form and AS will advise foodbank volunteers that they can claim. WWS advised that he has received a donation of chocolate which can go in next weeks food parcels SAM advised that she had t	CA WWS/ AS SAM WWS WJ WWS SAM AP
5	PPE: LT advised that there is quite a significant amount of stock still unused and almost all the funding received from HC & SSEN has been spent. Ten Stainless Steel hand sanitiser dispensers have been ordered with a delivery date of mid June. More gloves will be required and latex and nitrile can then be ordered; in additional five litre containers of santiser will be ordered.	LT

6	Masks for local people: WJ advised the meeting that around 460 masks are in production with 75 having been delivered. It is expected that around 200 to have been completed by Monday and these can be delivered to AS for distribution. The 460 masks will have cost around £1300 to make with six makers being paid and four donating their time. Around £800 has been spent on fabric & elastic while significant amounts of fabric have also been donated. This material will be adequate for an additional 400-500 masks It was asked what was the likely uptake would be. It was suggested that masks should be available at Spar, Costcutter & the Butchers with a donation box. DS explained that there was clear evidence emerging of the benefit to be gained by members of the public wearing masks in enclosed spaces such as shops and public transport although there has been no Scottish government directive yet (this is possibly so that NHS supplies are not threatened). It was suggested that an information sheet should be produced on their distribution, need for donations and usage of masks. It is important that this guidance is clear.	WJ/ AS
7	Hot meal provision: WWS hasn't heard back from Inver Lodge by email yet but will try contacting by Facebook There have been no requests from any individuals in Assynt for information about supply & delivery of hot meals outwith the existing Assynt Centre provision WWS advised that there were 22 meals from An Cala on Saturday 9 th which was paid for by the British Legion; there is funding for another round within the next month	WWS
9	 Shellfish market: WJ had been emailed with a suggestion that a local shellfish market could benefit creelers and the local community by ensuring that the supply had a market and that the food was obtainable locally at affordable prices. JY to look into further WJ advised that Angela Simpson from HIE had agreed in an email that funds could be moved from one project to another but that HIE needed to be kept informed. There is a meeting of of all the Sutherland Community Anchor organisations on Tuesday 19th AP advised the meeting that it had been suggested to him that two members of a family in Assynt had no internet connection and it had been suggested that the SCF funds could be used to connect the family and pay their monthly subscription. LT advised caution before the meeting decides to support this proposal as funds are limited and we must ensure that we adopt a uniform approach to all funding requests. LT will contact the community liaison to discuss further; it may even be possible for the HC Welfare Fund to assist LT advised that we are approaching the point where restrictions will be eased and ACC members are receiving suggestions regarding what will happen in Assynt. He asked if ARG had a role. WJ advised that he felt that this should be left to Government although ADT has been involved in assisting tourism and hospitality businesses, which are suffering badly through this crisis. LT asked if a post could be put out on FB encouraging people to donate to the food bank EM advised that the NHI fund is still open for applications and ARG could apply to NHI to create a hardship fund for those Assynt locals who are really struggling financially, particularly those who would have been in work and are now on Universal Credit paying. 	JY WJ LT LT AS
10	particularly those who would have been in work and are now on Universal Credit, paying bills and living off £13 per day. EM suggested applying for £1,500 which could allow a hardship fund of £20 per individual possibly helping up to 75 folk in Assynt. Date of next meeting: Friday 22 nd May 2020 2:00pm	