

BMCC Meeting - Blackmount School 6th November 2023.

Elected Members	Present		Ex-Official Members	Present
Alistair Muirhead/Chair	Y		Alex Allison	Y
Andreas Hudson/Sec	Y			
Pauline Irwin/Treasurer	Y			
Nicola Levy/Editor	Y			
Eric Holford	Y	By Video		
Anne Hutchinson	Y			

5 Members of the Public in attendance.

1. September Meeting Minutes:

These minutes could not be approved during the meeting as corrections where needed to be made. This will be re-presented in the next meeting.

2. Telephone Boxes/Defibs:

Alistair advised the grant had been completed/sent for Defib installation in phone boxes to the British Heart Foundation for full funding. We are currently awaiting approval. (*Microgrant application for Survey*)

3. Bugle Production:

Nicola (Bugle Editor) advised that she had been working on the publication. She is waiting on some outstanding articles to be submitted. The Survey groups input will be included in the edition. £600.00 is available for use to print the bugle at the printers in Edinburgh. Pauline advised she would forward details of the printers contact details etc so Nicola can make contact and ascertain costing for production of the publication etc. Blackmount Committee vacancies will be advertised in the Bugle/web page in accordance with SLC requirements.

4. Elsrickle Hall:

Proposed Meeting with the council this coming Friday.

Costings received from SLC itemising their costs for the hall repairs etc (*15000*). Alistair briefly explained the proposal for solar panels on the hall roof to reduce running costs is one of the cost saving ideas, we can apply for 'can do funding' which is open until 31.1.24. BMCC had previously been informed that the best way forward for quickly taking control/opening of the community hall in Elsrickle, was not by asset transfer but to set up a limited company (a public meeting had been held regarding this and well attended)

A board is to be established. BMCC had agreed to support with funding from the Energy Grant.

5. Social Group:

Bonfire night fireworks display organised by the social group was very successful and well attended. Over £500.00 had been raised which leaves the social group on a health footing.

The venue for the seniors Christmas night was still in doubt. The Blackmount school hall hire restrictions state any function needs to finish by 9pm, and limited space for numbers and a band. Consideration is being given to postponing the event until the new year, by which time, it is hoped Elsrickle Hall may be available, and a Scotch Night might be an alternative event.

6. Councillors Report:

Cllr Alex Allison commented on the successful fireworks night and thanks to the organisers.

He reported that Dolphinton hall Christmas tree will have lights. He also advised that Dolphinton hall had been boarded up for safety/security reasons and he had requested the council to not board up Elsrickle Hall. South Lanarkshire Council has budget constraints, 70 million in savings required.

SLLS Changes to some group discounts being reduced.

SLC Recruitment committee was currently overstretched replacing several Key heads of department, Chief Executive, Head of Finance, Head of Legal services etc.

7. Treasurer:

Unfortunately, the treasurer was unable to advise how much monies were currently in the accounts. She was also unable to advise the Survey group how much they had left from the grant. She informed the meeting that the survey subgroup had to comply with SLC regulations, however, if the Survey group decided to move towards being an independent group, (not a subgroup as it currently is) with its own constitution and bank account, she would have no objection to transferring over any monies left (a vote would be required) and suggested they might want to speak to the Blackmount Social Group for help/information in setting up a constitution/bank account. **Cheque Books/Statements/Receipts to be obtained from previous treasurer.**

8. Secretary:

Nothing to report

9. AOB:

Emma Ives, member of the Public from the BMCC Sub Survey group advised they would be looking to apply for further grant funding. The treasurer advised that she was currently unaware of the current funding situation, she would be seeking clarification from SLC Energy Grant on some issues which appeared to conflict with previous practice. Emma advised the meeting that the 23rd November was the date for 'Make a Tile', at the school and the whole of Blackmount was invited.

Secretary, Andy Hudson asked if there were any objections to the meetings being recorded in future as this would be a more efficient and transparent way to produce our minutes. No objections were raised.

Dates proposed for future meetings is first Monday of every month - agreed. No meeting will take place in January/April and August. Until a hall situation is confirmed meeting venues will be advised as soon as possible, however, clarification is needed if any charges for school hall hire.

Next meeting 7.30 pm on 4th December 2023 – Blackmount School Hall