



Maryburgh Amenities Company Ltd.

E-bulletin

Issue No: 18

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Introduction

This e-bulletin is the digital newsletter for all members of the Maryburgh Amenities Company Ltd. and is designed to keep all its members informed and updated. Sorry there has been a long delay since the previous E-bulletin, but I haven't had much feedback from either the MAC Board of Directors or the Community Council since the end of last year. The main news in this issue is the update with the SKS Business Plan which is on the website and the MAC AGM on the 22nd June.



The Tallysow all abilities footpath – Brahan Estate

Business Plan submitted to THC

Although we haven't managed to provide a detailed update on progress for a while, things have been moving on with our consultants, SKS Scotland, to complete the Business Plan, setting out the case for Maryburgh Community to take on ownership of the whole site at the centre of the village and what we would propose to do with each of the elements. This is based on the consultation work carried out through last year and advice gratefully received from a number of local organisations. The Business Plan is on the Maryburgh Hub website and we would be delighted if people would take the time to look through and give us any thoughts, comments or feedback on what is proposed.



The Business Plan has taken on the wide range of input and comments gathered over the last year and sets out a vision for how development at the site could be taken forward. This aims to keep as much of the site in community ownership as possible and essentially splits the area into four separate projects.

Firstly, redeveloping the Amenities Centre to bring it up to modern standards and make it more suitable for the range of uses people have highlighted as being important; for example, the two things that jump out in some of the responses about condition are toilets and lighting... and we are all aware of the poor heating – which MAC have been working on getting improvements made on.

Secondly the playing fields and football pitch, which have a range of improvements that can be made, including plans the Maryburgh Football have to improve the condition and usability of the pitch.

Third is the brownfield site, where the old demountable units for the school stood and which is currently overgrown. We have proposed to sell this area to enable development of a number of housing units, most likely with a Housing Association, and raise capital to support the wider development work.

Finally, the old school building, where it is proposed to develop as a mixed-use facility to incorporate some community use and community owned accommodation for local people struggling to find housing in the village.

These are all uses that have been identified as potentially viable though development of the business plan, but the detail of these proposals still needs worked through, and to do that we need more people from the Maryburgh community to get involved.

New Directors & volunteers required

The Amenities Company will hold its AGM at 7:30 PM in the Amenities Centre on Thursday 22nd June. We have now reached a very exciting time, but to go beyond the plans and start working on upgrading and development work across the site MAC will need to have the support of the Maryburgh community to help make what has been planned a reality. The current Board and team of volunteers is a fairly small group and without additional help it simply won't be possible to work on anything but the most basic parts of the development, which would mean that we would have to withdraw our interest in purchasing the old school building and let the Council dispose of the site as they see fit.



To help structure and manage the work needing done, we have developed a set of key roles, most of which would be carried out by volunteers rather than Board members. What we really want to do is become much more effective at planning and sharing out the work that needs done so that we can start to see some real progress and improvements across the site. The type of help we need is pretty varied, from helping with maintenance and upkeep at the hall, to funding applications and helping develop detailed plans across the whole site.

We have put some more detail about this on the Maryburgh Hub website along with contact details. This will also be something that is up for discussion at the MAC AGM on the 22nd June.

Amenities Centre Development Work

After a very successful Volunteering Day coordinated by the Maryburgh Youth Action Group, we plan to have a number of dates through the summer of 2017 to carry out more work on improving the hall - we will publish dates closer to the time in the e-bulletin & on the noticeboard.

We are moving into exciting times, and have already secured a small amount of funding to improve the toilets, external lighting and repair the footpaths, but there is always more to do. Highland Council have already committed to provide just under £50,000 as part of a funding package for upgrading of the Amenities centre and we are due to submit applications for more funding over the coming months.



Amenities Centre Facilities Manager

CURRENTLY RECRUITING – PART TIME

Basic Pay - £8.50/hr – minimum £184 per month

We are currently recruiting a new Facilities Manager for the Amenities Centre.

Main duties include taking hall bookings & managing the booking schedule, responding to queries, hall cleaning and identifying repairs & maintenance work required.

The role will be a minimum of 5 hours per week, but may vary depending on the number of hall bookings. Working times are very flexible and are spread through the week to enable access for hall users, some weekend working may be required at times.

If you are interested in applying for the role, please contact:

Jamie Dunsmore Tel - 07849 187615

e-mail jamedunsmore@hotmail.com

What is on at the Hall...

Tuesdays:

Rainbows between 5:15 – 6:15 PM

Brownies between 6:15 – 7:30 PM

Wednesday:

Yoga between 7:15 – 8:30 PM Drop

in - £7.00 or a block of 4 - £20.00

Thursday:

Martial Arts between 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Adults only £9.00

Friday:

Soccer 7s on the pitch at 6:00 PM

The Guides also meet in the hall on some Sunday nights.



These groups contribute to the running costs of the Amenities Centre so if anyone in the village is interested in participating in these activities please pop along and meet the group. You will be welcome and all these groups need more members.