



## 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. Since the last issue the minutes of the board meeting have been produced so this issue contains some news of what was discussed at the meeting. Eilidh Green has also been in contact with Cinema for All & Voluntary Arts Scotland regarding the "Grow Your Own Cinema Project".



Figure 1 – Seaforth Home, Maryburgh built in 1907 by Colonel Stewart Mackenzie of Seaforth and his wife.

## February Board Meeting



The first meeting of the new board of directors was held on 3rd February 2016. Jamie Dunsmore was elected as the chair by Jane Menzies and seconded by Jenny MacLennan. Tommy Menzies continues as Vice Chair.



## Maryburgh Roundabout

The Maryburgh Roundabout was discussed. Jane has invoiced all those advertising in the magazine for 2013-2014 and is awaiting feedback to ascertain the current financial situation. It is thought that the advertising will cover the cost of producing the Roundabout.

## Community Council

The Community Council had also offered up to £1,000.00 towards the Board's Community work.

## Telecoms Provider

Brief discussion between Ross & Cromarty Heritage Society and the Board had taken place to review the arrangements for Broadband and telephone usage.

## Electricity

The heating and electricity costs are still being reviewed including the question of the VAT rate.

A suggestion of installing power usage monitors to accurately gauge output was also discussed.

The board had hoped to obtain a share of electricity from the Auction Mart wind turbine to use in the Amenity Centre, but have been told there is no excess.

## Drainage

Scottish Water have been contacted for help with the Amenities Centre drainage. It has also been proposed to contact "Clean Machine" to investigate if they offer reduced rates for community halls.

### The Futures Group

There had been various meeting with the Highland Council and the School. The council has now agreed to do everything they can to help improve community facilities in both Maryburgh and Conon. £2,000.00 has been offered from the Ward discretionary fund for a condition report on the Amenities building. In addition, an offer of £47,000.00 of development funding is available.

### Grow Your Own Cinema Project

Grow Your Own Cinema is an exciting new project by Cinema for All and Voluntary Arts Scotland set up to encourage voluntary arts groups to put on their very own film events.

Eilidh Green has approached Morvern Cunningham, who is the Grow Your Own Cinema Project Officer.

The hope is that the Amenities Committee will be able to set up a film club, especially for the older generation.

The committee would like to run monthly or bi monthly film nights to bring young and old together in the community. They have had requests from themed films like Rocky Horror to all night Star Wars and Die Hard. Gone with the Wind has also been mentioned.



Figure 2 Balerno Village Film show

### Climate Challenge Fund

The board decided to submit an expression of interest for the Climate Challenge funding. This had to be submitted by the 5<sup>th</sup> February.



### Maryburgh Hub Website

Andrew Steel has agreed to update the website and wants members of the company to contact him with comments and suggestions. He is also looking for feedback from anyone who uses the Centre.

Why not visit the website by clicking on the link at bottom of each page? You can also visit the Facebook page.



### New Structure of Company



The Futures Group previously met after Community Council and Amenities Committee, each being involved in development proposals and often with overlapping membership. It was felt necessary to update this formula and for the Board to assume more responsibility relating to Policy and directing of operations in respect of funding, amenities, maintenance and upkeep of hall.

The Chairman thought a more structured approach was required and questioned whether Board meetings should continue to be bi-monthly. It was agreed that in view of the work ahead, the Board would meet again in early March with a particular remit to examine where the board go from here.

The agenda would centre on the Board and Futures group, with Amenities Committee representation. He also deemed it worthwhile to compile a one-page report on Finance, Hall updates, Governance issues, Facilities promotion and Companies House, etc. to form part of the agenda.

The Amenities Committee will be reformed and include a board member on it. This position will be taken by Liz Sinclair.