

LUCS Committee+ 23rd May 2020

AM Allister : West Lothian Council- Coronavirus Businesses Support Fund.

- We should apply, for museum and tearoom. DS to action.
- £10,000 rates rebate to be applied for. DS to action
- (AM and SHR to send links to DS)

David : Basin Banter Zoom piece

- To refer to SG new guidance in Basin Banter, AE to give statement to SHR
- Invite of membership to coffee morning – we should do this.
- Presentations to membership – on hold, perhaps for later issue. 15 to mins max.

Mike : Film on Forth Filming

- Do we express an interest ? yes, and negotiate “practicalities” in due course SHR

David : Finances

- £700 credit notes accepted.
- £3k refunds, £2.5k to go
- £1k bequest
- Insurance, vacant premises conditions being relaxed.
- MCA, about laying up boats, a wip
- By next April have £29k in bank up from £23.5 previous estimate
- Need to be careful with money, but have money to restart, marketing etc
- SHR : marketing costs may be higher, due to distribution and incidental costs.
- Board at entrance to Basin, to have a more formal notice of us being closed. DS to make proposal and circulate.
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Andy : Exit Strategy

- Start process of doing the “exit”, for committee to consider
- Eg if using tearoom for volunteers, how do we do that
- Get comments, set up a little sub group ? develop detail, and issue drafts. Detailed discussion at our next meeting ?
- But, what about next Thu 28.05 relaxations ? does this impact us, ie to allow us to do 2 man jobs ? does this mean we can institute “stage 1” ?

- Communication should be simple and clear, can we distil down to 3 or 4 bullets ?
- Something pinned outside tearoom door ?
- What buildings should be used, only the toilet and workshop ?
- What about handwash / sanitiser ? / Keeping a log of who has been in buildings or at basin.
- Basin Banter will give general view and AE distils a shorter message from his doc for stage 1

Stuart : American Skunk Cabbage

- Invasive plant. Grows near or on water courses. Nearly indestructible. Stinks and irritates skin. Been found in Woodcockdale. SHR asked SC, Richard Millar has put to environmental officer. Forth River board looking at. Expect SEPA involvement. This is for awareness. Should we respond to person who contacted us via website about this ? Should say we've passed onto SC, what about the Sea Scouts, do they know or interested ? Weedcutting is not on the agenda of SC at all at the moment as not a H&S issue. SHR will respond to author of original email. Himalayan Balsam also mentioned – MS.

David : Response to Scottish Canals about Commercial Mooring Fees

- SC needs to have a view commercial arrangement with organisation on the canal. SHR advised to ask for a concession. Based on how much fin. stress we are under – may be under a lot by April next year as we fall under our trading reserves. SHR proposes we submit something to SC saying we will be below trading reserve and ask for concession. Will also remove 30 day timeline to pay invoice. DS – as we are charged as if we are trading, this cant be right. We have 3 month extension, from end of March. We have to respond, cant ignore. SHR suggests we ask for a reduction, without specifying how much. MS, how and who to approach SC ? Draft for comments first (DS has completed a web form and submitted). SHR suggested also sending a letter, reinforcing the message and asking for a response. DS to draft this letter (after reviewing cash flow statement) for comment by committee+. Low urgency, so circulate, for comments, via email and firm up at next committee meeting.

SHR : SW for All

- Canal and River Trust fundraising campaign to help organise survive and re-open “justgiving”. In Scotland SWfA suggest something similar. Sub group looking at this. To get public to support canal and related facilities. CRT is a charity, but this is a difficulty in Scotland. To resolve this suggestion is that various organisations eg LUCS etc register with JustGiving, and overall campaign will route money to particular cause they have sympathy with. Does LUCS want to be involved, if it gets off the

ground ? Then would have to register with "justgiving", who also look after gift aid tax relief. Committee agrees to this. SHR will register LUCS with JustGiving campaign.