

Draft Minutes of Meeting held on 29 March 2016 at The Harbour Offices

Present: Kirsty Holland (Vice-Chair), Christine Mackenzie (Treasurer), Murdo MacPherson (Secretary), Margaret Meek (Minutes)

Also present: Graham Wild (Kinlochbervie Community Company)

Apologies: Gary Sutherland, Mairi Eastcroft, Hugh Morrison (Local Councillor)

1.0 Minutes of 23 February 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 February 2016 were proposed for approval by Christine and seconded by Murdo. The minutes were approved.

2.0 Matters arising from Minutes of 23 February 2016

2.1 Proposed Health Care Provision Changes

There was no further news.

2.2 17 Manse Road

Margaret and Graham gave an update. As the group has been awarded a 75% grant amounting to £15,000, work can begin once a further £5,000 is raised. The Company is applying for money from the Ward Discretionary Fund and HIE and is hopeful that the work can begin soon. The lease is now with the Company's solicitors for final review.

At a meeting with Highland Councillors, further enquiries were made about the next-door property at 18 Manse Road. Indications are positive that Care and Learning (the owners of the house) will offer it to the Company.

2.3 Geopark

Murdo reported Geopark will be holding an Extraordinary General Meeting next Thursday to consider charitable status.

2.4 Core Paths

Matt Dent has made the signs. The Community Council re-iterated its preference for a change of name for one path: the Sheilings path should be the Manse Road Peat Road path.

Action:

	Action	Who?
1	Contact Matt Dent about wording for Manse Road Peat Road Path	Murdo

2.5 Football Pitch and Play Park

Christine reported that the group has been successful in securing a grant of £10,000; the entire budget is expected to be around £100,000 so it is a start. An application to Sport Scotland for the football pitch is currently being prepared by Alan Jones. This is a much larger project.

Graham also reported that the football team is now receiving coaching from an ex-professional footballer from Scourie.

2.6 Loch Clash Project

Margaret and Graham reported that the work is well underway.

2.7 Benches at Droman

There has been no change since the last meeting. The benches are ready but will need repainting.

2.8 Storm Damage at Loch Clash

Any work will wait for better weather.

2.9 Droman Pier

There was no update on Droman Pier as Hugh Morrison was not able to be at the meeting.

2.10 Community Broadband

Margaret reported that the Stage 1 has been completed. There is a big difference between speeds in the village and those in the outlying communities. The next step is an appraisal of technical options. The staff are also organising a meeting for all North West Sutherland local groups to investigate joining together to develop one project that would serve the whole area.

2.11 Garage Notice Board

There has been no change since the last meeting.

Action:

	Action	Who?
1	Contact Donald Mitchell regarding a sign	Hugh

2.12 Tourist Traffic

The 8 road signs are still at the costing stage; money for these signs is coming from the Ward Discretionary Fund.

2.13 Signage at Kinlochbervie Turnoff

There has been no change since the last meeting.

Action:

	Action	Who?
1	Ask Barry Pearson to add “drama” to the image.	Murdo

2.14 Oldshoremore Car Park

The dog waste bin has been replaced.

2.15 Patient Transport

There was no further news.

2.16 Minute Secretary

There still have been no applicants for the Minute Secretary position.

2.17 Bus Shelter

Hugh has provided Christine with the dimensions for the bus shelter and she has selected a model for placement at the garage.

2.18 Reduction in Highland Council Ranger Service

Highland Council voted to retain the Ranger Service at a reduced level. Seven Rangers applied for voluntary redundancy leaving 13 Rangers in place. It is assumed that the remaining Rangers will fill the gap. In this area, both Donald Mitchell (Sutherland) and Andy Summers (Assynt) have retained their jobs. The Lairg Rangers requested voluntary redundancy.

2.19 Rats in Manse Road

There have been no further reports of rats in Manse Road.

2.20 Access to Oldshoremore Beach

The stairs still need to be stabilised. With the coming of spring, visitor numbers have risen causing the path down to the beach to become even deeper.

Action:

	Action	Who?
1	Ask John Robert Morrison to install more posts.	Marg

3.0 Treasurer's Report

There is £3,778 in the bank and £244 in the War Memorial Fund. There have been no other expenses. Margaret provided Christine with an invoice for her time as Minute Secretary (December 2014-October 2015).

4.0 Correspondence

A policing questionnaire has been sent to all Community Councils in the Highlands and Islands. The group completed the questionnaire. The group's top 3 priorities were: tourist traffic knowing road regulations; problems with fast driving in the village and the desire for more police visibility during the day.

Action:

	Action	Who?
1	Submit the survey.	Marg

5.0 A.O.C.B.

None

6.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 31 May 2016 at 7:00 pm in the Harbour Offices.