

Approved
25 October 2016

KINOCHELVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on 27 September 2016 at The Harbour Offices

- Present:** Gary Sutherland (Chair), Murdo MacPherson (Secretary), Mairi Eastcroft, Graham Wild, Margaret Meek (Minutes)
- Also present:** Hugh Morrison (Local Councillor), George Silcock (Local Policeman), Alexander Munro
- Apologies:** Kirsty Holland (Vice-Chair), Christine MacKenzie (Treasurer)

1.0 Presentation by Alexander Munro, Oldshoremore

Information on Alex' proposals had been previously distributed to members. Alex showed a map of the sites and discussed his proposals.

He has 2 sites in the Oldshoremore and has put in 2 pre-planning applications.

On his site near the Oldshoremore car park, he is proposing to have up to 15 pods. He would be interested in leasing the existing toilets and improving them. They would remain open to the public.

On his site off the main road, he is proposing to have a hostel and campground. He is planning for 50 hardstanding sites and 20 sites for tents. He is most interested in campers and pods and less interested in campervans. He already has planning permission for 2 houses.

Both sites would need toilets, showers and car parking. The proposals have been circulated for comment to the Roads Department, the Environmental Health Department, Building Standards and SEPA.

Alex said that he is looking at "phased development" but is open to suggestions as to what he does first. He would like to have something ready by April 2017.

Alex left the meeting at 7:50 pm.

Community Council members agreed that the application was ambitious and of high quality. It was, however, in its early stages and not yet very detailed. It was agreed to support the proposal in principle.

Action:

	Action	Who?
1	Write a letter to Alex Munro supporting the phased development of the 2 sites in principle based on the information that has been provided.	Murdo

2.0 Report from George Silcock

George is aware of the difficulties driving between Durness and Kinlochbervie. The North Coast 500 has already produced 10,000 leaflets and he is able to get more if needed.

3.0 Minutes of 30 August 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 30 August 2016 were proposed for approval by Graham and seconded by Murdo. The minutes were approved.

4.0 Matters arising from Minutes of 28 June 2016

4.1 Health Care Changes

There has been no progress in the search for another GP for the KLB/Scourie/Durness practice.

4.217 Manse Road

Graham reported that work is continuing on 17 Manse Road – first part of electrical work completed, boiler and kitchen removed, garden in the process of being cleared, roof cleaned. A decorator has been selected – Donald MacKay of Durness. There is a small funding gap which will be pursued.

4.318 Manse Road

Graham reported that the lease for 18 Manse Road is being prepared. There is a larger funding gap with this house. Securing more funds is a priority.

4.4 Geopark

There was a great TV program shown on the weekend about the Lairg meteorite. Laura Hamlet of the Geopark appeared.

Murdo mentioned that he normally receives the draft minutes of Geopark meetings and will enquire about receiving the approved minutes so that they can be forwarded to Community Council members.

Hugh reported that the Geopark had no Community Council representatives from either Scourie or Durness. One of the problems was that the meetings were held during the day; Murdo stated that the meetings had now been moved to early evening. Hugh stated that George L. from Achfary would be willing to join the Geopark Board if meetings were in the evening.

Action:

	Action	Who?
1	Ask for approved Geopark minutes	Murdo

4.5 Football Pitch and Play Park

There has been no progress with funding for the football pitch but the play park has received some funding towards the total cost of the work.

4.6 Loch Clash Project

Graham reported that the caravan site is substantially finished; all that remains is the removal of the rubble. Graham goes down most days to talk to people. Visitors have been very pleased and have made good suggestions. In response to suggestions, the Community Company has added a tap for drinking water and a shield around the waste water facility.

Margaret reported that there had been a complaint from a local resident about the price. He felt that £10 per night was too low. Margaret compared other caravan sites and reported the following.

Facility Type	Average Cost	Comment
Caravan Club – no electric hookup	£8	7 sites in Highland
Caravan Club – electric hookup	£13	12 sites in Highland
Camping & caravan parks in North West	£20	Services include electric hookup, waste water, fresh water, dishwashing facilities, hot showers and food (cafe, bar, shop or catering van). Many sites also offer WiFi and bicycle hire. Price is based on 2 people and £4 for electric hookup
Camping & caravan parks near Inverness	£24	

With respect to Phase 2, Margaret reported that the Community Company was still faced with a £2,800 shortfall for the Options Appraisal and Business Plan. Highland Leader could not consider the application because a consultant (Alan Jones) had already been hired. It is unlikely that HIE will fund the shortfall. The Company has decided to proceed with a reduced plan.

An application has been made to the Scottish Government for a design charrette.

This would start with a public meeting where people could put forward ideas about the design for Phase 2. The consultants will also speak with planning officials and other groups. A design team will do concept drawings and these will be presented to local people for feedback and approval. A decision will be made in mid-October.

4.7 Benches at Droman

The paint has been obtained.

4.8 Loch Clash Sheds

Graham reported that the solicitors are currently preparing documents to transfer the sheds to the Kinlochbervie Community Company. The priority is to put a roof on the buildings.

4.9 Community Broadband

Margaret reported that the cabinet should be operational within a couple of weeks. Margaret and Gary reported that Ullapool is currently trying to raise money through subscription (£400 per subscriber) for a community broadband scheme. Community Broadband Scotland has not yet carried out the promised postcode study that will identify areas with no access to broadband.

4.10 Garage Notice Board

There has been no news.

4.11 Tourist Traffic

There are 10,000 road safety brochures for distribution and more can be obtained.

4.12 Signage at Kinlochbervie Turnoff

Murdo has reminded Barry about doing a design.

4.13 Oldshoremore Car Park

Hugh reported that the bin with the missing lid will be replaced at the end of the season. Margaret reported that the construction materials in the passing place had been removed. Mairi mentioned the need to empty the dog waste bin more often.

4.14 Patient Transport

There has been no news on whether Assynt Community Council has had the planned meeting on patient transport.

4.15 Minute Secretary

Margaret has prepared the flyer and is distributing it this week.

4.16 Bus Shelter

The bus shelter is in place.

4.17 Speed Sign at Laxford

The speed sign is still not working.

4.18 John Muir Trust

Murdo has written to the John Muir Trust thanking the group for clean-up work done at Oldshoremore and other local beaches as well as the recent path building work at Oldshoremore.

4.19 Meeting of Chairs and Vice-Chairs

The planned September meeting of Community Council Chairs and Vice-Chairs will now take place in October. The groups involved are Assynt, Lochinver, Scourie, Kinlochberrie, Durness and Tongue.

4.20 Toilets

Hugh reported that Highland Council is conducting an on-line survey about the possibility of putting in a charge for toilets. The survey closes on Friday.

4.21 Works Report

Hugh reported that there are still 10 vacancies. All jobs are advertised on My Jobs Scotland. There may be a Kinlochberrie vacancy in the near future but it is not yet on My Jobs Scotland.

4.22 Rob Donn Project

Murdo has written to Ronnie Lansley stating the Community Council's support for the Rob Donn project and the siting of a display board in Achriesgill. Several people suggested that it might be a good idea to incorporate the board into the existing Geopod at Rhiconich.

5.0 Treasurer's Report

As Christine was not at the meeting, there was no Treasurer's report.

6.0 A.O.C.B.

6.1 New Community Council Chair

Gary stepped down as Chair. Graham will take over as Chair at the next meeting. Graham thanked Gary for his work as Chair.

6.2 North West Training Centre

Gary reported that the North West Training Centre has received funding from the following groups: Scourie Community Council (£250), Kinlochbervie Community Council (£250), the Robertson Trust (£4,000) and the Westminster Foundation (£5,000). Margaret reported that after doing a cash flow analysis, the group decided that it was not necessary to ask for a grant from the Ward Discretionary Fund this year but would likely do so next year.

6.3 Discussion of Works Priorities

Hugh would like time to be set aside at the October meeting to discuss Works Department priorities for next year. Examples could be the need for more frequent litter collection (existing bins are often overflowing) or issues with toilets. This could feed into a report expressing the views of all local Community Councils in the area.

7.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 25 October 2016 at 7:00 pm in the Harbour Offices.