

## KINLOCHBERVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016 at The Harbour Offices

PRESENT: Graham Wild (Chair), Murdo Macpherson (Secretary), Christine MacKenzie (Treasurer), Mairi Eastcroft, Kirsty Holland, Hugh Morrison, Margaret Meek, PC George Silcock, Maaike Silcock (Minutes)

APOLOGIES: Gary Sutherland

#### 1.0 Minutes of 25<sup>th</sup> October 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2016 were proposed for approval by Murdo and seconded by Christine. The minutes were approved.

#### 2.0 Matters arising from the Minutes of the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2016

##### 2.1 Various Oldshoremore matters

- Alexander Munro's plans for developing camping facilities are still in an early stage and there are no updates. The community council agree in principle, but are concerned that it is a big project and may be too big.

Notifying the neighbours about the plans applies to those living within twenty metres of the boundary. There were concerns that individuals living nearby would not be aware of the plans until the planning goes out at which point they could then comment.

- Cows on the Machair may go against regulations with SNH.

Graham agreed to contact SNH, the Machair being an SSSI.

Cows on the beach at Oldshoremore should require permission from the landowners (the Osbornes). Responsibility for the cows and their interaction with the public lies with their owner, Mr. Alexander Munro.

- 'Drive with Caution' signs were considered an option for the stretch of road between Kinlochbervie and Oldshoremore.

	Action	Who?
1	Enquiries with Garry Cameron re planning document for Mr. Otter	Margaret
2	Enquiry with SNH re cows on the machair	Graham
3	Road signage possibilities	Hugh Morrison

## 2.2 Health Care Changes

There are no changes. There is still no progress in the search for another GP for the KLB/Scourie/Durness practice.

## 2.3 17 Manse Road

Work is speeding up. Most of the units are in and all covers for the electrics are on. The next stage is the decorators, who are ready to go.

## 2.4 18 Manse Road

The lease will be signed by the end of the month.

## 2.5 Geopark

Shona MacMillan has resigned and is being replaced by Pippa Edwards and Alison Mcleod. They will be working 15 hrs a week split between them until March. After that they will have to fundraise to pay for themselves.

The Geopark has decided to go ahead with the project 'Drifting Apart'. It involves Geoparks from Canada, Iceland, Ireland, Scandinavia and Russia. The project will provide 3D modelling and Google Earth type imagery for the Geopark.

The Rock Stop will be closed January and February when it will be restocked.

There are no further plans to the ones in last month's minutes.

## 2.6 Football Pitch and Play Park

The application for the development of a football pitch has initially been turned down as it was considered to be a reworking of an existing pitch. Graham Wild spoke to funders who suggested that a report from a surveyor/engineer proving that the area has only ever been a playing field and not a pitch would satisfy funders.

## 2.7 Loch Clash Project

The site opened in August and rents have made £530.00.

Discussions are still to take place about increasing the prices.

The process to get funding for the Charrette Business Plan are still underway.

## 2.8 Loch Clash Sheds

The sheds have not been signed over yet.

Reay Forest Estate have said that they will pay their legal costs.

Highland Council have organised the insurance which has been paid by the Kinlochbervie Community Company.

Robert Elrick has been asked to give a quote for the re-roofing of the sheds.

## 2.9 Community Broadband

BT OpenReach have installed the cabinet but there seems to be no further development or details on how and who can benefit from the super-fast Broadband.

## 2.10 Signage at Kinlochbervie Turnoff

There is no further news. Hugh Morrison will seek an update on this.

## 2.11 Patient Transport

There is no update on the planned meeting on patient transport.

## 2.12 Speed sign at Laxford

It has now been 11 months that the speed sign has not been working. Hugh Morrison will seek an update on this.

	Action	Who?
4	Laxford speed sign	Hugh Morrison
5	Update sought for signage at KLB turnoff	Hugh Morrison

## 2.13 Works Report

- There is still a vacancy in Kinlochbervie and the position is being re-advertised in 'myjobscotland'.

It was agreed that if the advert was to be seen by anyone, putting up posters in the Garage window might help the application and signpost persons to the Highland Council job website.

Murdo agreed to be the liaison.

- Parking in Bervie Road was discussed. It was agreed that parking should only be on the left and that parking bays should be indicated.

Margaret is in contact with Hugh Morrison about marking the parking bays.

- Keeping the pavements clear of overgrown grass, especially between the offices and the toilets was requested.

- Hugh Morrison reported that the Road Lines machine was in Wick being repaired and would arrive as soon as possible.

	Action	Who?
6	Poster to be designed and put up in various locations re works vacancy	Murdo
7	Liaison with Hugh re Line markings for parking bays in Bervie road.	Margaret/Hugh

### Works priorities for 2017

1. Putting up 'Drive With Caution' signs and 'Blind Summit!' signs would make driving safer along the road to Oldshoremore Beach and between Kinlochbervie and Oldshoremore, especially during the tourist season.
2. A 'significant' hole in the road was reported just by 'Sandy's', which could be hazardous to road users.
3. Rhiconich toilets to be re-opened.

#### 2.14 Rhiconich Toilets

The toilets are still closed as they were considered 'seasonal toilets'. The water and power have both been turned off.

Gary Sutherland spoke to Hugh Morrison to see if the toilets could be re-opened.

There was a query as to the funding to keep the toilets open, and if by re-opening the Rhiconich toilets, other toilets, for example at Oldshoremore, might be closed instead.

#### 2.15 Winter Resilience Programme

Pavement salting is carried out by two men who live in Scourie.

Concerns were raised about the length of time it takes for these men to make their way from Scourie, via Kinlochbervie to Durness.

Suggestions were made that the salting of the pavements could be done by volunteers, though the question of whether the volunteers would be insured was raised.

#### 2.16 Highland Council Redesigning for Community Action

Margaret attended this meeting.

The Highland Council is faced with declining revenue which will result budget cuts leading to a cut in the workforce from roughly 10000 to 8000.

Community Councils will have a more enhanced role.

### 2.17 Council Meeting of the 'Six'

Graham attended the meeting which discussed the Ranger Service.

There are 12 Rangers in Scotland, 6 in the South and 6 in the North. Donald Mitchell is our local Ranger.

Margaret Donaldson (leader of the council) indicated that the Ranger Services are changing, perhaps even going, and that there are to be more discussions in December.

Community Councils want to try to find funding for an officer to represent 'The Six' at the Highland Council to give them a stronger voice.

The next meeting is on the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

### 2.18 NC500

The NC500 has been made into a private company, owned by the Danish land owner, Anders Holch Povlsen. It has been proposed that any local tourism advertising using the NC500 logo e.g.; outside a B&B, would be charged a fee. This development has caused concerns with the Community Councils. Further information is required to see if there are any benefits, for example; is any money being put back into the region, maintaining the roads, for instance?

### 2.19 NHS Highland – Transforming Urgent Care

NHS Highland are proposing to increase the area covered by the GP.

People are advised to read the relevant document on the NHS Highland website.

### 2.20 NSPA – Northern Sparsely Populated Areas

There have been a couple of meetings to discuss Business Models to promote growth in remote areas. These meetings are separate from the Highland Council and are designed to get remote areas noticed.

Leader wants a representative from the Kinlochbervie CC.

Graham has agreed to do this and will contact Leader.

George Farlow is attending a meeting with MSPs in two weeks' time.

### 2.21 H.I.E.

Angela Simpson is coming to meet and talk with people to discuss Community Company Business. She will use a house in Manse Road for the meeting with representatives of the Community Company.

	Action	Who?
8	Reply/liaison with H.I.E re KLB Community Company representation	Margaret

### 3.0 Treasurer's Report

Christine reported that there is £3842 in the account, with £289 in the War Memorial Fund.

### 4.0 War Memorial

It was suggested that funds could be used to install lighting to the Memorial. There is already a power supply.

The War Memorials Trust Scotland has a list of sources for extra funding.

Murdo is looking into this.

	Action	Who?
9	Further enquiry re funding initiative	Murdo

### 5.0 Police Station House

Chief Inspector Maclelland has said that as the Police Station House is not being used by the Police Officer, it should be let on a short rolling contract (6 months), as a council housing let.

More details will emerge in due course.

### 6.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017** at 7:00 pm in the Harbour Offices.

**SUMMARY LIST OF ACTIONS FROM MEETING 22/11/2016**

	<b>Action</b>	<b>Who?</b>	<b>Completed? /to be Carried over?</b>
1	Enquiries with Garry Cameron re planning document for Mr. Otter	Margaret	
2	Enquiry with SNH re cows on the machair	Graham	
3	Road signage possibilities	Hugh Morrison	
4	Laxford speed sign	Hugh Morrison	
5	Update sought for signage at KLB turnoff	Hugh Morrison	
6	Poster to be designed and put up in various locations re works vacancy	Murdo	
7	Liaison with Hugh re Line markings for parking bays in Bervie road.	Margaret/Hugh	
8	Reply/liaison with H.I.E. re KLB Community Company representation	Margaret	
9	Further enquiry regarding funding initiative	Murdo	