

Approved  
28 March 2017

## KINLOCHBERVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at The Harbour Offices

PRESENT: Graham Wild (Chair), Murdo Macpherson (Secretary), Kirsty Holland, Hugh Morrison, Margaret Meek, Gary Sutherland, PC George Silcock, Maaike Silcock (Minutes)

APOLOGIES: Mairi Eastcroft, Christine Mackenzie

#### 1.0 Minutes of 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016 were proposed for approval by Margaret and seconded by Kirsty. The minutes were approved.

#### 2.0 Matters arising from the Minutes of the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016

##### 2.1 Various Oldshoremore matters

- i. Alexander Munro's application to erect camping pods has been approved by planning. He has now applied for funding from Leader, who need more information from him about the demand for camping pods. Hugh Morrison offered to help by supplying tourist numbers to prove demand.
- ii. The SNH are in favour of cows on the Machair, but that they should not be on the beach. However, the lawyer of the landowners, Richard and Gerald Osborne, say that cows should not be on the Machair.
- iii. The grazing committee approve of cows on the Machair, even though it is an SSSI, as they say that cows do not damage the structure of the land. They do however eat the wild flowers.
- iv. Graham will ask Alexander Munro, the owner of the cows, if he is willing to keep his cows off the Machair during June, July and August.

	Action	Who?
10	Enquire whether Mr. Munro would keep his cows off the Machair during the summer	Graham

## **2.2 Health Care Changes**

The NHS 24 is now in place. This means that after surgery hours, any medical issue is assessed by NHS24 over the phone and it will be their decision whether a Doctor is called or an Ambulance.

There are concerns that this will put extra strain on the Ambulance Service.

## **2.3 17 Manse Road**

Work is almost finished. There are just the smoke and CO detectors to be fitted and then the lease can be signed.

## **2.4 18 Manse Road**

Tenants are waiting to move in on the 1<sup>st</sup> April. There has been a bit of a delay with the decoration and fitting a new boiler.

## **2.5 Geopark**

The Geopark's project 'Drifting Apart', has started to gain momentum and money is coming through from/for this??

The Rock Stop will hopefully have a permanent position for someone to look after the exhibition, possibly a student from a European Geopark.

Demand has increased for more food as well as more sellable commodities such as books, maps, 'T' shirts and souvenirs to be on sale.

Scottish Government has a business plan indicating how important it is and that it will continue to fund the Geopark.

There is an application in with Leader for more funding to develop the business further.

## **2.6 Football Pitch and Play Park**

The survey has been sent to Alan Jones (project manager) who will be assessing it.

## **2.7 Loch Clash Project**

The site opened in August and rents have made £620 income, out of which £71 have been paid in electricity bills.

Increasing the prices has been agreed, and, as it is a charity, no rates should be paid.

Scottish Water is not aware that they are the supplier at Loch Clash, however, they are checking it out.

The process to get funding for the Charrette Business Plan are still underway, and an answer is expected within a week.

## **2.8 Loch Clash Sheds**

The sheds have not been signed over yet.

As soon as the council owns them, arrangements will be made to repair the roof.

## **2.9 Community Broadband**

BT Open Reach have connected a few people to the Super-Fast Broadband and it is living up to its expectations. There does seem to be a delay in people becoming connected after they have signed up, possibly due to a very small team covering a huge area.

BT have indicated that by 2021, everybody will have access to 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 to be a meeting in Lochinver on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March to discuss patient transport and the booking system. It was suggested that all the Community Councils voice their displeasure with the current system. This will hopefully lead to an improvement in the service.

## **2.12 Speed sign at Laxford**

Joan Sutherland will get in contact with Graham Mackenzie to ensure that the sign is repaired.

## **2.13 Works Report**

The job with the Council has been filled by Stuart Barraclough.

## **2.14 Rhiconich Toilets**

The toilets are open.

## **2.15 NC500**

The NC500 and The North Coast 500 are a private company, there are no new updates how this may affect the local communities.

## **3.0 Treasurer's Report**

With the absence of the Treasurer at the meeting, it is assumed that the funds are very little changed from the last Council meeting.

## **4.0 War Memorial**

Hugh Morrison has a contact in the Highland Council who may have more information on how to apply for grants for the upkeep of the War Memorial.

## **5.0 Police Station House**

No more news on the letting of the Police Station House.

## **6.0 Range Notice**

26<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> March are the dates for activity.

Dates will be posted on the Spar notice board, the key to which has been located.

## **7.0 Sutherland Community Partnership**

The delivery of services will change, with the result that more will be asked of the local Councils.

There is a survey asking for peoples' opinions, and Graham will put a poster up in the Spar notice board to encourage people to fill it in.

## **8.0 Scrap cars**

If a car is on private land, it is up to the owner to organise disposal.

## **9.0 Dog fouling and unattended dogs**

It has been noted that dogs are running around the village unsupervised. The dog warden has been made aware of this and will come to KLB at some point.

It has also been noted that the bins for dog waste have been overflowing for some time. One of the bins is broken and the Council has stopped supplying dog waste bags. Hugh will check the Council warehouse to see if there are any bags left.

Gary would look into the price for buying bags in bulk.

The matter has been reported to the police for their information.

## 10.0 School Facilities

Graeme Smart informed Graham Wild that the school AstroTurf can be booked for sessions, but that it is always open for the use of the Community.

## 11.0 Alison Sinton

Alison came to the meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> March, (which was cancelled due to lack of council members) asking for help from the Council with regards to a discrepancy in the planning for the new biomass boiler at KLB High School. She possibly has a legal case for compensation. The Council will give their support in the form of a letter.

## 12.0 Sam Barnes

Sam is teaching MMA (Mixed Martial Arts) to children at KLB High School and has also set up a Martial Arts Club. He was wondering if there was any funding available to buy equipment for the children to use. Christine would be asked if there was any money in the account that could be used for this purpose.

	Action	Who?
13	Explore possible funding for Sam Barnes	Christine

## 13.0 Lairg and District Community Initiative (LDCI)

The Council will write a letter of support for the building of a new care home in Lairg.

	Action	Who?
14	Produce letter of support for LDCI	Murdo

## 14.0 Police Report

1. During the last reporting period there have been a number of sightings of suspicious persons and vehicles, some known to be travelling criminals, in the North West Sutherland area. These are likely to be opportunist thieves and the police would like to encourage vigilance and reporting of any suspicious incidents.

2. A malicious vandalism occurred between the 3rd and 7th February 2017 at Oldshoremore whereby a window was broken at a residential dwelling whilst the owner was away. The window appears to have been deliberately shot at by an air weapon. Flyers regarding the incident have been placed in the Spar shop and KLB Post Office. Any persons with knowledge of the incident are asked to speak with PC N0230 Silcock at Rhiconich Police Station (contact via telephoning 101).

3. There have been a number of incidents in the Rhiconich policing beat area whereby owners of B&B's, guesthouses etc. have not recorded full details of their guests, leading to complications when a guest has left without paying or there is some suspicion as to who the guest is. Good practice would be to register the guest with full details (including date of birth if possible) to be on the safe side. This may not always be possible but may give peace of mind to the premise owner.

4. Dog fouling concerns in Kinlochbervie have been raised to police by the Council. Liaison has taken place with the Highland Council Dog Warden Service and awareness raising via lamppost stickers in areas of note has taken place. Enforcement by Police and/or Highland Council Dog Warden Service will follow should the problem continue.

	Action	Who?
15	Produce short advisory paragraphs for the community Facebook page	PC Silcock
16	Liaise further with Jimmy Mackay re dog fouling	PC Silcock

#### 15.0 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017** at 7:00 pm in the Harbour Offices.

## SUMMARY LIST OF ACTIONS FROM MEETING 28/02/2017

	Action	Who?	Completed? /to be Carried over?
1	Enquiries with Garry Cameron re planning document for Mr. Otter	Margaret	Completed
2	Enquiry with SNH re cows on the machair	Graham	Completed
3	Road signage possibilities	Hugh Morrison	Completed
4	Laxford speed sign	Hugh Morrison	On going
5	Update sought for signage at KLB turnoff	Hugh Morrison	Completed
7	Liaison with Hugh re Line markings for parking bays in Bervie road.	Margaret/Hugh	Completed
8	Reply/liaison with H.I.E. re KLB Community Company representation	Margaret	Completed
9	Further enquiry regarding funding initiative	Murdo	On going
10	Enquire whether Mr Munro would keep his cows off the Machair during summer	Graham	
11	Sourcing Dog Waste Bags	Hugh/Gary	
12	Write a letter of support for Alison Sinton	Murdo	Completed
13	Possible funding for Sam Barnes	Christine	
14	Letter of support for LDCI	Murdo	Completed
15	Produce short advisory paragraphs for the community Facebook page	PC Silcock	
16	Liaise further with Jimmy Mackay re dog fouling	PC Silcock	