

KINLOCHBERVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of Meeting 30th May 2017 at The Harbour Offices

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

1. **APOLOGIES:** Hugh Morrison

2. **MINUTES 25/04/2017**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 25th April 2017 were proposed for approval by Gary and seconded by Kirsty. The minutes were approved.

3. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 25TH April 2017**

3.1 **Geopark** – A manager has now been appointed from Aviemore and The Rock Stop is now open for 3 days a week; Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. There is potential for further hiring so that it can be open on Saturdays and Sundays. From mid-June to the end of August, The Rock Stop will be open 7 days a week.

It has been decided that coach parties will not be catered for and that at the moment, refreshments consist of teas, coffees, cakes and biscuits. This may be extended to soups and snacks, but not meals.

There has been funding from Leader for almost £20,000 to finance projects, but not wages.

There is still no news about government funding.

3.2 **Loch Clash Project** – The site is doing very well, though there seems to be advertising which indicates that the site is free. Only the campervans that use the hook-up pay the fee. If there are more campervans than the 5 hook-ups, the guests are happy giving a small donation.

There are concerns about large creel lorries using the pier when the fishing boats unload, possibly avoiding the harbour charges. Smaller boats would pay fees to the KLB Community Company.

3.3 **Community Broadband** – In this area, the Broadband network is 20thCN. The rest of the country is on the newer 21stCN. BT charges more for the servicing of the older networks, so, anyone on the older networks is paying more for a service that is declining. BT are unable to do anything about this and nothing will be done until 2021, when EE says that everyone will have mobile 4G coverage.

Graham will reply to an email from Paul Monaghan.

Margaret will reply to an email from Paula Macleod concerning Broadband.

3.4 **Range Notice** – No activity

4. **DISCUSSION OF WORKS PRIORITIES FOR 2017**

- 4.1 Grass cutting still has not been done.
- 4.2 Graham will get in touch with Scottish Environmental Protection Agency regarding the Skunk Cabbage that is blocking drains.
- 4.3 Hugh Morrison will investigate the blocked drain at the slip in the harbour.
- 4.4 The sign at Laxford Bridge will be fixed by the end of June.
- 4.5 A bin has had to be replaced at Droman due to a hot BBQ ruining to the old one.
- 4.6 Application has gone in to replace the bin at Loch Clash with a larger bin.
- 4.7 The small bins at Oldshoremore have been replaced by a large one.
- 4.8 Graham will speak to Andy Shaw about the missing dog waste container.

5. **TREASURER'S REPORT** - There is £6,971.33 in the account. The accounts are to go to Highland Council shortly.

6. **POLICE REPORT** – PC Silcock reported that there had been a housebreak in Oldshoremore at a remote holiday property whilst the owners were absent, the offenders probably having accessed the dwelling from the Oldshoremore Beach carpark. At this time, no offenders have been identified. Following meeting discussion around the increase in road traffic and speeding matters, most likely due to the popularity of the NC500, PC Silcock advised that should persons need to report road related matters to the Police, they must do so as this will raise the profile of the problem. It was also reported that another housebreak had occurred at the Durness Golf Club during the last reporting period. No offenders have yet been identified and enquiries are continuing. PC Silcock emphasised community vigilance and should persons see suspicious activity likely to be with criminal intent, then this should be reported to Police as soon as possible.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- 7.1 Seafarers UK have asked whether, on the 3rd Sept.2017, Merchant Navy Day could be celebrated by flying a red Ensign. It is a one day event. Murdo will research where flags can be bought and if there are posters that can be displayed to raise awareness about this event.
- 7.2 Alf Leslie, the Project Co-ordinator for War Memorials will have come to see if any work needs to be done. Graham will contact Ledmore Quarry to get a quote for 2 tonnes of new white chippings for the War Memorial. It was suggested that the new Memorial stone could be mounted vertically with a surround of local stone, rather than flat on the ground.
- 7.3 Highland Eco-Design have been in contact about a hydro scheme at Rhiconich. This would consist of 2 X 100kW turbines which could yield around 640MWh p.a., generating a gross revenue of around £70,000 p.a. To develop this would cost in the region of £730,000, with operational costs of around £7,500 p.a. If a community group were to own 15% of the scheme, it would qualify for 100% renewable energy business rates relief. Highland Eco-Design have already done a vegetation survey as part of the planning application. As long as the local community will benefit from this scheme (i.e. receiving 15% of the profits), there seems to be no reason to oppose it.

8. **AOCB** - None

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9. **NEXT MEETING** - The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 27th June 2017** at 7:00 pm in the Harbour Offices.

SUMMARY LIST OF ACTIONS FROM MEETING 30/05/2017

	Action	Who?	Completed /Ongoing
3.3	Graham to reply to Paul Monaghan	Graham	ongoing
3.3	E-mail Paula Macleod about Broadband	Margaret	ongoing
4.2	Speak to Scottish Environmental Protection agency about control of Skunk Cabbage.	Graham	ongoing
4.3	Investigate blocked drain on the slipway at the harbour.	Hugh	ongoing
4.8	Speak to Andy Shaw about missing dog waste bag dispenser.	Graham	ongoing
7.1	Research Merchant Navy Day	Murdo	ongoing
7.2	Get quote for 2 tonnes of chippings	Graham	ongoing