

KINLOCHBERVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting 29th September 2020

Held via Zoom

Approved at the meeting held on 27 October 2020.

PRESENT: Kirsty Holland, (Vice-Chair), Hugh Morrison (Highland Council), Christine MacKenzie, Margaret Meek, Murdo Macpherson, Sandra Armes-Harris, Mairi Eastcroft, Andrea Boyes.

Members of the public: Debbie Lockhart

Kirsty Holland chaired the meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES:** PC Frazer Mitchell.
2. **MINUTES of the 25th August 2020**

A couple of amendments to the minutes of the 25th August 2020:

4.1 Christine would organise to have the log removed (which has now been done).

~~**8.5** Alexander Munro is continuing to develop his tourism business, planning for the campsite for 20-30 campervans has not yet been applied for.~~ Alexander Munro has the capacity to develop his land for 20-30 campervans but has not applied for planning permission. (*Amended at the meeting held on 27 October 2020*)

The minutes from the 25th August 2020 were proposed for approval by Mairi and seconded by Christine. The minutes were approved.

3. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 25th August 2020**

3.1 The barrier for the Big Brae still has no update.

3.2 Highland Council have agreed to the 30mph speed limit throughout the village. Graham is still pursuing this.

3.3 Rhiconich hydro scheme - SSE have extended the deadline for when construction should start by a year from 09/21 to 09/22 because of Covid-19 regulations delaying everything. The construction start date is dictated by the breeding season of a rare bird, but once started, it should take about 6 months to finish. By late 2021 it should be making electricity.

3.4 Andrea will make some more inquiries about possible management of the Kinlochbervie.info website.

3.5 Household skips at KLB are open on Wednesday 1000 - 1400 only. They are filling up very quickly. The large 'white goods' collecting alongside the skips will be taken away by ILM from Ross-shire.

Highland Council will take away up to 3 large items per household at a cost of £23.80.

3.6 The 'Food Project', initiated by Planet Sutherland, is up and running. Andrea attended a meeting which discussed trying to get a group of people together to work in 'Community Assisted Agriculture'. The aim is to develop sustainable food production, potatoes, hens, flowers, etc. The Church has a decent amount of land which could be used for this, and there is hope that more land might be set aside for this project. At present, Planet Sutherland is supplying apple trees free of charge for anyone who asks for one, with the view to a long-term orchard.

3.7 David Forbes' letter to Anders Povlsen will be sent again with new contact details (as Graham is no longer the Chairman of the Council).

3.8 There has been no response yet to the email sent to the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee about tourism issues.

The possibility of bylaws to help with tourism issues has begun. It is a lengthy process for changes in laws to become enforceable, and the Procurator-Fiscal will be the one making these decisions.

3.9 Laura Hamlet sent out a survey (with an attached poster so it can be advertised locally) to be filled in by the local community. The deadline has been extended to the 1st week in October so hopefully more people can take part.

3.10 In relation to the Police moving campervans on, they can only do this if the campervans are doing something illegal and can be caught in the criminal act. At the moment, campers can park up anywhere, even though they may look unsightly.

Sandwood carpark, the sides of the roads, the Cemetery parking at Balnakeil have all been packed with overnight campers. People wanting to come to the cemetery to pay respects have not been able to park anywhere near. It was agreed that this topic needs further discussion on what we need to do for next year.

3.11 The Loch Clash stop-over has had up to 26 campers parked every night. The licence is for 5, but there is no way of stopping them parking on the pier. Those in excess of the 5 designated hooks-ups are charged £10 p/n and this includes waste disposal availability.

From the income of the stop-over, Margaret will organise the Community Company to pay for the pile of rubble on the pier to be removed making it less unsightly and give a bit more room.

3.12 The Community Company has a healthy bank balance of well over £7000 from the rental income of No.17 Manse Road and the stop-over. 18 Manse Road will soon be ready renting out.

The Community Company has been approached for donations to improve the play park.

3.13 The possibility of opening up the playing fields for tents was considered but rejected.

3.14 The Geopark now has a full complement of directors with each Community Council being represented. There is a meeting next week to discuss how tourism can become sustainable. HIE have a funded scheme dedicated to solving the unsustainability we have now.

3.15 Christine will try to find somewhere to put the pile of grass cuttings at the Loch Clash picnic area.

3.16 The Kinlochbervie High School had agreed to construct a bench at the wall that was built at the Loch Clash picnic site. This may have been put on hold due to Covid-19. The school will be asked again and if they cannot make one, perhaps the CC can buy one.

4. WORKS PRIORITIES FOR 2020

4.1 The road along by the Altnaharra Wind Farm is being reinforced, causing some driving delays.

4.2 The Highland Council maintenance team is mainly occupied with routine maintenance and they will be starting their winter program in November.

4.3 As soon as the white lining machine is back in the area, they will mark the road at the far end of the High School, highlighting the fact that it is a junction and that cars will have to stop and look before carrying on into Manse Road.

4.4 The advertisement for an Assistant Harbour Master at the Kinlochbervie Harbour has gone out.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Kinlochbervie Community Council bank balance is...£1674.39

The Christmas Lights fund stands at.....£3739.53

The Brochure fund has.....£456.38

The War Memorial fund.....£199.21

(This year's wreath has been ordered and payed for)

6. POLICE REPORT

No Police report.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 The Cape Wrath notice has been re-issued. Kirsty will post it for the community to see.

7.2 Kimberly Creane from 'Enable', sent an email about enabling employment for disabled people. She is the employment co-ordinator covering the whole of the Highlands and the project covers high quality support for disabled people. A meeting with her may be beneficial.

7.3 Michael Otter has emailed council members indicating he would like a specific item on the agenda for October's CC meeting to discuss the speed limits in the village.

7.4 Another 'item on the agenda' has been suggested to discuss if KLB CC would wish to support Alexander Munro in an application for campervan parking. He welcomes questions via email which he will then answer.

8. AOCB

No other Council business

9. NEXT MEETING –

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 27th October 2020** at 7:00 pm **via Zoom**.

SUMMARY LIST OF ACTIONS FROM MEETING 26th May 2020

	Action	Who?	Completed /Ongoing
3.4	Make inquiries about the Kinlochbervie.info website	Andrea	ongoing
3.7	Re-send letter to Anders Povlsen	Kirsty	ongoing
3.15	Organise the removal of the pile of cut grass at the Loch Clash picnic site.	Christine	ongoing
3.16	Ask the High school again about making a bench for the Loch Clash picnic site, by the wall	CC	ongoing