

Minutes of the Meeting of Durness Community Council, Monday 4th May

at 7.30pm Durness Village Hall.

1. **Present:** Scott Macpherson *Chair*, Anne Mackenzie *Treasurer*, Donald Mitchell *Vice Chair*, Eddie Meyer, Cllr. Hugh Morrison and Sarah Fuller *Secretary*.

Apologies: Alan Andrews, Neil Fuller.

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting.** The Minutes of the March meeting were passed by Anne & Donald. The minutes of the April Meeting were passed by Scott & Anne.

3. **Matters Arising.**

- Ambulance & Air Ambulance Provision. The fifth member of the ambulance staff will be in place in May. Cllr. Morrison reported that the Scourie Air Ambulance lights have failed after 6 years and the Scourie C.C. contribution to the cost of replacements is £6,000. Laing are currently in the process of getting lights.
- Lynx Bone, Smoo & Borrallie Caves. No Results have been received as yet.
- Puffin Link. A quote has been received for repairing the cabinet, £400 for new batteries and £200 to repair the cabinet, this is on top of the annual £1,500 maintenance costs. Cllr. Morrison suggested delaying a decision on whether to go ahead with repairs for a month whilst himself and Donald attempt to find a funding source.
- M.o.D. There has been no response from Major Halpin to the request for a date for the next Liaison meeting. .
- Speed restrictions in Laid. A letter has been sent from the Laid Residents to their MP, MSP and MEP.
- Capeside Pier. Following the Harbour Board meeting of 24th April, Cllr. Morrison reported that £150,000 has been allocated from the 2015/16 budget to extend the Keodale East pier and a further £100,000 to repair the Keodale West pier.
- Capeside Road. Little damage was sustained to the road by the recent Joint Warrior Exercise, Cllr. Morrison stated that it has not yet been decided how much will be spent on this road from the current budget. **Action:** Cllr. Morrison is to contact Kenny Macrae to organise a road sweeper being transported over to sweep the road prior to the Marathon. Scott reported that the M.o.D. have begun filling in potholes with cold set tar.
- Health Board. The public meeting is to take place on Monday 25th May. **Action:** Sarah to put up posters in advance. Cllr. Morrison reported that the decision regarding the replacement of Caladh Sona will take place on May 25th at the Local Health Partnership Meeting.

4. **Police Matters.**

There have been no leads on either the Bike Hub thefts or the Sheep worrying incidents. The new policeman starts work at Rhiconich on May 14th.

5. Reports.

- **D.D.G.**

There is a possibility of further funding for the LDO post from HIE and other sources which would take the post past July 2015. Following the meeting with SKS Scotland further market research is being undertaken regarding the Harbour project.

- **N.W.H.Geopark**

The Rock Stop at Unapool is due to open next week. Rock & Pebble route leaflets have been produced along with an Events Schedule for 2015. Revalidation of membership of the European Geopark network is due this July.

- **Treasurers Report.**

C.C. balance is £ 1375.83. Bills for the website have been sent out and 2 invoices received. **Action:** Hugh to find out which H.C. representative is needed to sign the C.C. Constitution. **Action:** Sarah to put Constitution on the A.G.M Agenda.

- **North West Sutherland Local Health Partnership (NWSLHP).**

Action: Sarah to forward any minutes received from these meetings.

- **The North West Sutherland Trust, Creag Riabhach Wind farm.** The planning application has been referred to the Scottish Executive.

6. Planning Applications.

Renovation of Byre at Braemar to holiday let has been advertised. There were no objections.

7. Sheep loose within the village.

Scott has met with Martin Mackay Chair of the Grazing's Committee who stated that no sheep should be loose within the confines of the village. The situation is to be monitored and any complaints should go to the Grazing's Committee.

8. Ruby Run.

A piper has been requested for the send of this classic car run. **Action:** Sarah to ask Alan. **Action:** Hugh to contact the run organiser for further information.

9. A.O.B.

- Eddie reported that the ARD TV Company have agreed to voiceover the programme, which they recently made; this should be completed for February 2016. The same TV company have expressed an interested in making a documentary about the military exercises. Action: Scott to find out who to contact within M.o.D. Cllr. Morrison suggested the TV company contact the German Navy as they also take part in the Exercises.
- C.C. Election. This is due to take place in November.
- Service Point. The decision on closing the local service point will take place next month.
- Transport Consultation. There has been no feedback as yet. The deadline for tenders is June 4th.

10. Date of next meeting.

A.G.M. Monday 1st June at 7.30pm.