

Minutes of the Meeting of Durness Community Council, Monday 7th December

at 7.30pm Durness Village Hall.

1. **Present:** Scott Macpherson *Chair*, Anne Mackenzie *Treasurer*, Donald Mitchell *Vice Chair*, Neil Fuller, Alan Andrews, Cllr. George Farlow and Sarah Fuller *Secretary*.
2. **Apologies:** Cllr. Hugh Morrison, P.C. George Silcock.

3. **Call for nominations of Chairperson.**

Cllr. Farlow asked for nominations for the position of Chairperson. Neil and Anne nominated Scott. All voted in favour.

4. **Handover to duly elected Chairperson.**

Cllr. Farlow thanked Scott for all his efforts as Chair to date and hand the meeting over to him.

- **Call for nominations of vice-chair.** Anne & Sarah nominated Donald. All voted in favour.
- **Call for nominations for secretary.** Scott & Anne nominated Sarah. All voted in favour.
- **Call for nominations for treasurer.** Scott & Donald nominated Anne. All voted in favour.

Scott proposed co-opting Alan Andrews; this will be put on the next Agenda.

5. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting.** Anne and Scott passed the Minutes of the previous meeting.

6. **Matters Arising.**

- M.o.D. Scott has spoken to the new Liaison Officer and a meeting is to be arranged in the New Year. Scott asked Cllr. Farlow about the £5k for the Capeside road, Cllr. Farlow responded that it is still unclear as to whether this money should be given annually or just if the H.C. are undertaking remedial work. **Action:** Cllr. Farlow to forward any relevant information. Cllr. Farlow requested that the use of skips by the military be raised at the next Liaison meeting. A suggestion was made to use the jet-patcher for repairing the potholes on the Capeside road, this may not be practical as the machine may be too heavy to transport across the Kyle.
- Health Board. The Health Board are to be invited to hold a public meeting in February. **Action:** Scott to ask Fiona Duff why the G.P. position is not currently advertised.
- Notice Board Map. A poster and list have been placed in the shop asking interested parties to sign up for further info. Cllr. Farlow stated that the Geopark are planning to install a pod in Durness next year, this could accommodate a map.

7. Police Matters.

Nothing to report.

8. Reports.

- **D.D.G.**

Three potential sites have been identified for a distillery/brewery; work on a business plan is on going. A letter has been sent to the Chief Executive of the Northern Lighthouse Board asking for more information and timescale for the potential sale of the land around the lighthouse at Cape Wrath. DDG have offered to help the Village Hall become a SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation).

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

The Geopark are currently looking for further funding for when the current 3-year funding package finishes. Charitable status should be finalised early in the New Year. The Geopark now has Unesco badging and has become part of a worldwide network. The Rockstop now has a Facebook page.

- **Treasurers Report.**

C.C. balance is £ 2,014.18. £30 has been paid for Remembrance Day expenses and £37.95 for Light up the Highlands. £150 has been received from website advertising.

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

Next meeting 14th January.

6. Planning Applications.

The planning application for Sarsgrum House has been approved.

7. North Sutherland Redesign.

A meeting took place on the 4h December in Bettyhill; representatives from Durness were not invited.

8. A.O.B.

- Thanks go to Sango Sands Oasis for hosting the soup and sandwiches after the Remembrance Day Service and also for not charging for this event.
- Broadband in Laid, **Action:** Cllr. Farlow to find out who supplies the broadband to the Rockstop.
- North West Training Centre. The N.W.T.C. are to run Croft Entrant Courses this year.

9. Date of next meeting.

Monday 1st February at 7.30pm.