

Minutes of the Meeting of Durness Community Council, Monday 28th April at 7.30pm Durness Village Hall.

1. **Present:** Kevin Crowe *Chair*, Anne Mackenzie *Treasurer*, Neil Fuller *Vice Chair*, Donald Mitchell, Sarah Fuller *Secretary*.

Apologies: Cllr. Hugh Morrison, PC Ian Sutherland.

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting.** The Minutes of the previous meeting were passed by Donald and seconded by Anne.

3. **Matters Arising.**

- Deer on Roads. Sarah was contacted by Sara Harkins of the Kinlochbervie Estate, who stated that deer management is undertaken by the John Muir Trust on their behalf.
- Ambulance & Air Ambulance Provision. Kevin has contacted Rev. John Mann (KLB C.C.) regarding ambulance staffing. Rev. Mann forwarded an email from Kirsty Holland which states that there has been no change regarding staffing and that the Ambulance had 48 hours of single crewing last week. **Action;** Kevin to add this issue to the Agenda for the next N.W.S.L.H.P. meetings and request that Kirsty forward the emails to John Thurso M.P. and Rob Gibson M.S.P.

• Lynx Bone, Smoo & Borralie Caves. **Action:** Kevin to chase this up.

• Puffin Link. Donald has applied to the Ward Discretionary fund. Peter Mackay has visited to check the system.

• Memorial Garden. No further progress.

• Telephone List. A draft of the new list has been produced.

• M.o.D. Kevin has contacted Major Halpin (Rtd) and a date is to be put forward for a Liaison meeting in the Autumn.

An exercise is to take place the week of the Cape Wrath Challenge, although it will not affect the Marathon. Cllr. Morrison suggested organised trips to the Control Tower for the runners to attend.

Neil reported that Colin Morrison has received a reply from Whitehall saying they will look into M.o.D. harnesses and debris washing up on the shoreline.

• Caution Horse Signs. Cllr. Morrison has requested the signs from the H.C, as yet there has been no reply.

• Scottish Water & Smoo Cave. Kevin has received a reply to his email from Scottish Water, stating that the issue is being looked into by the Reservoir Dept.

• Election. Kevin has contacted Robbie Bain, the C.C. Election for all vacant places (including co-opted) will be advertised from 13th May. In the interim the C.C. may still meet and continue with any on-going work.

4. **Police matters.**

A number of complaints have been received regarding vehicles parked in the passing place just on the brow of the hill on School Road.

Action: Kevin to email

5. Reports.

- **D.D.G.**

Eriboll Harbour; The tender for the Market Research & Business Plan has been advertised on Public Contracts Scotland, there are currently 18 expressions of interest.

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

Kevin is meeting with Mike Goodwin tomorrow and will report back at the next meeting. A meeting with C.C. and Development Trusts will take place in May.

- **Treasurers Report.**

C.C. balance is £ 435.97p.

Bills for the adverts are to be sent out.

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

The next meeting is to take place on Thursday. Provision of local Dental Services is to be discussed following the agreement by KLB High School that the current provision of service for children in the mobile dental unit be opened up to include adults. NHS Highland requires the approval of the Chief Dental Officer for Scotland; an update is expected by the end of May. An email of support has been received from Cllr. Deirdre Mackay.

6. Planning Applications.

Alterations consisting of a new window in the existing gable end to 2 Balnakeil Craft Village were raised. Kevin expressed an interest and left the room. There were no objections.

7. Smoo cave Website.

The website domain for the Smoo Cave Website needs to be renewed, all agreed that this should be kept.

8. Website.

The C.C. agreed for the need for a community website on which to publish minutes etc, with the C.C. retaining control of the content. **Action:** Neil is to look into Visit Scotland fund for destination marketing websites.

9. Bus Shelter for School Children.

Carol Keith has asked that the possibility of a bus shelter in the village square for school children be explored. **Action:** Kevin is to email Hugh asking the H.C. to look into this and also to email Bus Service providers asking for their preferred site.

10. A.O.B.

Drever & Heddle. A letter has been received from Drever & Heddle Solicitors asking for suggestions for temporary office space in which they could visit monthly and provide local access to their service. **Action:** Kevin is to respond suggesting the CAB Office in the V.I.C.

11. Date of next meeting. Monday 2nd May at 7.30pm.