

**Minutes of the Meeting of Durness Community Council, Monday 3rd June at 7.30pm Durness
Village Hall.**

1. **Present:** Kevin Crowe *Chair*, Anne Mackenzie *Treasurer*, Denise McNamara, Neil Fuller, Nick Barth, Sarah Fuller *Secretary*, Cllr. Hugh Morrison.
Apologies: Donald Mitchell &, PC Sutherland.
Absent: Francis Keith

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting.**

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved by Anne Mackenzie and seconded by Nick Barth.

3. **Matters Arising.**

- Housing. 1 Bard Terrace is soon to be renovated and returned to social housing. Neil to contact Morven Taylor of the Highland Small Communities Housing Trust.
- M.O.D. The Report on the beached whales is still awaited.
- Puffin Link. The C.C is unsure if the puffin link is currently operational.
- Rob Donn Memorial. £51.13 is available towards future publishing costs.
- Ambulance & Air Ambulance Provision. No response from Andrew Moir as yet.
- Erection of Flagpole. No further progress. Cllr. Morrison is to take on this project.
- Lynx Bone, Smoo & Borralie Caves. A press release regarding the finds is to go ahead this week. Cllr. Morrison suggested investigation into the souterrain at Laid.
- Keodale Risk Assessment & Cape Wrath Road. Cllr. Morrison and other representatives of the H.C. are to visit Cape Wrath tomorrow.
- X Ray Machine. No progress as yet.
- Balnakeil Beach dog litter bin. Bins have arrived and will be fitted shortly.
- Tree Planting. A letter of thanks has been sent to the mess crew of HMS Sutherland.
- Durness Diggers. A meeting is to take place to discuss funding, Kevin Arrowsmith (DDG) is to be invited.
- Parking at Hames Place. The lack of parking for some residents of Hames Place will be discussed tomorrow when Cllr. Morrison meets with representatives of the H.C.
- New Sutherland Website. All information for this new website is to be sent to Ronnie Lansley.
- Stones at Sangobeag. The protruding roadside stones are to be investigated by Alec Morrison.
- Cranstackie Memorial. David Elliot is to be consulted regarding possible siting for a memorial.

4. **Reports.**

- **D.D.G.**

There has still been no decision made by the Scottish Executive regarding the Community Right to buy Re-registration of interest for Cape Wrath. The C.C. are to

send a letter asking for the speedy resolution to this decision and if no reply is forthcoming by the next meeting a press release is to be issued.

Kevin is to speak to Kevin Arrowsmith regarding the possibility of pier, slipway and road ownership at Cape Wrath to enable everyone to operate under their own terms and conditions.

Health Hub at Durness Village Hall. Local fundraising has been very successful and DDG are awaiting the reopening of a Lottery fund to bid for funds to construct the extension to the village hall.

SNH Wildness Map. SNH have produced a map at the behest of the Scottish Government which identifies areas which are to be protected from windfarm development. Sarah is to produce a draft letter in response and circulate.

- **Geopark.**

A unconfirmed date of mid-July has been set for re-validation with the European Geopark Network and all are working hard to ensure a positive result. The new Geopark website is www.visitgeopark.com

- **Treasurers Report.**

To be presented at the A.G.M.

5. Laid Notice Board.

A letter has been received from the Laid, Polla and Port na Con Residents Association cancelling the Laid Grazings Committees right to use the notice Board and asking that all items be removed within 7 days. Kevin is to write asking that this be rescinded and the Laid Grazings Committee be allowed to use the noticeboard.

6. Letter from Laid, Polla & Port na Con Residents Association re: speeding motorcycles.

A letter has been received complaining about the groups of motorcycles speeding through Laid and requesting a 40mph speed limit. Durness C.C. have no authority to impose speed limits. Kevin is to email Mr Meyer.

7. Port na Con Update.

Mr Gismondi no longer wishes the road to be de-adopted.

8. Bees at Balnakeil.

The site of the old tattie patch is to be used to try and conserve the Great Yellow Bumblebee.

9. A.O.B.

- Denise reported that a tidy up of the shoreline of Loch Eriboll is to take place and a bridge is to be built over the School Burn.
- Nick asked that children be discouraged from playing football in the memorial garden.

10. Date of A.G.M. Monday 24th June at 7.30pm, Durness Village Hall.