

Present: Councillors D Taylor, A Tordoff, A Robertson, K McLaughlin, M Gemmill

Apologies - Tom Finlay

Members of the public - Gill and Mike Foulis, Peter and Gillian Llewellyn, Lesley Jones, Sarah Jones, Alasdair Firth, Sue and Stu Layton, Keith Laidlaw

1. Welcome - everyone welcomed to the meeting and noted that was quorate.
2. Minutes (agreed by email circulation) & matters arising
 - a. Drimnin cemetery road - noted that complaints had been received about the road up to the cemetery. AT had contacted Highland Council and is awaiting reply. Derek Lewis (Drimnin estate) contacted AR independently to update about timber haul road . Derek has sent a briefing note as follows -

Dear Angus

I undertook to update the Committee periodically on progress with construction of the Drimnin Timber Transport Road.

Construction is now well advanced, with most of the road formed apart from that section that head westwards from Mungosdail into Carnacailliche and a short section just south of the Mungosdail River. The timber stacking area at Auliston is complete and work has started on construction of the bridge over the Mungosdail River. The team undertaking the work has been staying in caravans just inside the Mungosdail Forest, traveling in and out either weekly or fortnightly. This arrangement ensures that social distancing is maintained and traffic on the B849 minimised. Archaeological sites have all been marked to ensure they are protected and precautions taken to ensure that protected species of wildlife are not disturbed. Noise disturbance has been moderated by the fact that most of the works are taking place well away from the village.

We anticipate the road and pier site being used for timber this coming summer

I should be happy provide any further information the committee would like.

Best wishes

Derek

KM also noted that Derek had confirmed to our April 2020 meeting that Scottish Water had committed to repairing the road when their works were completed and it seems that this restoration work has not yet been done..

Discussion held around the importance to the community of clear responsibilities for maintenance supported by legal rights of access for both the public graveyard and the public water supply. Agreed that the issue was legal and that questions required to be asked to both Scottish Water and the council, through our councillors. **ACTION MG to draft response for action by AR**

- b. Drimnin Timber Haul Route. Derek Lewis also provided a written update report on progress , which is copied to the minute here:

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- c. Community Payback issue (raised by TF and actioned by AR). AR reported that he had spoken with Lesley Jones and then, on her advice with Dean Kennedy, manager of the Community Payback scheme in Lochaber. Within the restrictions, imposed on him by their professional role in managing the scheme, Dean Kennedy was helpful in explaining the position of the Council's community payback team over the scheme placement being undertaken in Lochaline just now. While they understand and support the principle that community payback should benefit the whole community, the special needs of this particular case regarding close supervision etc meant this could not take place in the wider village area. CLAM (the allotments) have been registered as providers for the scheme for many years. After detailed discussions and agreement as to the terms of the placement and supervision and operation requirements, the placement went ahead. Dean Kennedy indicated that he was very happy with the way it had gone so far. AR recommended the council support this action. Any community Group can register an interest in hosting future community payback placements and, particularly if the CC can provide supervision to the required standard it might be that the community council should consider doing this to help us village tidy up projects in the future - for further consideration.

- d. Community Plan - noted that Douglas, Annie & Angus having done preparatory work to explore potential support have met with Mull & Iona Community Trust (MICT). We are hopeful MICT will work with us as partners to develop our vision and strategic community plan. Confirmation and details to follow.

3. Treasurer's report (See below) -
4. Planning applications - none for consideration
5. Resilience Update - limited calls to helpline noted. Vaccine roll out underway in Lochaline which has gone well. We are now awaiting the next delivery of vaccines. Discussion held about where next vaccines will take place i.e. in Fort William or locally. If in Fort William resilience group members would offer to drive any non-drivers to Fort William if required.

Remaining resilience funds discussed and noted that it would be good to potentially purchase WIFI for the village hall to improve resilience within it **ACTION KM, AR and AT to discuss**

Highland Council policy unit producing resilience information which will be posted on Morvern.Org

6. Long term plans for succession planning in primary care raised and agreed that this had stalled due to COVID and required to be taken forward. **Action AT** Noted that URRUM will be recruiting for home care workers in Morvern which will complement existing NHS workers so all interested people are encouraged to apply.
7. Police liaison - noted that new speed sign coming into the village appears to have helped to slow traffic down traffic coming into the village
8. MCDC Update.
 - a. Morvolts going to plan.
 - b. Hub going to plan.
 - c. Marina will hopefully open this year.
 - d. Camper van site not going ahead at proposed location following recent consultation.
 - e. Lease for Shiel buses agreed for parking at the Village Hall.
 - f. Letter of support sent for EU LIFE bid for Morvern Rainforest Project.
9. Village tidy - Recent social media post discussed rubbish around the area outside the allotments. MCDC raised the subject with contractors building the hub who were not responsible for leaving the dangerous rubbish found at the site. MCDC and Ardtornish have agreed that the hub contractors can use this area with the proviso that the area will be tidied up afterwards. In the course of our investigation, another contractor, who had left some builders' waste on the site, apologised and returned to remove it properly. AR has walked around the site. It was agreed that this area requires focussed attention to clear it up and stop it from being a dumping ground. Council to liaise with Ardtornish ,as landowner, MCDC as a current user and all others involved to confirm a plan of action as part of our village tidy up plan. This to include future use as the land is easier managed if it has a purpose - DT mentioned workshops as an idea. **Action MG and KM.** To be held on as an agenda item for next meeting
10. KM reported that SSE will be doing some work at the substation. The old road will be closed for a short time from 19th March. KM was asked if contractors can do some clearing at the same time to save and enhance the popular walk along the old road from the substation to Caol Muile.
11. Dog fouling raised again - can people **PLEASE** tidy up after their dogs
12. Next meeting **MONDAY 15th March at 7pm**

MCC Treasurer's report for period to 12/01/2021 to 09/02/2021		
Opening Balance at:	12/01/2021	£11,343.90
INCOME	Nil	£0.00
EXPENDITURE	De tha Dol Feb edition	-£25.00
Closing Balance at:	09/02/2021	£11,318.90