

## **Morvern Community Council meeting 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025, Teams, 7.30pm**

Present: Henriette Laidlaw (HL), Jenni Hodgson (JH), Miles Welsh (MW), Rob Capell (RC), Becky Jones (BJ), Rowan Willis (RW), Douglas Taylor (DT)

Apologies: -

Quorate: yes

Members of public: 2, plus Cllr Andrew Baxter (AB)

1. Welcome & apologies
2. AOB requests: new cattle grid at Uileann, Screenmachine cancelled
3. Minutes of last meeting were approved via email.
  - a. Young at Heart Xmas lunch: Invitations have gone out to all residents aged 60+. White House and Madi will provide food. Will do call out for helpers for the day soon.
  - b. Beach access update: has now been done and muddy area has been filled in.
  - c. Maintenance of land Kirk Brae: still no response from Highland Council (HC) either regarding this or the roads (see e.). **Action: AB** will contact relevant person at HC.
  - d. Clearing of shrub land: Ardtornish has started clearing and are expecting to do more, but no details yet. MCDC land (Hazelwood) will be done soon, but needs to be signed off by Scottish Forestry first.
  - e. Roads:
    - i. Resident had sent letter to HC re potholes on Drimnin Rd and got answer that HC has already spent a lot of money on Drimnin road, so there is no more allocated for that road. This is not acceptable, given the current state of the Drimnin Road.
    - ii. HC say they do quarterly reports on the roads. MCC has requested copies, but no reply.
    - iii. Residents should report any potholes and other damage online as soon as possible using: [https://self.highland.gov.uk/service/Road\\_maintenance?FaultType=RoadSurface&RoadSurface=PotholeRoad](https://self.highland.gov.uk/service/Road_maintenance?FaultType=RoadSurface&RoadSurface=PotholeRoad), photographed with a familiar item for scale.
    - iv. New cattle grid near Uileann: lip is not smooth, which can cause damage to cars. RC has spoken to Ardtornish: HC needs to sign it off but are not happy with standard of work. Ongoing.
  - f. Kingairloch hydro fund: JH has not heard anything about the money MCC should receive for the missing years. JH understands meeting planned for tomorrow, will need to investigate further. **Action: HL and JH** to discuss option of drawing down future Hydro Fund payments if needed for projects.
  - g. West Coast Motors: MCC has asked Mull & Iona Ferry group for more connected transport (e.g. Fishnish to Craignure buses to link with the ferry timetable).
  - h. Corran Ferry: Tom Finlay will join HL at next Corran Ferry meeting to take over as our rep at Corran Ferry steering group. Five Councils that are impacted by ferry have

sent email today highlighting our concerns re steep slip onto ferry, causing damage to cars. Also question regarding its MCA certificate: this just got renewed but is only valid for 6 months? Does this mean ferry will be away again in March, just before the season starts?

- i. Sakura Cherry Tree project: last year communication from LQS that Japanese company wanted to donate cherry trees. They need to be visible, planted in Field of Hope. Are we still happy to receive them? **Decision:** All agree.
4. Resilience: need to make sure that this is acted on. Residents have formed an action group, but need someone from MCC to join them.
5. Planning applications: none
6. MCDC update: housing, building warrant has been submitted. Still waiting for planning permission from HC.
7. Treasurer's report: £2469,27 in account. Payments gone out this month: Grassmen paid, but no response received from MCT. Need to put in application for next year soon. Heritage Society have asked if new Mine Trail down to hotel could be added to contract. Heritage Society happy to contribute to overall costs. HL has spoken to Grassmen/Martin regarding widening the Mine Trail. **Action: HL** to contact David Shaw.
8. Future of MCC: Plea from Chair: HL needs to reduce her workload. Who can take on secretarial tasks, communication? **Action: councillors** to consider any potential new members. **Action: HL** to put note on Facebook.
9. Other correspondence: Community Calendar has been resurrected, which is great. MCC is using the Community Calendar and encourage all groups to use it to show their activities: <https://teamup.com/ks3zvojm66xdhpwtmi>
10. AOB:
  - Screen Machine not coming due to lack of suitable Corran Ferry. **Action: HL** to let Corran Ferry Working Group and local councillors know. **Action: AB** to speak to Chief Exec of HighLife Highland.
  - Christmas tree: willow surround got damaged in the storm. **Action: Sarah** to take picture of tree and contact Katy to see if she can repair it. **Action: HL** to contact Megan if Xmas Tree Festival is on again this year and if so, when? **Action: HL** to ask Calum re lighting tree again.

Next meeting: 9/12/25, with mulled wine and mince pies in Lochaline Village Hall

January meeting: online

Meeting closed at 20.27