

## DRAFT MINUTES OF MORVERN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MONDAY 5 September 2016 at 7.30pm, LOCHALINE VILLAGE HALL

**Present** : Jim Bolton (Chair), Teresa Bolton (Secretary) Martin Sampson, Davy Shaw, Susan Taylor, Lesley Smart (mins) and 3 members of the public.

**Apologies** : Cameron Bolton, PC Angie Campbell.

Jim Bolton welcomed everyone to the meeting. Prior to starting the agenda the Chair had a constitutional issue to raise. Highland Council have reminded Community Councils that if resignations result in less than 50% of elected Community Councillors, business should cease and an election should be called to increase elected members. Cameron Bolton has gone off to college, however, he wishes to remain as a youth representative. This was agreed as Cameron is able to keep in touch through social media. Proposed Martin Sampson, Seconded Susan Taylor

1. **Minutes of the Last Meeting** – Two amendments required:

- Date of time of next meeting Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September
- Balance of General Account - £10,178-85 Proposed by Jim Bolton, seconded Martin Sampson.

2. **Matters Arising**

- **Grass Cutting** – no interest shown, Jim Bolton will approach the company who are cutting grass round the village on a Highland Council Grass Cutting contract for next year
  - Phone boxes –BT have to remove electrics. John Hodgson was not present to give further update.
  - Participatory Budget – application form submitted to Highland Council for Over 60s Christmas lunch contribution. Voting will commence 10<sup>th</sup> September for one week. Vote via highland council website or by post.
  - **BT**- See Items from Councillors.
  - **Roads** - Repairs in progress without too much disruption.
  - **Ardtornish Estate Community Fund** A long discussion took place. The consensus of opinion is that the community's wish would be that this money should be administered by Morvern Community Trust. It was hoped that the next Ardtornish Board Meeting should be an open public meeting.

3. **Finance**

- Bank accounts are still not sorted, Jenny Hodgson has not yet signed the documentation which she has in her possession – balance same as last month namely - £10,178-95 General Account and £5,627-71 in the CGF Account.
- Monies for skip hire & auditor's invoice refunded to Jim Bolton, who paid for them initially
- Teresa paid £3.10 for crisps and sweets for kids after the village clean up; will claim back once accounts are sorted out

#### **4. Police Report**

- **Speeding** – PC Angie Campbell has arranged with Lochaline Primary School to come and allow school children to point the speed gun at drivers. Drivers caught speeding will be stopped and issued with a leaflet prepared by the children stating the dangers of speeding outside schools.

#### **5. Christmas Lunch for Over 60's**

MCC will host the lunch but Burach Community Gaelic Choir are keen to do the waiting as last year. This was agreed. All local caterers will be invited to tender to provide a buffet style lunch with a hot soup to start. It is estimated that around 50 people will attend. Transport will be provided if required. The proposed date is Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Susan Taylor is happy to co-ordinate.

#### **6. Planning**

- Erection of house at Fiunary Farm. Agreed
- Ardtornish Estate Farm related building at Acharanich . No comment.
- Scottish Water, treatment and access road. Iain Thornber keeping an eye on developments.

#### **7. MCDC**

**Old Fire Station** –now for sale on the open market.  
Chair due to attend MCDC meeting this week.

#### **8. Correspondence**

- Open Day and AGM of Small Communities Trust to be held in Inverness Friday 16th September in the Town House, Inverness
- Email from Vodafone sure signal, wishing to install CISS on another community building. Teresa will forward to School and Fire station
- Highland Council review of proposal to improve accommodation at Strontian Primary School. The community intend to build their own school and lease it back to Highland Council on a 25 year lease. The said building will be erected in such a way, that if needs be, in future it could be turned into housing. This proposal has been approved by the education committee and it will now go to the full council. Teresa told meeting that this indirectly affects Morvern parents & children but the High School parent Council are being kept informed of developments.
- Highland Council - new or replacement bus shelters, only a very limited budget for this work, it has been suggested that a new bus stop could be erected at the new Achabeg settlement. Teresa took some photographs of the proposed site and submitted to HC; we await a reply.
- Email from Daniel Greig, Policy Coordinator Highland Council suggesting MCC set up a generic email for MCC. Agreed this is a good idea - Jim will set this up.
- Letter from James Byrne regarding wood at Carnaichallache and the damage the tractor is causing. Chair will write to Mr Byrne
- Forest Enterprise is selling the 14 hectare "Dr's wood" outside Lochaline; Jim will inform MCDC.

## 9. Items from Councillors

- **BT-** there has been no response from BT regarding the public meeting with the communities promised by Brendon Dick. He appears to be back tracking. No response from OFCOM. A discussion regarding Highland Council's proposal for the Next generation program to be rolled out in 2017, the expectation is that superfast broadband will be rolled out to 95% of the Highlands. However, until such times as the Lochaline exchange is upgraded, there is little hope this will be possible. Highland Council have been awarded £200million for this most of which has been spent in the Inverness area.
- **Aggregate Industries Review** - a meeting took place with A.I. (Glensanda), Tony Boyd representing Ardgour, Jim Bolton and Highland Council regarding the grant outlook for future years. Aggregate Industries are very happy with the way in which Morvern Community Trust are administering the grant money. It is hoped the current agreement will continue and is hoped this will be a permanent arrangement. The money is managed locally, is under local control and shows a perfect example of local empowerment. However there was a feeling that AI may want to set up their own trust and invite applications for grants – this would not be supported by MCC.
- **Drimnin Village Meeting** Davy Shaw reported that the residents of Drimnin held a meeting and were updated on the distillery works. Concerns were raised about heavy traffic on the road. 2 more large shipments are to arrive in September. Then from there on there should be 1 or 2 four and a half ton lorries per week. Davy also reported that all the land owners concerned in the construction of the proposed high road need to agree in order for work to commence. Davy thought that one of the parties was unhappy and most likely would not agree to this. It was also reported that one of the land owners wanted 30 year cut out clause. A discussion then took place regarding the 1.2 million pounds Forest Enterprise grant and if this could go towards upgrading the existing main road? The minutes of this meeting are available from Jane Stuart Smith. Teresa Bolton asked that the Community Council be sent a copy of the minute.
- **Drimnin Broadband** - the community have set up a broadband committee to try and improve their broadband. The Chair asked that the Chairman of the Drimnin broadband committee come to a MCC meeting. The feeling is that this is something MCDC should take forward as a subcommittee of MCC.
- **Dr Susan Taylor** -All medication must now be collected from the surgery. Permission slips are available at the surgery to allow collection by nominated person/persons. The surgery is manned every day till 1pm, please come before then to ensure someone is available to issue the dispensed medication.

## 10. Items from the Public

A member of the public reported that the top road in Torr-Na-Faire is now in a very poor state. Photographs have been submitted to Highland Council; the Chair will follow this up.

## 11. Any Other Business

None

**Date and Time of Next Meeting** Monday 3 October Lochaline Village Hall 7.30