

Morvern Community Council Minutes 03/02/20 Lochaline Village Hall 7pm

Elected Community Councillors: Alasdair Firth, Angus Robertson (treasurer), Martin Sampson, Morven Gemmill (chair) and members of the public. PC Kevin Swift. Councillor Andrew Baxter. Apologies from community councillors Annie Tordoff and Kenny McLaughlin.

1. Minutes of previous meetings are in De tha Dol and online at morvern.org. Minutes of the meeting of 6th January were approved by email. The new MCC facebook page will also give a link to minutes and meeting agendas in future.
2. Achabeag bus shelter. Council was advised that a new waiting room facility will be built by Cal Mac at the Pier and that the existing council bus stop/shelter will be surplus to requirements. All agreed it would be beneficial to utilise this and for it to be moved to Achabeag. AR to check with George Leslie when this bus stop likely to be removed .AT to check with Pauline Donaldson that it would be ok to move this shelter to Achabeag AR to ask George Leslie if this can be done as a goodwill gesture local arrangement to erect .
3. Minute secretary is still required. £35/session. Another advert will be placed and this is a good opportunity for younger members of the community.
4. Driving licenses. Residents in Morvern are still affected by errors at DVLA regarding postcode PA80 as "Castlebay". Andrew Baxter received a reply on behalf of MCC that individual drivers should contact DVLA themselves. To attempt to change your address see: <https://www.gov.uk/contact-the-dvla/y/driving-licences-and-applications> AR will also follow this up. ***
5. Dal Mor steering group. Jennie Hodgson is now a member of the steering group and will update at future meetings.
6. Corran ferry. Kenny McLaughlin is now a member of the steering group and will provide updates at future meetings.
7. Police PC Kevin Swift updated the meeting on some recent scams that have affected members of the community.
8. Signs missing from many passing places. Decision was made to keep this item on action directory and include in community plan to see if there can be a future budget for maintaining signage.
9. Drimnin Estate Woodland and Forestry Plans. Derek Lewis (DL) gave a presentation on this, following the presentation in Drimnin in November. The Q&A and slides are attached .
10. Relocation of recycling bins. Development of the business hub is in progress and the bins need relocated. MG spoke with the key contacts at HC & MCDC. There are a few options. Feedback locally so far has been that the best place is probably adjacent to the council-run toilet block by the Cal Mac pier, though it is not exactly clear who owns this land (parts are owned by CMal, parts by Lochaline Social Club and parts by Highland Council). Committee members of the Social Club have indicated that this would be a good location. Other options; West Pier where a good portion is owned by the council can be explored as a second option The consensus was that the site by the Social Club/Toilets would be the preferable one – it could

also be used by people using the ferry - with other site options to be followed up if this is not feasible and the west pier a potential temporary location until this is resolved. MG will follow this up with HC, Lochaline Social Club and CMaI.

11. Village tidying and grass cutting. MCC has been trying to organise this to keep the village in good condition. Amy, Ali, Angus and Kenny to organise a meeting as a sub-group to move this on. They will get feedback from key people and pull this together into a maintenance program. MG will provide the maps for this from the earlier work done by Sally Semple.
12. Community plan. MG, Peter Boylan (Morvern Community Trust) and Jane Stewart Smith (Morvern Community Development Company) have met to develop an approach to taking this forward. The plan is partly needed so that prioritisation of funding can be achieved smoothly. To start this off, the idea is for a facilitated workshop for local people to attend. The process will also include a review of plans from other sources and a review of other information from information Statistical Division of Scottish Government (Scot Phro). The aim is to seek to complete a stakeholder workshop by the end of March and have a rough plan by the end of April. MG to contact Dot to ask her to provide details of community plans. Amy Stammers is keen to feed in information on tourism. MS and members of the public gave the opinion that independent facilitation is important so that there is an 'honest broker'. MCC agreed that Peter, Jane and Morven will work together to put together an outline for a workshop. The actions from the previous meeting - regarding the letter to community groups etc. - will be held over until after this meeting.
13. Treasurer's report. Angus gave an update. He has now set up an accounting system for MCC and proposes to produce brief accounts each month for MCC meetings for each bank account and a total. It shows income (or receipts), expenditure (or payments) and surplus/deficit. In the statement of balance, it shows opening balances, surplus or deficit and closing balances. The current account stands at £9,668.89 and the Common Good Fund at £1,090.00. MCC now have access to online banking for the current account. Angus will activate online banking on the Common Good Fund. There had been an earlier decision to close the Common Good Fund account and move all to one account as there is no clear reason to have two accounts.
14. Update from Andrew Baxter regarding Corran Ferry. The recent speculation that the ferry contract will be transferred from Highland Council management is unfounded. The recent tendering process is to determine how the market might dictate how the ferry runs and to look at potential long term replacements for the ferry. The ferry is now outwith its normal working life and the preferred option is likely to be one main ferry and re-constructing the slipways to allow standard ro-ro ferries to run as replacement services. This would allow the ferry to run as it is currently, with no disadvantage to locals. Under RET (for example if the ferry was transferred to another operator), if implemented, minimum price for a crossing including for locals would be £5.20. Question was raised whether MCC should have a position on future ferry. At the moment there are various pieces of work being undertaken to look at the longer term but the short term need is to find how the ferry can continue to operate without disadvantage to local people.

15. Healthcare. Initiatives to encourage new doctors. Health improvement, ill health prevention and primary care should be part of the community plan and the community should be involved in shaping health and social care delivery in Morvern . The model needs to consider various options to deliver healthcare. The council will work on a joint letter to raise this on the agenda. Councillors agreed to invite Dr Taylor to the next meeting to give her views on this.
16. Facebook. MG will talk to Sunart Community Council for information on how their page works and work out a way to moderate the forthcoming MCC page.

*** Since MCC meeting a formal letter of complaint was sent by MCC to CEO of DVLA and a response received that the postcode on the database has been corrected. Residents with incorrect licences should return these to DVLA using form D1 from the post office with a covering letter to say that they wish the postcode adjusted. We are hopeful that this matter has been resolved.

Date and time of next meeting: **Monday 2nd March 7pm Lochaline Village**

Hall. Record of Actions planned and taken can be found on the community council website page on Morvern.org

<http://www.morvern.org/community/morvern-community-council/>