



## NORTH LOCHS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held 13 January 2016

7pm Sgoil nan Loch, Leurbost

<b>Present:</b>	Robbie Mackenzie	Chairman
	Iain Macleod	Vice Chairman
	Bruce Mackenzie	
	Joanne Mitchell	
	Alex Mackintosh	
	Angus Morrison	Councillor
	Cudig Macleod	Councillor
	Sarah McIver	Clerk

**Public Attendees:** Robin Sturmeit (Leurbost)

**Apologies:** Donald Mackenzie Treasurer

### 1 WELCOME:

Robbie welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Jane Macintosh, Head of Strengthening Communities at HIE attended to discuss the need for a Development Officer in North Lochs. Jane explained the process of Community Account Management. HIE can provide a range of support and services to assist communities to develop their local Community Plan. Just one of those offerings may be a development officer. In order for HIE to support, we need to make a proposal to HIE with an outline of a range of projects we want to pursue, which will benefit the community and also contain an element of income generation

The group decided to engage with the community again to try and raise some interest in some community projects. All agreed to think of some possible projects and to discuss further at the next meeting

### 2 MINUTES:

The corrected minutes of the meeting of 04 November 2015 were signed. Minutes from the meeting on 02 December were proposed by Bruce Mackenzie and seconded by Iain Macleod.

### **3 MATTERS ARISING from November Meeting**

#### Surgery Parking

Alex MacKintosh has met with the Practice Manager at the surgery and plans are underway to extend the car parking area and have a space dedicated for staff parking. This should help to resolve the situation. We will watch to see developments, but remove from agenda for now

#### Filling Station Lighting

No response received to correspondence. However, the lighting does seem improved, possibly because the new pumps also shed more light in the forecourt area.

#### Gritting

Grimshader is now a higher priority for gritting than it was and the gritter has been seen going in and out of the village. Grit has been dropped on the road, but not sufficient. There are still parts of the road which have not been made safe. Other villages also have found the gritting to be insufficient; however, the frost on the night of 12-13 Jan was particularly hard

Angus Morrison recommends that if we see the gritter passing through a village and seeming to drop no grit, to contact Tech Services at the Comhairle immediately to report the situation

#### Ditching

There is no Ditching Programme for Lochs, all ditching work is being done on an ad hoc basis as issues arise. Some issues are still unresolved in Grimshader, which will be looked into

There are some road repairs planned at the entrance to Macdonald Gardens

#### High Speed Broadband

Donnie Morrison at HIE confirmed that work is ahead of schedule for Lochs. An email from Donnie on 12 Jan confirmed that boxes have been erected at 2 places in Crossbost exchange area and expectation is for the Macdonald Gardens part of Leurbost to be connected very soon

#### Defibrillators

Angus Morrison's plans are moving along and he is now in discussions with a Skye-based company who may be the best option for us. If we go with this option then the machine would need to be attached to a power supply which makes locating the box more challenging, but not impossible. Aiming to provide box to Grimshader first and plan is for disused telephone box to house the machine. A training evening is planned for next week. Bruce will ask Gary Davies in Grimshader to attend and also to follow up on whether we can re-start the power supply to the phone box. Jo Mitchell also volunteered to attend the training. Angus Morrison will contact Bruce and Jo to move this forward

Once the defibrillators are in place we will have an article in Lochs News about them

#### Budget Choices Meeting – Thursday 21 January 2016

The proposed cuts have now been published by the council – sent to all CC members and also publicised to community via Facebook page. It is very important that we

engage with this process, read all of the proposals for cuts to the budget, because if we do not object now then we will have lost the opportunity

Members encouraged to attend the meeting in Council Chambers Thursday 21 January at 7pm

Consultation on Future Islands Bill

Date for submitting views is now past.

Flowers to outgoing Clerk

Thank you email received from Ann for her flowers

**5 AOCB**

Community Projects

Alex MacKintosh expressed concern that we are not pushing ahead to gain interest and support for some local community projects. Members agreed to discuss further at the next meeting and other ideas to generate interest include:

- Linking up with Breasclete, Cudig says some members over there are passionate about community projects and we could gain some insight
- Trying another community engagement meeting to get local people to say what they would like to see

Members committed to trying to move this aspect of our work forward. Main agenda item at next meeting

Lochs News

Update from Sarah McIver. Issue 2 planned for early Feb and other ideas tabled at the CC meeting where committee attended are being followed up by the committee

North Lochs Community Council Facebook Page

Set up by Jo Mitchell – so far 49 likes. Summary of meeting and regular feed of issues and suggestions to go out on Facebook page over the next few weeks

**6 Next Meeting – Wednesday 24 February 2016, 7pm at Sgoil nan Loch**

**CHAIRMAN:**..... **DATE:** .....