



NORTH LOCHS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held 24 August 2016

7pm Sgoil nan Loch

Present: Robbie Mackenzie Chairman
Donald Mackenzie Treasurer
Angus Morrison Councillor
Joanne Mitchell
Alex MacKintosh
Bruce Mackenzie
Sarah McIver Clerk

Apologies:

Iain Macleod Vice Chairman
Cudig Macleod Councillor
PC Donald Maclean Police Scotland

1 WELCOME:
Robbie welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 MINUTES:
Minutes from the meeting on 29 June 2016 were proposed by Joanne Mitchell and seconded by Donald Mackenzie.

Lochs News Update

Duncan Norman Macleod and Alec George Morrison came along to give an update on the progress of Lochs News. The 2 visitors thanked the NLCC for their financial support in getting the local newspaper off the ground, and so far the start has been encouraging. There have been 5 issues produced so far, 4 main publications and a Lochs Show special. Finances are complete for 3 of these 5 issues and so far each issue has made a profit, so overall the group is more than breaking even

Plans are in place for transfer of banking arrangements to a new bank account to separate the funds from those of the North Lochs Amenity Group, and this new arrangement will be complete by the end of September, we hope

Lochs News committee has grown to 5 members and the team are working well together. There are correspondents in most of the villages and there is plenty of interest and material to fill future issues

There are some plans for community projects to be undertaken with the profits made and this will continue to move ahead

The Community Council are fully supportive of the work of the Lochs News Team

3 MATTERS ARISING from previous meeting

Defibrillators

Grimshader – Clerk chased again about repairs and finalising adoption, but this is a very slow process because of the remote location of the Island. Clerk will continue to FU and look for other avenues to follow

Crossbost and Achmore – contracts for adoption signed at the meeting and cheque for £2 for the cost of adoption provided by Donald. Clerk to provide copy of the letter to BT as paper trail for accounts

Facebook Page

Agreed we need something added to the page each week to try and generate interest and more views for the page. Jo volunteered to add something each week

Community Projects

Angus has contacted the Tolsta Community Group and they prefer to come and visit our meeting than for us to go there. They need to agree at a committee meeting and then will get back to us

Community Emergency Plan

Jo is pulling together the information we have and try to make first draft of a plan for North Lochs

Note – should have discussed this at the August meeting – Discuss at next meeting:

We also had an email from SSE inviting applications for funding to develop or enhance facilities to support the community during weather or power emergency times. Bruce will pass on to the Community Council so they can possibly apply for money towards the new kitchen, which could be used more by the community at these times if it were bigger and more able to cope with numbers

Challenge Fund Money

Funding application for extra work on Grimshader Pier was successful. Funds received

4 AOCB

Grimshader road repairs are underway

Crash barrier at Loch Orisay – Jo reports that some of the posts are rotting, and there is concern that if something hit the barrier it might not hold. Angus to report back to Tech Services (not discussed at August meeting)

Surgery Parking – Donald reports this has continued to be a big issue at certain time points. There are some plans in motion for new parking arrangements and discussions are underway with the Leurbost Grazings. Letter to be sent to Health Board and

Surgery to ask for progress report. Angus will ask Police to sit outside for a significant period of time to assess the issue

Leurbost junction with the main road has become even more hazardous. The grass on the verges is not being cut by the council and the dip between Leurbost road end and Cameron Terrace seems to be getting deeper, Robbie feels maybe the road is sinking. The visibility when trying to turn from Leurbost onto the main road is simply not good enough and we really need a proper assessment of the safety of the junction. Angus will ask the Council Road Safety team to have a look

Locality Planning Group: Rural Lewis – Jo Mitchell is now Chair of this group and further information will become available over coming months

Gritting Plans with council – Iain and Angus attended the meeting held in Council Chamber recently. There are plans to grit priority 3 roads even later in the day. Letter to be sent from Community Council to express our concern (post meeting note – letter gone)

Scotlands Island Communities Survey – completed

5 Next Meeting – Wednesday 05 October 2016, 7pm at Sgoil nan Loch

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