

South Harris Community Council – Minutes of Meeting 13th March 2017

1. **Apologies** – Kenneth MacLeod, Phillip MacLean, Caroline Chaffer, Marion Morrison, Kathryn Campbell
2. **Present** – Alan Ross, Neil MacLean, P.C Phil Bertin, Stephen MacKinnon, Francis MacLeod, Hamish Taylor, Lisa MacDonald, John R MacLean, Catherine MacDonald
3. **Minutes** - Approved by Hamish & Neil

4. Matters Arising

- 4.1 **Rodel Hotel** – Councillor MacDonald will speak to new owners of Rodel Hotel to invite them to speak with us regarding their plans for the hotel.
- 4.2 **Mobile Phone Coverage/Broadband** – Alan & Hamish met with Donnie from HIE regarding mobile coverage. He said 4G sites to be tested and coverage of the Bays area is now being seriously considered. Fibre broadband was also discussed, this project isn't complete and there are talks of Luskentyre being serviced. Currently the cabinets have a 1km reach, but there is new technology being tested in Tolsta which increases that to 3km which will extend the reach of the cabinets. Also mention of the green cabinets servicing 22 customers per km instead of 80.
- 4.3 **Sheep in Leverburgh** – The sheep issue has escalated with a ram attacking a property in the village. Councillor MacDonald to raise the issue after the elections, Alan to seek advice from Crofting Commission
- 4.4 **Old Block School** – Plans to have funding applications for the Old Block in by June this year. The pupils and staff will move to the old block in April. Hamish & Alan have visited Balallan primary to see how they have set up their community hub. It includes, a café, army/war memorabilia room, charity shop and a history of every croft in the area.
- 4.5 **Mill Pool Project** – Francis and Stephen to look at options for volunteers for this project to clean up around the Mill Pool, Stephen suggested speaking with Kate Langley at HVS. There has been donations made for 2 benches for around the Mill Pool. Alan to speak to the council about having quality bins installed and cost involved.
- 4.6 **Crown Estate** – Consultation on the future of the crown estate and the general consensus was that there was concern that the funding would stay in Stornoway.
- 4.7 **Outer Hebrides Local Development Plan** – Alan sent a response regarding the issues in South Harris – the school, the traffic issues (ferry/road), lack of housing. This response has been acknowledged

5. AOCB

- BT Poles – the poles at Rodel/Lingerbay/Finsbay will be looked at. Hamish spoke with Roddy Henderson Openreach Manager in the Western Isles. He said a surveyor has been down and agreed that they need to be attended to, and will be done in due course.
- Protruding rock just beyond bus stop at Lingerbay, council to be made aware.
- Roads- PC Bertin to speak to Gordon MacLeod about a letter regarding roads and potential risks from Tarbert to Leverburgh with issues like, double track to single track and potentially a 30% increase in traffic in the summer months.
- Tarbert Waiting Room – new seat has been ordered for the waiting room.

Next Meeting Date – 10th April 2017