

BERNERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held Thursday 12 March 2020
at Bernera Community Centre, 19.30-22.00.

Present: Fiona Douglas (Chair, FD), Joan Macaulay (Vice Chair, JM), Callum Richings (Treasurer, CR), Cllr Norman MacDonald (NMD), Rhiannon Teather (Secretary, RT), Phillip Dunn (PD), Finlay McIver (FMI), Sue Long (SL) and Kevin Long (KL), Alice Murray and Catriona Maclean.

Apologies: Cllr Angus Morrison, Cllr Randal Fraser, Neil James Macaulay, Virginia Allum, Catriona Macleod and Shona Cooksey.

Approval of Previous Minutes	The minutes of the 13 February 2020 were approved by Sue Long and seconded by Fiona Douglas.
Matters Arising	No matters arising not already scheduled in the agenda.
Crown Estate Funding	<p>NMD summarised the background: £1.7 million pot of funding for Lewis from the Crown Estate. There was guidance from the government on how the money should be spent – ideally on marine infrastructure, jobs in the area and aquaculture. Of £1.6m (£100,000 allocated for managing Crown Estate Funds) - £97,500 given to each ward as a starting point. Our ward is one of the biggest geographically. £30,000 also allocated for the creation of ‘community boards’ to help distribute the funds, this has been pushed back and the hope is to use existing groups, ideally the Community Councils. Bernera is to be linked with Uig.</p> <p>Funding pot for Bernera:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• £16,250 from Crown Estate• £15,000 from the £30,000 for the creation of ‘community boards’ (split 50/50 with Uig)• + a share of the ‘community projects fund’• There is also a Ward Priority Fund (£16,000) which could potentially be drawn upon if the application was compelling• Total = £37,000 goes to Bernera <p>Alongside our three Cllrs, 2-3 representatives from the Community Council should be appointed to help decide which projects receive the funding. The Cllrs will make the final decision however.</p> <p>Application forms are now ready to go out. The deadline is 31st March – only funding estimates, rather than formal quotes, are needed given the short time frame. Projects need to be registered on a spreadsheet by the end of the month. Match-funded projects ideal because they can make the money go further. All applications should be</p>

	<p>sent to Alice Murray.</p> <p>Project Criteria/Allocation:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining/creating/sustaining jobs • Sustaining populations • Sustainable on withdrawal of funds • Meets project objectives <p>The criteria is not designed to be prohibitive but intended to help identify the best projects. For this funding round, it should be longstanding projects already awaiting funding that are put forward in applications because they will be the most well developed and have an established clear need. Prior to this meeting, FD had met with the Chairs of BCA and the Development Trust to discuss projects and determine a division of labour between groups in applications. We all agreed BCC will focus on the Petrol Pumps in our application and that JM would take this forward.</p>
Finance	CR provided a finance report. The current balance is £4,876.44 because the Challenge Fund money has now cleared.
Bosta Roads	JM provided an update. The Bosta Roads project (for viewing points, possibly an upgrade for the toilets) has reached the application stage for the Tourism Fund. The Fund provides 75% of the cost, which means we will need to raise additional funds to make up the difference. The project will need to be costed again for the application. There is a summer deadline.
Social Media	PD provided an update: 119 followers, 96 views on the previous agenda. The minutes will now be posted only on the main Council website, with a link to view them supplied from the Facebook page. We had a debate about whether we should allow comments to be posted in future. After a long discussion, we agreed to close comments because the primary purpose of the page was to be an information source for local people. We would encourage all residents to write in with any issues they would like to raise: berneracomcouncil@outlook.com .
Shoreline Clean Up	This is a summer job – to be carried forward.
Kirkibost Toilets	The advert has been posted for the cleaner vacancy. A question was posted about whether there was a budget for toilet roll/cleaning supplies, and the answer was that receipts should be kept by the new cleaner and monies will be reimbursed.
Feedback from BCA	SL provided an update. The website is now being developed. All community organisations will have their own tab. The domain and the website will be paid for by BCA. BCA are also organising a sponsored clean-up with the school. There is

	an opportunity for a tenancy/management of Bernera Community Centre Cafe, application deadline for the end of the week. There are several community events coming up which will be advertised on the Facebook page. Minutes from meetings to be circulated to BCC and Development Trust.
Feedback from Development Trust	JM delivered the good news that the Kirkibost pontoons project has received funding – the works will now go out to tender.
AOCB	Defibrillators. There are currently two that need renewing. We discussed whether we needed more, options included one at the Pier and at Bosta (although the latter is not possible because there is no electricity point). Fiona Douglas stood down as Chair with immediate effect due to personal commitments. The next Chair will be elected at the next meeting. All present warmly thanked Fiona for her service.
Date of Next Meeting	AGM – 9 April 2020 NB. This is now postponed until further notice because of the Covid19 outbreak and government restrictions on public gatherings.