

## Pairc Community Council Meeting

Thursday 19th March 2020 Virtually via Microsoft Teams

**Present:** Morris Black (Chair)  
David Skene  
Louise Nicolson  
Anna Macleod  
Norrie Macleod  
Mags Mackin  
Lyndsay Montgomery  
Karis Beattie

In attendance: Fiona Stokes

Morris welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained its purpose was to brainstorm how the Pairc community is to organize itself in light of the Coronavirus crisis.

Ian Macritchie had sent his apologies, but has passed on information about how other areas such as Ness were dealing with the outbreak. This has involved setting up village WhatsApp groups & putting cards through letterboxes to increase the flow of information.

### **Ravenspoint:**

While the shop is currently well stocked and there is no critical need for volunteers at this time, issues have arisen over buying perishable stock because of current supermarket policy on rationing of goods per person.

**It was agreed that:** Norrie is to speak to (Councillor) John Mitchell about what must be a common problem and a letter will be drafted that can be used to prove multiple purchases are for a community shop, not an individual. This could be used as a template by other organisations with the same problem, and used at many retail outlets.

### **Prescriptions:**

Prescriptions currently have to be collected from Leurbost surgery, which is difficult for bus users and the vulnerable who should avoid going out. Private individuals are able to pick them up on behalf of the patient, so long as the patient calls the surgery first and gives 72 hours notice.

**It was agreed that:** While it is not a Health Board issue Mags is to speak to the surgery to see if anything more can be done.

### **Vulnerable People & Volunteers:**

A list needs to be compiled of people who may need help and those who are able to help. A form could be distributed to all houses to collect this information and say how facilities and services are operating during this time. The group discussed whether a central co-ordination point for signposting people to services would be useful, or a contact in each village who could deliver and collect the forms.

**It was agreed that:** A form/card is to be created that lets people know how prescriptions and groceries can be obtained and asks for volunteers, or whether people are self isolating or need help. Anna & Lyndsay to create and David & Karis to help.

Morris is to draft an application for the Crown Estate funding for a Community Warden who could act as a co-ordination point.

### **Other discussions:**

The minister at the church is now on holiday for 2 weeks, but church members are happy for the PCC to take these matters forward. The Comhairle see the PCC as the vehicle for distributing information to the community. The schools are closing for students at the end of the week but staff will remain on for the immediate time. Some childcare workers from the playgroup may be redeployed to other settings. The Comhairle may need to adjust care worker roles, with family members taking over some of the responsibilities where possible.

### **It was agreed that:**

Louise was appointed as PCC Treasurer.

Karis was appointed as PCC Secretary.

Karis will respond to the Comhairle about what Coronavirus measures are being taken in Pairc.

Karis will set up a PCC Facebook page.

Louise will ask the previous skip key holder whether they will continue to open up on a Saturday for the new PCC committee.

The next meeting is To Be Arranged. Microsoft teams was found to work well for remote meetings, Norrie was thanked for facilitating.