

Pairc Community Council Meeting

Thursday 2nd December 2020 Virtually via Zoom

Present: Morris Black (Chair)
Karis Beattie (Secretary)
Louise Nicolson (Treasurer)
Iain Nicolson
Lyndsay Montgomery
Raymond Hughes
David Skene

Apologies: Mags Mackin, Doro Reider

Community Christmas Event

Pairc Community Council (PCC) will be accepting donations towards the event from various groups - Orinsay Village Association, Pairc Free Church, Pairc Trust, Lochs News. Pairc Playgroup will be contributing directly to the event by decorating the horsebox/sleigh and Ravenspoint will provide selection boxes for the children in the district. It was agreed that Pairc Community Council would make a contribution to the event from MCWFT small grant fund, up to the value of £500. Event will likely be held on 18th and 19th December, yet to be confirmed.

It was agreed that: Application for MCWFT small grant fund will be drawn up for our records. Lyndsay will advise groups to make a BACs transfer if possible, otherwise a cheque to PCC. Louise will record all donations coming in and going out for the event.

AOB

Habost Postbox: Karis gave an update on issue of Habost postbox being waterlogged as highlighted by a member of the public. Morris checked the site and agrees there is an issue with drainage and placement of the postbox. It was discussed whether we could move the box of our own accord, and we will suggest this to Royal Mail. Royal Mail Customer Service Team had been advised, however we were told it is not their department's responsibility and to contact the Sorting Office in Stornoway directly. There are no longer public contact numbers for sorting offices and enquiries can go through the local postman who will report to their supervisor. The Customer Service Team also asked that we find out who owns the land the postbox sits on and to give this information to the Sorting Office.

It was agreed that: Karis will continue to action this, will find out ownership of the land, and will write an email report to Royal Mail of the issue advising them of concerns, and report locally to the Sorting Office through the local postman once this has been established. If no action taken by Royal Mail before the next meeting in January, PCC will discuss how to proceed.

Crown Estates Fund Application: David advised that Cllr Paul Finnegan has indicated the most likely outcome will be that Crown Estates allocation for Pairc will be lowered to circa £36k due to the Comhairle reallocating £25k from each ward to support organisations affected by loss of donations from various windfarms.

It was agreed that: Pairc Community Council will be the group to go last in considered applications put forward in this round of Crown Estates funding, and may receive less on account of that. David will advise Cllr Paul Finnegan of this. Due to the potential lowered amount, PCC would likely reapply for the next round of funding once released, to progress the project of Taigh Ceilidh.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 28th January 2021 at 7pm. Meeting will be held on the last Thursday of every month