

## Pairc Community Council Meeting

Thursday 25th February 2021, 7pm - Virtually via MS Teams

**Present:** Lyndsay Montgomery (Vice Chair)  
Karis Beattie (Secretary)  
Louise Nicolson (Treasurer)  
Raymond Hughes  
David Skene  
Doro Reider,  
Councillor John Mitchell  
Councillor Paul Finnegan  
Angus McDowall (joined at item 2)

Apologies: Morris Black, Anna Macleod, Councillor Grant Fulton.

Attending: Fiona Stokes

### 1. Confirm Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes from 28<sup>th</sup> January were proposed as accurate by Karis and seconded by Louise.

### 2. Lewis ACC Reps for 2nd March

Karis & Louise attended the last meeting of the newly formed Lewis Association of Community Councils on 16<sup>th</sup> February. A draft constitution for the group had been distributed and has now been agreed. Attendees from Pairc CC at future meetings will be on a rolling basis, Raymond volunteered to attend the next meeting on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1 other committee member is still required.

### 3. MCWFT small grant

a) Applications review and decision

4 applications had been received from; Pairc Historical Society (£2000), Pairc Playgroup (£1000), Pairc School & Parent Council (£2000) and Garyvard Grazings Committee (£1000), for an overall funding allowance of £5000. The group discussed how to decide on successful applications for this round and considered the practicalities of declaring any conflicts of interest - in a small community there is more scope for crossover of interests. Moving forward a clear process and new application form will be developed to distribute next year's allocation.

**It was decided that: A voting system will be used for this round, where all committee members can vote on their preferred application via an online survey (Survey Monkey). Karis to set this up. A deadline for submission of applications had been set for March 19<sup>th</sup> and after this point the committee will vote. They do not need to absent themselves from voting unless they are the named applicant.**

b) Christmas Event - funds required?

The costs of running the Christmas 'Santa on Tour' event have been completely covered by donations received from various organisations. No application is required from the MCWFT fund for this. There is £178 left over which will be donated to the School and Playgroup children, who did so much work on making the cards and decorating gift bags.

### 4. Crown Estates Update

a) Funding clauses

David reported on his communication with Robert Emmott (CNES Finance Manager) regarding the Crown Estate funding received by PCC in Round 2. The project can be completed in stages, allowing a release of Round 2 CE funds so long as it is clearly shown what the money being drawn down is used for. If further match-funding is required for a later stage, another application to a later round of CE is possible, with the agreement of the councillors.

b) Working group meet re next steps

The sub group is to meet again to discuss next steps in the week beginning March 8<sup>th</sup>.

### 5. AOCB

- a) The Stornoway CC has been in contact to ask whether PCC would like to respond to the Stornoway windfarm public enquiry debate. The deadline is March 4<sup>th</sup> for anyone wishing to take this forward.
- b) There is a vacant Hebridean Housing Partnership house in Cnoc a Bhlair, Gravir and the group discussed contacting HHP to request that a family is located there. This would help support the declining school roll and bolster the case against closure.

**It was decided that: PCC will put the view forward to HHP that a family with primary age children should be given preference for the house in Gravir.**

**It was decided that: A larger discussion about the school is needed and will be raised as an agenda item at the next meeting. Any direct correspondence with CNES about the closure will need careful timing.**

- c) Gravir Playpark – The playpark requires work before it can be reopened. Morris has received details from CNES and this will be added to the agenda for the next meeting. Doro has some photos of its current condition and will circulate them to the group.
- d) A PCC representative is required to attend future meetings to discuss use of the Resource Centre in Kershader. Details will be circulated to the committee.
- e) David attended a recent meeting of the Rural Lewis Locality Planning group, who meet quarterly to discuss Health & Social Care issues. PCC are invited to attend, but if no one is able, Paicr Trust also attends and can feedback to the group.

6. **Date of next meeting:** Thursday 25th March 2021 at 7pm, via MS Teams.