

## **BERNERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

### **Minutes for Meeting held on**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

**7.30pm-8pm (via Zoom)**

#### **BCC Members Present (via Zoom)**

Joan Macaulay (Chair, JM), Cllr Norman Macdonald (NMD), Neil James Macaulay (NJM), Madeleine Macaulay (MM), Norman Macdonald (ND), Calum Richings (Treasurer, CR), Rhiannon Teather (Secretary, RT), Chrissie Macdonald (CM).

#### **Present (via Zoom)**

Calum Mackenzie (CMK, CnES), Gez and Natalie Bowling, Zack and Masa Taylor, Eric Stewart, Lorna Latimer, Simon and Emma Niederberger.

#### **Apologies**

Cllr Ranald Fraser, Cllr Angus Morrison, Robert Emmott.

#### **1. Previous Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18 January 2021 were approved by Calum Richings and seconded by Neil James Macaulay.

#### **2. Finance Update**

CR stated there had been no change since the previous meeting. JM reported we have been notified that the insurance for Community Councils is due via email. RT to forward the email to CR to follow up.

#### **3. Bridge Update**

CMK (CnES rep.) provided an update, stating that the works on the bridge are still going according to plan and that the timescales previously quoted are still valid (the bridge component delivery is expected to be from 16 April and the bridge should be in commission by early June). Engineers have been working on the design of the superstructure (bridge structure) since just before Christmas; the design is now completed, independently certified, and ready to go. The substructure (foundation) design is also completed and is currently with the independent checker and is expected to be certified in the coming weeks. Preliminary works are due to begin in early March and there are no indications of delays at present. More details on timescales will be available when the certification of the foundation works are complete and any delays to the currently reported timescales will be communicated to the community.

There were a few questions from attendees. It was queried when the contractor for the substructure will begin works. CMK responded that the substructure design plans are currently with the independent checker and once these are approved the works will be able to begin. Another queried the issue of service diversions. CMK provided assurances that residents will get a continuous service of utilities; these will be diverted for construction purposes only and may be temporary. There was also a question about whether there will be a

'breaking in' period for the new bridge with the new tonnage limits or if it can be used from day one. CMK responded that the bridge will be able to take the full tonnage (44 tonnes) from day one. CMK stated he would be happy to attend the next meeting and provide another update.

#### **4. AOCB**

**Petrol Pumps.** ND provided an update: shed is up, hydro drains are done, pipes are in. Fuel (petrol and diesel) will be delivered a week on Monday. We have received a £5,000 donation from Mrs Eileen Richings toward the fuel/filling of the pumps, for which the BCC and the Bernera community are very grateful. Before the pumps can be opened, power and BT connection need to be operational. ND to follow up with NMD about risk assessment paperwork.

**Ditches/Drainage.** JM posted current list of known areas requiring maintenance on FB, which yielded four additions to list from residents. RT to pass this list on to Mr MacRitchie at Tech Services.

**Funding.** We have been awarded £12,000 from HIE for Bosta; £10,000 from Crown Estate. These works at Bosta need to be completed as soon as possible (HIE have stated March 2021). Quotes are being collected for solar panels for Community Centre (£15,000 awarded from Crown Estate).

**The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 11 March 2021 at 7pm.**

**Please contact: [berneracomcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:berneracomcouncil@gmail.com) to make suggestions or raise any issues.**  
The minutes from previous meetings, dating back to 2012, can be found at: <https://e-sgire.org/communities/ward4/community-associations/>