

## Pairc Community Council Meeting

Thursday 27th May 2021, 7pm - Virtually via MS Teams

**Present:** Morris Black (Chair)  
Lyndsay Montgomery (Vice Chair)  
Karis Beattie (Secretary)  
Louise Nicolson (Treasurer)  
Anna Macleod  
Margaret Mackin

**Apologies:** Councillor Paul Finnegan  
Councillor John Mitchell  
Councillor Grant Fulton  
David Skene  
Doro Reider

**Attending:** Fiona Stokes  
Iain Nicolson

### 1. Welcome & Apologies

Morris welcomed everyone as chair and noted the apologies.

### 2. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes from the meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> April had been included with the AGM minutes, as the meetings had run concurrently.

**It was agreed that:** Fiona to separate each set of minutes, so that the 29<sup>th</sup> April business can be agreed as accurate at the next meeting. The AGM minutes will be presented at the AGM next year.

### 3. Gravir School letter CnES Meeting. GME potential numbers

The director of Education has responded to the joint letter sent from Pairc Parent Council and PCC. He has agreed to a meeting in person to discuss the current position over closure. Issues of particular concern are surrounding removal of the Pairc gaelic unit and the school catchment area.

**It was agreed that: Karis is to liaise with Education Services on a suitable date and place to meet and to update the Councillors and MSPs on the issue.**

### 4. Resource Centre Gym update

Lyndsay outlined the position with the community gym which is housed in the Resource Centre, Kershader. The Pairc Trust has recently purchased the building from the Comhairle and is looking for all regular users to contribute to the running costs. Expenses for the first year of ownership has been covered by a grant from the Crown Estates, but contributions will be sought from February 2022. The Comhairle had previously offered all users the facility rent/bills free and the group felt this should continue. PCC already has expenses from the Taigh Celidh running costs and need to prioritise the building they already have responsibility for.

**It was agreed that: Karis is to respond to the Pairc Trust and Morris will be the contact for further discussion from this point. A meeting will be arranged between PCC and PT in the next month.**

### 5. MCWFT 2020/21 next tranche process

The process for distributing funds is still to be arranged. Confirmation was given that the new tranche of funding has already granted £1000 to Garyvard grazing committee, as this application rolled over from the previous year's allocation.

**It was agreed that: The process to be put on the next month's agenda for decision.**

### 6. Pairc Trust Habost Housing Proposal - letter of support

An early plan of a proposed development of 6 new houses to rent, had been circulated. The group raised concerns over the location in Habost and felt this could detract families from using the school in Pairc. It would be preferable for houses to be sited further into the district. Discussion also took place on the role of the Hebridean Housing Partnership (HHP) in providing new Social Housing, and the difference between HHP housing and this scheme which would be owned and run by a community body – the Pairc Trust.

**It was agreed that: Karis will respond with these early thoughts before the full feasibility study results are available.**

#### **7. LACC Housing Meeting - engage with communities and Grazings Committees to identify possible sites**

The Lewis Association of Community Councils is asking its members to collate information on any potential land sites that would be suitable for HHP to build new Social Housing.

**It was agreed that: As Pairc Trust has gone through the same process to identify sites, this information should be shared with PCC to avoid duplication. The 2 groups should be working closely together on this and other issues.**

The issue of empty houses on the estate was discussed and the work of the Empty Homes officer who has been 'bringing the lights back on' in a few houses in Pairc.

#### **8. LACC meetings rota**

Karis asked for volunteers to attend the LACC meetings on a rota. Margaret and Louise volunteered.

#### **9. Defibrillator upkeep money**

Louise updated the group on a recent fault with the defib machine in Orinsay, which resulted in a new battery being installed under warranty. There are ongoing expenses in maintaining the machines, to replace batteries and pads. Money has been available for this from collections taken at the initial training on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018. A £1000 contribution of ward funds was also transferred in error to Pairc School instead of Pairc Community Council and Pairc Trust had been holding onto this while the new PCC committee was put in place.

**It was agreed that: The PCC bank account is in place now and the £1000 is to be transferred.**

The machines are located at Orinsay Hall, Ravenspoint, 2 Cromore, 19 Lemreway and Marvig pier.

**It was agreed that: Karis will post a reminder of their locations on the Facebook page.**

#### **10. AOCB**

Morris suggested that as Iain Nicolson was often at PCC meetings and making a useful contribution that he should be co-opted onto the committee.

#### **11. Date of next meeting - Thursday 24th June 7pm via MS Teams.**