

North Uist Community Council Meeting Comhairle Coimhearsnachd Uibhist a Tuath



MINUTES	Date: 10 th March 2020 7.00PM	Location: Carinish Hall
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Present:	Sarah MacDonald - Chair (SMD)	Lee MacDougall (LMD)
	Joan Ferguson – Vice Chair (JF)	Rachel MacLean (RML)
	John MacDonald – Treasurer (JMD)	Cllr Iain MacLeod (IML)
	Michelle Macdonald – Secretary (MMD)	
	Effie Rodgers (ER)	
	Flora MacDonald (FMD)	
	Donald Ewen Morrison (DEM)	
Public:	Kevin Morrison	
Apologies:	Ragnall Maclain	Marion MacCorqudale
	Cllr Roddy MacKay	Ken MacDonald
	Cllr Uisdean Robertson	Connor Lawless
	Donald Angie MacLennan	PC Gavin McDevitt

	Agenda Item	Action
1.	<p><i>Apologies:</i></p> <p>Apologies were given from Cllr Roddy MacKay, Cllr Uisdean Robertson, Ragnall Maclain, Connor Lawless, Ken MacDonald, Donald Angie MacLennan, Marion MacCorqudale and PC Gavin McDevitt.</p>	
2.	<p><i>Adoption of minutes:</i></p> <p>Proposed by JF and seconded by JMD</p>	
3.	<p><i>Statement of account:</i></p> <p>JMD gave statement of Accounts –</p> <p>Total income as at 31st March 2020 = £23,535.47 Total Expenditure as at 31st March 2020 = £6,140.00</p> <p>Balance as at 31st March 2020 = £17,395.47</p>	

	<p>Project balances held in reserve: Planters = £1113.41 Christmas Lights = £587.02 Ranger Forum = £30.00 Play Park funding = £10,900.00</p> <p>Total in reserve = £11,630.43</p> <p>Total uncommitted balance = £5,765.04</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p><i>Matters arising from last meeting:</i></p> <p><i>Kilmuir Graveyard:</i> JF showed pictures of the falling down gravestones. Neil MacPherson sent quote for getting the wall fixed - £130 to £150 per metre with stone being on site. Alasdair MacEachen to be invited to next meeting to discuss the issues in the graveyard. It was reported that the 'no birdwatching' sign had been removed from the graveyard due to complaints that it went against the public's 'right to roam'. JMD to discuss possibility of information board at Kilmuir with Comunn Eachdraidh Uibhist a Tuath, could be a joint project. All agreed it would be a good idea to make a list of places in North Uist that could make use of an information board and order and place them all at the same time. JF to look into estimate cost of an information board. Valley Stone – In Oban at the Catholic Church. JMD to discuss with Comunn Eachdraidh to see if they would hold the stone or know where we could keep it if the community council wrote a letter supporting its return to the island.</p> <p><i>Rabbits:</i></p> <p>JF contact Uisdean Robertson regarding the rabbit issue in the graveyard and was told that the rabbits had been gassed at the beginning of the year.</p> <p><i>North Uist Flag:</i></p> <p>Nothing to report.</p> <p><i>Flooding:</i></p> <p>Response received from Tech services CnES;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Committee Road – confident this can be mostly alleviated by roadside ditching which has been instructed and hopefully will be done in the near future. 	<p>JF to invite Alasdair MacEachen to next meeting.</p> <p>JMD to discuss information boards and Valley Stone with Comunn Eachdraidh</p>

2. Carinish (Temple View) – This is a problem with the existing weir kerb getting blocked with vegetation. Needs cleaned regularly.
3. Carinish Circular – This is low lying and needs field drains to be cleared regularly for any work by the Roads Authority to be effective, limited as it is to roadside ditching and culvert clearing. It should also be noted that an alternative road built by CnES in the 1980s under the Township Road Scheme provides an alternative access to all properties served by this road.
4. Carabhat- There is a gully here but isn't effective. This will be investigated.
5. Uist Asco – Will need to inspect this in heavy rain, but hopeful problem will be dealt with by creating/clearing offlets.
6. Blashaval Hill Dip – This has a history of flooding, however culvert/drain to shore was cleared several years ago, which seemed to fix the problem. Will inspect to see if similar work is needed again.
7. Malaglate (Old Church) – This seems to have been eliminated following work to clear the culvert across the house access as well as some roadside ditching work.
8. Carinish/Baleshare Dip – The road was raised here a good few years ago which seemed to help for a while. Coincidentally, I recently contacted the croft tenant to discuss possible ways of dealing with this. We agreed to have a meeting on site, but weather and other commitments haven't allowed his to happen yet.
9. Causeway Horisary – I believe road flooding here is a relatively recent phenomena, occurring after exceptionally heavy rainfall. This floods after extremely heavy rainfall and as a further complication is affected by tidal conditions. It is difficult to see how this could be helped by ad hoc maintenance, which would be limited to ensuring the culverts are clear etc. Possible solutions might be to raise/realign the road but the scale of such work would be outside the scope of the revenue maintenance budget. It would probably require a prior assessment survey of the impact on the immediate area prior to any work on the culverts/road. It should be noted that when this flooded in August 2017, the hourly rainfall recorded in South Uist at midnight that night was 29mm/hour, which holds the record for the highest recorded hourly rainfall total in the Western Isles.
10. Ard Heisker – 'Can't see road after heavy rain'. Not sure what this refers to – need more info."

Discussed Ard Heisker – problem is over the small causeway. During last storm, the water covered the road and there are 2 reflective poles on the side of the road which are to visible after heavy rain. Possibility of more reflective poles being put there to make it more clear where edge of road is?

MMD to get in touch with tech services regarding Ard Heisker and also about flooding at Ahmore

	<p><i>Lochmaddy Shop/ Redburn parking area:</i></p> <p>Council definitely do not own the road there, North Uist estate also don't know who it belongs to. FMD to ask Fergus Granville about ownership.</p> <p><i>Training:</i></p> <p>No further update.</p> <p><i>Funding:</i></p> <p>Iain MacLeod will have statement of councillors funding for next meeting.</p>	<p>FMD to ask Fergus Granville about ownership</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><i>Police report:</i></p> <p>PC Gavin McDevitt sent his apologies, called out last minute therefore no police report given.</p>	

<p>6.</p>	<p><i>Councillors report:</i></p> <p>IML reported that at the moment, croft houses are not allowed be used as assets for people going into care – this issue is still being resolved. In depth report to come.</p> <p>Also reported that price for care homes has been increased by 5%.</p> <p>Question about the situation with the dentists was raised and IM reported that the dentists will be put in a hub at the Uist and Barra Hospital but that there is currently no cabinet funding.</p> <p>Crown Funding – Applications to be in by 30th of March and have to have started by August. There is £30,000 for 12 area forums.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p><i>North Uist Sports Hub:</i></p> <p>Kevin Morrison, Community Sports Hub Officer, was invited to the meeting to talk about the possibility of a North Uist Sports Hub and to give more information about what this would involve.</p> <p>Mr Morrison explained that a community sports hub is brought together by different groups/organisations to develop the sports that are offered in a community. The North Uist sports hub can include whatever the people in North Uist want.</p> <p>There has been 3 Hubs set up so far in Liniclate, Barra and South Uist and Eriskay. All 3 have received positive feedback, with people saying that they create more opportunities and provides extra hours for sport.</p> <p>There has been an inaugural meeting in Claddach Kirkibost and Mr Morrison is hoping to hold another one soon, he asked that anyone who is interested, has questions or would like to find out more information, comes along to the next meeting when a date is set.</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p>AOCB:</p> <p><u>Beinn Lee Hill Race</u> Asking for funding from the Community Council for this years race. It was agreed that £100 would be given from CC. JMD was given a form to have completed and returned.</p> <p><u>Re-surfacing at War Memorial</u></p> <p>Possibility to apply to crown estate funding to pay for re-surfacing at the War Memorial. IML to send details for War Memorial Funding.</p> <p><u>Spanish Bridge</u></p> <p>Question was raised regarding the situation with Spanish Bridge – it was reported that the engineers report is still to be completed but that the funding is still there and is being kept for the works to be carried out.</p>	<p>IML to send details for War Memorial Funding.</p>

	<p><u>Tagsa Bus</u></p> <p>It was asked if the Tagsa Bus is still running – It is still running although some of its services have been cut.</p> <p><u>Uist Pier Development</u></p> <p>JMD reported that Uig and Tarbert Piers will be closed at the same time so the Lochmaddy ferry will be going to Ullapool only.</p> <p><u>Lucky to be here – Defibrillators</u></p> <p>IML reported that there has been a defibrillator installed at the E-sgoil in Carinish and at the Council Offices. A lot of people are being trained up to use the defibrillators. The money raised from this year’s Tractor Rally is also going towards defibrillators.</p> <p><u>HIAL</u></p> <p>Uist Association of Community Councils are sending a joint letter from Lochboisdale and Benbecula Community Councils in opposition to the HIAL plans to centralise air traffic control. All present were in agreement to put North Uist Community Council’s name on the letter also.</p> <p><u>UCVO</u></p> <p>Letter received asking if we would like to re-join, this would cost £20. All agreed to renew membership.</p>	<p>SMD to speak to MOWI about possibility of installing a defibrillator at cheese bay site.</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p><i>Correspondence:</i></p> <p>Ward funding enquiry received from Sgoil Lionacleit for PGL trip to France. Agreed to give £100.</p> <p>Ward funding enquiry received from Sgoil Uibhist a Tuath for their P7 Trip. It was agreed that we would pass on councillors details and they would give money from their ward funding as the Community Council were giving to Sgoil Lionacleit.</p>	
	<p align="center">Date of Next Meeting:</p> <p align="center">Monday 20th April in Lochmaddy Hall at 7.00PM</p>	

	Action items	Person responsible
1.	Alastair MacEachen to be invited to meeting in Lochmaddy Hall	Joan Ferguson
2.	Discuss possibility of information boards and the Vallay Stone with Comunn Eachdraidh Uibhist a Tuath	John MacDonald
3.	Find out estimate cost of an information board	Joan Ferguson
4.	Give more info about flooding at Ard Heisker to Tech Services and ask about flooding at Ahmore	Michelle MacDonald
5.	Ask Fergus Granville about ownership of parking area at Redburn/Lochmaddy Shop	Flora MacDonald
6.	Pass on details for War Memorial Funding	Iain MacLeod