

North Uist Community Council Meeting Comhairle Coimhearsnachd Uibhist a Tuath



MINUTES	Date: 27 TH October 2020 7PM	Location: via Microsoft Teams
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Present:	Sarah MacDonald - Chair (SMD)	Cllr Iain MacLeod (IML)
	Joan Ferguson – Vice Chair (JF)	Cllr Uisdean Robertson (UR)
	John MacDonald – Treasurer (JMD)	Raghnall Maclain (RMI)
	Michelle Macdonald – Secretary (MMD)	Conor Lawless (CL) (First 30 mins)
	Effie Rodgers (ER)	
	Flora MacDonald (FMD)	
	Donald Angie MacLennan (DAML)	
Public:	None	
Apologies:	Ken MacDonald	
	Cllr Roddy MacKay	
	Rachel MacLean	
	Donald Ewen Morrison	

	Agenda Item	Action
1.	<i>Apologies:</i> SMD gave apologies.	
2.	<i>Adoption of minutes:</i> Minutes proposed by JMD, seconded by JF	
3.	<i>Statement of accounts:</i> Emailed out to members prior to meeting. No comments made.	
4.	<p><i>Councillors report:</i></p> <p>IML started the councillors report with an update on the spaceport, it is hoped that the new planning application for the spaceport will be submitted this year.</p> <p>Update on the new ferry, it is hoped to have the new ferry in action by the back end of 2022.</p> <p>Lochmaddy pier update – the council have taken the decision to terminate the contract with the current contractors. They are currently looking at options and if local contractors would be able to take on all or part of the works.</p> <p>Community conservation on budget cuts – Uist community conversions were delayed due to COVID outbreak in Uist, hoping to reschedule soon.</p>	

	<p>Iain then passed on to Uisdean to continue the councillors report. Uig pier – Back with transport Scotland to try to reduce the price of works. UR also reported that the local transport strategy was out for consultation at the moment and comes to an end this week. Remote air traffic control towers – Councillors are still fighting against this and it is currently in the hands of the legal team.</p> <p>Questions:</p> <p>JF asked how we could get young, local people prioritised for the new HHP houses that are currently being built. IML answered saying he doesn't know if this can be done but that Roddy MacKay would be best to ask as he is on the HHP Board.</p>	<p>MMD to email RMK regarding HHP houses.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><i>Christmas decorations:</i> JF proposed that we put up Christmas trees and lights throughout North Uist to brighten up the place after a tough year. Suggested asking the fish farms to see if the trees/decorations could be plugged into their power. FMD asked how much this would cost and if the money could be used for something else I.E Tagasa. JF answered saying that currently we are unsure how much this would cost but that she had spoken to Western Isles Lottery and they may be able to help with money towards this. RMI and SMD to ask if Scottish Salmon and MOWI would supply electricity to the trees/decorations near the sites. IML responded to FMD's comment about giving the money to TAGSA instead, he reported that TAGSA already get the largest amount of community transport funding in the Western Isles. JMD reported that under the protective funding for Christmas lights, the Community Council holds £587.02 SMD asked if anyone objected to the proposal of buying Christmas decorations for North Uist, no one present at the meeting objected.</p>	<p>RMI and SMD to ask if Scottish Salmon and MOWI would supply electricity to the trees/decorations near the sites</p>

6.	<p><i>Bus timetables:</i></p> <p>JMD raised the issue that it is very hard to find the bus timetables as they are not displayed in bus shelters anymore and are not easy to find/read online.</p> <p>JF reported that the bus timetable has changed which makes it very difficult for people shopping at Sollas Co-op and use the bus service as they have an hours wait but cannot wait inside the shop due to COVID, therefore they are waiting in the bus shelter for an hour after shopping.</p> <p>UR responded saying that they are currently looking TAGSA picking up anyone shopping at the Co-op after there shopping and therefore will not have to wait an hour. UR also responded to the issue JMD raised by saying that the council is not responsible for putting the bus timetables in the bus shelters. He said that Hitrans are looking at putting them up in bus shelters and available on an app for mobile phones. This is all currently on the agenda.</p> <p>JF asked if the school buses are used for public transport, as a concerned parent reported that walkers came onto the bus and removed their mask.</p> <p>UR responded saying that he wasn't aware of the school buses bing used for public transport anymore than usual but that he would check.</p>	
7.	<p><i>Flooding in Ahmore:</i></p> <p>This issue was raised by KMD but he couldn't make the meeting.</p> <p>MMD to ask for pictures of flooding for next meeting.</p> <p>RMI reported that there is bad flooding on the Sollas side of Blasival hill which is dangerous on dark nights in wintery weather.</p> <p>UR responded saying that it is the councils responsibility to clean out the ditches and that he will get in touch with Tech Services to check around Amhore and Blashival.</p> <p>FMD reported that newton road end (coming in to Lochmaddy) is also bad for flooding as well as Ahmore.</p>	<p>MMD to ask for pictures of flooding for next meeting</p> <p>UR to contact tech services re flooding.</p>
8.	<p><i>Elderly shopping/TAGSA discontinuing:</i></p> <p>JF contacted TAGSA regarding the discontinuing of delivery service. TAGSA said it was MacLennans Supermarket were the ones who stopped the shopping service and wouldn't accept telephone orders. JF spoke to Sollas co-op who said they could start doing shopping orders for the elderly that TAGSA could pick up and delivery. JF also reported that 'resilient Uist' are an organisation that deliver shopping to elderly people.</p>	

	<p>ER expressed her concerns over the discontinuing of the TAGSA service which takes elderly people to the shop. JF responded saying that this service stopped due to COVID restrictions, unsure if they are planning on starting this back up when restrictions ease. FMD reported that TAGSA have been taken one person at a time to Sollas co-op.</p> <p>JF suggested that the community council write to TAGSA to find out exactly what services they are offering and what their plans are as it is not clear at the moment.</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p>AOCB:</p> <p>MMD reported that members of the public have asked if it is possible for them to join the meetings virtually since it seems that meetings will be this way for a while. All agreed that we would open the meetings to the public and that people would need to email the CC asking for the meeting link as meetings are restricted to the amount of people that can join.</p> <p>JF asked if we could allocate money to Christmas dinners if any groups come to us for money, if Christmas dinners can go ahead with COVID restrictions. SMD responded saying that we will wait until we know what events are allowed to take place.</p> <p>JF also asked if these groups could also go to the councilors for money if they find an alternative to Christmas dinners (I.E meals on wheels), UR and IML agreed to this.</p> <p>MMD reported that we have received a ward funding request from Trianaid for £300 towards the residents Santa presents. No one objected present objected to this. MMD to let Trianaid know they can also get funding from the councilors.</p>	<p>MMD to let Trianaid know they can also get funding from the councilors.</p>
	<p>Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 17th November 7PM via Teams</p>	

	Action items	Person responsible
1.	Email RMK regarding HHP houses	MMD
2.	Contact MOWI ad Scottish Salmon regarding electricity for Christmas decorations	RMI and SMD
3.	Find out about school buses being used by public	UR
4.	Write letting to TAGSA regarding their services and plans	SMD/MMD
5.	Contact Trianaid regarding funding from Clrs.MMD	
6.		