

Pairc Community Council Meeting

Thursday 28th April 2022 7.30pm In person at Tigh Ceilidh, Gravir.

Present: Karis Beattie (Secretary)
Morris (Chair) (Chairing the meeting)
Louise Nicolson (Treasurer)
David Skene
Iain Nicolson

Apologies: Doro, Lyndsay, Mags, Anna, Angus

1. Confirm minutes of previous meeting.

Amended to show Iain Nicolson was present. Louise Proposed and Iain Seconded.

2. Matters Arising

a. Resource Centre Rent - PT and MCWFT emailed, MCWFT reply

Email had been circulated with a response from the Pairc Trust to our queries.

Concerns were raised over the lack of acknowledgement of the question regarding the options available to us.

However, this was noted as a positive development that the Pairc Trust are willing to complete funding applications on our behalf – this could help with the CC capacity issues and help us to push forward in our work.

Members with mixed views and particular concern over use of 'commercial' rent for a Community Council responsible for a gym facility for basic public health and wellbeing which cannot have reliable income sources to meet this obligation on an ongoing basis once established as a norm.

Concerns also raised over the use of fund for community benefit leading to such onerous paperwork and potentially unsustainable arrangements for community organisations.

Other members advised that this is a suitable solution which allows the gym to continue regardless of the mechanism used and should be welcomed.

Agreed to wait for application to Health Board answer before making final decision on the proposal from Pairc Trust.

b. Habost Postbox

Moved to a more suitable location.

c. Playpark fencing – Grass cutting

Agreed to get initial quote then approach Community Asset Fund through Crown Estates to look for funding.

d. Housing Meeting - Lemreway site to undergo full feasibility

Karis gave update on the previous meeting and important progress.

3. Upcoming Local Election

Morris had circulated a question list to prospective councillors and received first response from Angus Morrison.

4. Tigh Ceilidh survey results and next steps

Agreed to draw up short report on the responses and circulate before another meeting to inform next steps.

Morris identified an idea to look at a survey to identify the potential for land for housing to encourage re-population, agreed to look at another mailing to the district. Agreed that it is worthwhile following up on ways to identify parcels for future development plans – can tie in with potential Local Place Plan

5. MCWFT Small Grant Fund - request 2022/23 tranche and terms

Agreed to ask for any new conditions.

6. Lewis Association Community Councils meeting February - new treasurer required

Nobody able to commit to this from PCC at the moment.

7. EE Emergency Services Mast Lemreway and Proposed Lemreway/ Orinsay 4G Mast

"The mast in Lemreway is an EE emergency services mast, provided through the Scottish Government Infill programme. The blackspots in Orinsay could be sorted by means of individual antennas or a relay system providing a better signal in these parts of the village.

The proposed mast above Orinsay/Lemreway is part of the UK Government Shared Rural Network roll out of 4G services to rural communities currently recognised as 'not' spots. It should provide a mobile signal into Orinsay and Lemreway initially from O2 and Vodafone.

The mast in Calbost was provided by EE as part of their general service obligations to provide mobile services in rural communities. It is also part of the emergency services provision. It's not part of the same Scottish Government programme that provided the mast in Lemreway.

The need for generator backup in the event of a power outage is recognised and should be provided." Donnie Morrison.

8. CnES Playpark Grant

This was a one off grant for playpark equipment which the previous CC did not access. It can't be requested or claimed, as was thought, but must be applied for. An application will need to be completed for a project that we would be seeking funding for.

9. AOCB

Discussed the potential to move to bi-monthly meetings. Potential to hold strategic or specific meetings.

10. Date of next meeting - Thursday 30th June 7.30pm