

South Harris Community Council Minutes 13/12/22 at Leverburgh Free Church Hall at 7.30pm

Present – Donnie MacDonald – Chair; Stephen MacKinnon – Secretary; Caroline Chaffer; Jenny MacAulay, Cllr Fulton; Lucy Duff,

1. Apologies – Effie MacLeod – Vice Chair; Marion Morrison – Treasurer; John R MacLean; Cllr Finnegan
2. Minutes of previous meeting (25/10/22) – Proposed by Jenny and seconded by Donnie.
3. Matters Arising –
 - Community Garden – Stephen was in touch with Gordon Newman. Painting of wooden fence will wait now until Spring. Gordon will buy wood treatment and will be reimbursed by SHCC by cheque.
 - Grass Cutting – Still looking for contractor for Spring. There are grants available. Cllr Fulton has some ward funding available as well.
4. New Members – Lucy Duff was proposed as a full member by Jenny MacAulay and seconded by Stephen MacKinnon. Unanimously approved at meeting. **Stephen to contact Belle-Anne at CNES.**
5. Funding Grants Update –
 - There are several grants available such as Cal Mac, Challenge Fund, Crown Estates, MOWI small funds, Bakkafröst Scotland (formerly Scottish Salmon).
 - Cllr Fulton gave some more information on Crown Estates. There will be particular focus on coastal community benefit, Harris will get around £100k, Council will meet January to discuss so fund may open around Easter time, Harris Forum will have same role in scoring and making recommendations to CNES as other years.
 - CLLD Leader Replacement Fund 23-24 will begin in March.
 - Challenge Fund – deadline of end of January. Agreed to apply for Rodel toilets funding – **Stephen to work with Marion on this.** Maximum award is £1,000 with 50% to be match funded.
 - **Stephen to post details of various funds on new Facebook page 'South Harris Residents'.** Message will be to any groups that SHCC are happy to advise and assist with applications where time and capacity will allow.
6. Social Housing Update –
 - Alastair Allan had a positive meeting with John MacIver from HHP and then separately with landowner Mark Miller Mundy.

- Donnie spoke to John MacIver in advance of meeting. Planning is going forward before the end of January 2023 (normally an 8-week turnaround).
- Donnie suggested that John MacIver, TIG and CNES planning, as well as our Councillors hold a meeting within the community to show the plans as well as what the mix of houses will be. John MacIver confirmed he would be happy to do this. **Donnie to follow up in 2nd or 3rd week of January.**
- There is talk that plans will now be for 6 houses rather than 12 but this is not confirmed. Agreed that while 6 will be welcome, pressure must be kept on for more houses.
- Cllr Fulton that HHP have had discussions with Scottish Government about the use of Pre-Fabs as opposed to traditional British housing developments to increase house building and lower costs.

7. Nursery Provision –

- 5 days a week provision will return to Leverburgh from January onwards.
- Parent Council still fighting for access for 2-and-a-half-year-olds to nursery provision as was the case in the past.

8. Paisley Sisters –

- South Harris Historical Society need to make decision on Charitable status. John will keep SHCC informed in the New Year.

9. Winter Resilience –

- Donnie met with Harris wide resilience group in Tarbert. Through SHCC, South Harris Comforts fund will provide £500 to be ringfenced for assisting people in difficulty this Winter. **Donnie will contact Kathryn Campbell who is the Food Bank rep for South Harris.** Donnie thinks it will work with Kathryn applying to SHCC on behalf of the person in need (no names will be given to ensure confidentiality).
- Clachan are happy to store food parcels until they are distributed anonymously. Top up cards for electric meters can also be done anonymously.
- Stephen has received documents from former Chair Alan Ross including a Winter Resilience Plan. This requires to be updated – **Stephen to contact those included in it to find out if they wish to stay in plan. Donnie to contact Isobel in Leverburgh Home to see if the Home is still happy to be in plan.**
- Gritting was discussed. Cllr Fulton said that he voted in favour of increasing the winter maintenance budget last year but the vote was lost.

10. Rodel Toilets –

- Agreed to pay Mairead from donations brought in.
- £100 from HVS ringfenced for Rodel toilets. They require a letter from SHCC giving bank details and name of organisation. **Stephen and Marion to arrange.**

- Donnie met with Historic Environment Scotland at St Clements. They are amenable to grant aiding the toilets but couldn't give any further details at the time.

11. A.O.C.B –

- Leverhulme School Gym – Stephen raised issue of no access being granted to Badminton club due to staffing issues. **Cllr Fulton to investigate.**

Date of Next Meeting – Wait until we know more about proposed Planning Consultation Meeting