

BERNERA COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Approved Minutes for Meeting held on
Thursday 10th February 2022, 6.30-7.45pm
Berner Community Centre

Present

Madeleine Macaulay (MM), Neil James Macaulay (NJM), Chrissie Macdonald (CM), Calum Richings (CR), Rhiannon Teather (RT), Jacqueline Macaulay.

Apologies

Norman Macdonald (ND), Cllr Norman Macdonald (NMD), Cllr Ranald Fraser, Cllr Angus Morrison, Alice Murray.

1. Welcome

2. Previous Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting held on Thursday 13th January were approved by Chrissie Macdonald and seconded by Calum Richings.

3. Matters Arising

Petrol Pumps / Crown Estate Funding: ND not present to provide an update. CM proposed buying a ready-made shelter for the Pumps, to follow up with a price and speak to John for dimensions/sketch. It was noted the Pumps are BCA jurisdiction and they will need to be consulted before any works begin.

4. Finance Update

CR provided an update. The current balance is approximately 6,200. No significant changes to report since from last meeting. RT was paid. iPad still to be ordered and priced. It was proposed that this should be ordered from Argos; CM/MM/RT to co-ordinate. RT to invoice for paper and ink for printer.

5. ‘Chat, Cheese and Wine’ Evening

CM provided an update. BCA will be setting up the event from 5.30pm; helpers welcome. CM to shop for refreshments in due course. The BCC table was discussed. It was agreed RT would produce some leaflets on the Bridge and new picnic area; ideas for a possible summer community bridge opening; call for ideas for Crown Estate Fund.

6. Changing Day/Time of BCC Meeting

It was agreed this would be moved to the 3rd Thursday of the month at 7.30pm. RT to ask Cllr Ranald Fraser if he can make this time slot. If this does not suit, we will revisit our options.

7. Challenge Fund / Bernera Bridge

We received notification that Challenge Fund payment should arrive shortly, after application for Memorial Bench and Garden for Joan Macaulay was approved. CR and NJM to coordinate ordering and payment for the bench. Joan’s family to design the garden.

8. Funding Updates

Bosta Toilets. C Macaulay still to install septic tank. CM proposed painting the block in time for the summer. There was a discussion about the need for better communication on this project on a cross-committee basis.

Crown Estate. NMD advised prior to the meeting that the funding details will be released soon and suggested holding a meeting focusing on Bernera's applications.

9. AOCB

- Resident Correspondence. BT Landlines becoming obsolete, poses issue for emergency FAIRE alarms and what to do in event of power cut. Members discussed this and the fact that BT should already have a system in place to make sure alarms continue to work. There will likely be a back-up satellite system but more information/clarification needed, especially from CnES. To take forward at next meeting.
- Zurich Policy. This has been passed to Belle Anne. It was noted that the contact email address is out of date and needs to be updated.
- John Porteous requested views on a possible article about the obstacles facing the Bernera buyout. All expressed support for article and greater publicity.
- Alex John Murray (Chair, LACC) asked for BCC views on Wind Farms and community investment in renewable energy. All expressed support for having a LACC meeting focused on this and emphasised the importance of all communities receiving benefits from any investment in renewables on the island (on and offshore). It was noted that the Bernera community is disadvantaged by not having our own source of income and that we are open to exploring our options in this regard.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 17th March 2022.

Please contact: berneracomcouncil@gmail.com to make suggestions or raise any issues.

The minutes from previous meetings, dating back to 2012, can be found at: <https://e-sgire.org/communities/ward4/community-associations/>