

**Minute of Meeting: Point Community Council**

**In: Café Roo, Old Knock Schoolhouse, Isle of Lewis.**

**On: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

**At: 7.30 pm**

**PRESENT**

Matt Bruce (Chair)  
Edmund McGregor (Treasurer) at 8.00 pm  
Cllr Zena Stewart  
Cllr Norman MacLeod  
Cllr Alasdair MacLeod

Norman MacLeod  
Alec John Murray at 8.00 pm  
Angus Lamont  
Lewis Shand (Minute Secretary)  
Norman Macdonald

**APOLOGIES**

Donald MacRitchie (Vice-Chair)  
Alanna Goddard (Police Scotland)

Agnes Munro  
Chris Mackenzie

**ATTENDING**

D J Macleod (Police Scotland)

Ryan Doherty (Police Scotland)

**Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February were approved, with the following amendments.

In the section "Treasurers Report": Correct spelling to show "Eilean na Mairbh"

In the section "Braighe cemetery headstones": Minute to show that the PCC would allocate £1000 into a fund for repair works.

Proposed by Alisdair; Seconded by Zena

**Police Scotland issues**

Speeding: The Point area was the subject of ongoing speed checks, as was the whole of the island.

Over the past period 3 drivers had been caught, resulting in 2 reports and 1 fixed penalty fine.

On the subject of reports to the police, Alanna advised that the 101 system should be used for "non urgent" contact with Police Scotland. The 999 number should be used for any situation that was deemed an emergency, and where urgent assistance was required.

Regarding the theft of items from a Calmax trailer at Macsween Drive on 4<sup>th</sup> March, and subsequent investigations, the case has been closed.

The incident of vandalism at Bayble Pier has been investigated. A person had been interviewed but no charges brought. No further progress.

The number of reports to the police was 3, resulting in one case detected and ongoing, and the other 2 undetected.

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**Matters arising from the minutes**

**Bus shelters**

Angus had been in contact with CNES and has advised all the PCC members of planned actions that would be carried out in the near future by email.

The shelters will be painted this year.

The Lower Bayble shelter will require repairs following damage. The PCC agreed the purchase of necessary materials for this.

Angus will coordinate the work.

## **Roads**

The situation regarding the state of roads within Point continued to give concern. Some patching work had been done, and further actions are expected in the coming 2 weeks.

## **CNES finances.**

There was a heated discussion on the critical financial situation facing CNES, on numerous fronts, and it was agreed the PCC should draft a strongly worded letter to John Swinney, the Deputy First Minister expressing our concern about the effects that the funding arrangements between Holyrood and CNES are having on our island, and the infrastructure of local services within Point

The letter for John Swinney will be prepared by Matt, now that the Scottish elections have been completed.

## **Co-option of additional PCC members**

The council were delighted that Norman Macdonald, Aird, had expressed an interest in joining the PCC, and he was warmly welcomed into the team.

Other members were still being sought to augment our numbers.

## **Treasurers report**

Eddie had circulated the current financial report to all members.

As in previous years, the PCC had supported the Christmas lunches organised within Point. Aignish, Swordale and Knock (ASK) had still to submit a letter requesting PCC financial support. Agnes is dealing with this matter

We had received an invoice relating to Eilean Na Maraibh archeological survey.

The related report was not to hand.

Query to be made to Tom Clark or Carol Knott about the report, and no payment to be made meantime.

**Update:** Some members have received the report, but the terminology was complex. A copy was to be emailed to all PCC members, and the account remains unpaid.

## **Councillors report**

The situation with roads was ongoing and some “ditching” have been completed although the areas undertaken were patchy.

In general, works were being carried out, but restricted in scope with the current lack of resources and the poor weather also playing their part.

## **Planning applications**

Eddie and Chris not present. Nothing to report.

## **Training issues**

Nothing to report

## **Utilities**

### **Broadband service.**

Engineering work continues within Point, and an increasing number of locations were being connected to the high speed fibre network.

More folk are being connected now, but requests for the high speed network will need to be made to their service provider. The current broadband service will not be automatically upgraded.

## **SSE community resilience plan**

SSE had issued a consultation plan to cope with long term electricity power service outages.

In essence, they wanted to know what locations within Point could be used as main focal points for emergency hubs should we lose power for a sustained period of time. These locations would then be part of an emergency response plan and resources put in place for standby generators in order to help keep the populous within the area safe ,warm and fed should the need arise.

People with medical conditions that require constant power would also require to register as priority customers.

On discussion, and this was only an initial response, the following locations were highlighted.

Ionad Stoodie (Keyholder Iain Macsween)

Buth an Rudba (Keyholder Norman Macleod)

Tumpainhead Community Centre (Keyholder Grace Smith)

Item continued for further discussion and response.

## **Correspondence**

Nothing to report

## **A.O.C.B**

### **Braighe cemetery headstones.**

There had been an article in the last copy of the “Rudhach”

*1 person had contacted the committee.*

It was noted that a recent “minor” repair had cost £230, so the scale of works could be significant.

It was hoped that should works be put in hand, that a contractor would undertake to work as a bulk repair, with possible cost savings.

Alisdair Macleod will report on possible action as he is on the Braighe cemetery committee. The item will be continued awaiting developments.

### **Challenge fund applications.**

The fund is open for applications now, and the closure date is August.

There was a discussion on possible projects, including “match funding” from PCC.

Matt will meet with Alisdair Macleod regarding the necessary forms and application requirements. Tom Clark has experience of this process.

Action ongoing.

### **PCC Facebook page.**

Chris has set up a PCC Facebook page.

All PCC members will have access.

It is hoped that the page would be used for minutes, and photos/ contact details of PCC members.

**Bayble Pier rubbish bins.**

There is considerable rubbish in this area, and with wind blow and the like it spreads rapidly.

Zena has been in contact with the relevant team in CNES, and they will investigate a possible change to collection timings. Item continued for next meeting.

**Publicity.**

Matt will provide a summary of current PCC actions to the Rudhach for the next issue.

**Next Meetings**

- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2016 **(Note change of date)**
- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2016

These meetings will take place in Café Roo, Buth an Rubha at Knock at 7.30 pm

**Meeting closed at 8.30pm**

**Lewis Shand**