

CASTLEBAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in Castlebay School on Thursday 24th November 2016 at 19:30

PRESENT:	Micheal Galbraith	Chair	Iain G MacNeil	Treasurer
	Marion MacNeil	Committee	Angus MacNeil	Committee
	Marie MacLeod	Clerk	Donald Manford	Councillor
	Sarah MacLean	Public	Karen	Public
	Seonaidh	Public		

APOLOGIES:	Christina MacNeill	Vice-Chair	Eoin MacNeil	Committee
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Micheal Galbraith welcomed those in attendance.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES (Thursday 29th September 2016)

Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by Angus MacNeil and seconded by Iain G MacNeil

Transport

- **Ferries**

Winter timetable has already been proposed and next years' timetable is to remain the same as this years.

Both community and businesses alike are happy with times, however not having a Tuesday sailing is an issue, particularly with businesses being unable to access their market. The general consensus is that a Saturday sailing is not essential and that it would be far more beneficial to islanders to have either a Tuesday or Thursday sailing. It was agreed that we need to make a case for a Tuesday service.

The existing ferry plan does say that we will have a minimum of five direct sailings in the winter, it was agreed that we should first request six direct sailings and if that is denied, then ask to sacrifice the Saturday sailing in favour of a Tuesday. It was decided not to wait until next winter, but to try and bring it forward as soon as reasonably possible.

It was noted that both Lochboisdale and Barra boats are tied up on a Tuesday and Thursday, if we could get together with the Lochboisdale Community Council we could propose that Barra have a Tuesday sailing and Lochboisdale have a Thursday sailing, thus allowing both Uist and Barra options for leaving the islands Monday through Friday.

It was also proposed to approach CalMac with the view to consider not charging some commercial vehicles the commercial price, for e.g. a small charity bus was forced to pay £400 recently which is unfair when camper vans of a similar size are eligible for RTE.

Action: Cllr D M to Approach CalMac with the view to an extra sailing on a Tuesday

- **Planes**

Donald Manford has asked Transport Scotland for more details on points raised on funding regarding Community ownership of the *interisland aerservice* PSO.

It was noted that if the plane has an engine problem there is a difficulty towing it off the beach but if a concrete area / ramp off of the beach was installed then that would assist with this issue.

MG informed the group that he is working on an overspill grassed carpark area next to the airport, due to the current space being completely full most year round.

- **Bus**

It was noted that Malcolm Burr will be in Barra in January & available to discuss items of concern by CC's.

Members of the community would like to see them re-instate the old timetable as the current one is wholly unsuitable.

It was suggested that the Council could facilitate a meeting for the public to attend and put forward concerns/proposals, and invite people from transport to a meeting with Malcolm Burr in January.

Action: Cllr D M to Arrange meeting with Malcolm Burr and representative from Transport in January

- **Roads**

Received an e-mail from Donald Johnston in June, CnES regarding Road repairs

Also received an update from DJ MacDonald (Uist Cnes) - No tarring plants in Uist currently operational, we need to wait for the plant to get up and running again in Stornoway before roads can be fixed. Middle of December before plant up and running.

Locality Plan

- **Community Psychiatric Nurse**

CPN only allocated 16 hours, trying to get someone for those hours is nigh on impossible. Travel hours included in 16 hours.

- **Hospital**

Must have a two-way road for access to hospital, outline of building has provisionally been agreed, outline business plan that had to be taken to the Government has been rejected for two reasons: services between health board and council do not show sufficient integration and land had to be secured before a full business plan is accepted – this is three years ago.

Need better integration, from the Council as it comes across that they don't appear to want it to go ahead at the moment.

Community Empowerment

Alasdair Allan accepted Donald Manford's invitation to come to Barra in December to meet with various groups & CC's, giving feedback sessions on what the issues involve, what is community empowerment going to mean, what services and budgets will be transferred, Community assets - what rules and regulations are the council and health board using to not facilitate. Heads of the organisations need to be brought here so that we can clearly map out the road ahead.

Malcolm Burr was also approached and agreed to meet up in January 2017.

If community empowerment is to mean anything, we need to start drawing together a picture of what it means, what we want to accomplish in 5-10 years.

Action: Cllr D M to Organise meeting for Saturday 17th December

Treasurer Update

Castlebay Secondary and Primary departments asked for donation of £500 which was given, Head Teacher and Depute Head Teacher were very grateful and a thank you letter was immediately given.

£650 herring walk paid.

Balance £8,600.

OAP's are looking for a donation towards their Christmas party and it was agreed to give them a cheque, IG will liaise with Eoin

Any Other Competent Business

- **Co-op Clean-up**

MG has spoken to the local dept. manager regarding their waste management policy/arrangements. Suggestions included sponsoring the school to do a clean-up a few times a year, this would mean a money donation for school. Although this could potentially pose a danger to the school children as some areas are unsafe/hygienic. Another option was for Co-op employees' themselves doing some clean up around the area periodically. MG awaiting a response back.

Alasdair MacEachan – Cnes intended to speak with M^{ac}Innes Bros with regards to labourers doing clean-up around the football field and trees area

Businesses within area could also do their own bit to clear area. MG also spoke with Peter Nicolson who indicated that he was willing to do his bit on clean ups.

Action: Awaiting response from Co-op. MG to approach the Council for more bins around the area.

- **Update on Bùth Bharraigh**

Sarah MacLean gave an update – A structural engineer report received today says that internally the building is in very good condition, external discolouring to panels, some horizontal cracking but that's due to panelling and easily fixed. His conclusion was that the external walls can be resealed but building is in good structural order.

Designs drawn up by architect, building would look very different and far more aesthetically pleasing – design plan passed to all those in attendance.

Application for units in Horve not put in as they are not suitable on many levels. Internal layout not suitable and unable to change too much of internal layout. Council have not been in contact even after numerous letters and e-mails sent to them.

FOI put in to find out how many people have enquired about renting the new units.

Rent higher than other existing units. Bùth unable to afford the rent on new units.

Looking at other options, including a rebuild but preference is to stay at existing site.

- **Voluntary Action**

Eoin M^{ac}Neil from Voluntary Action asked if someone from Castlebay Community Council was willing to go on the board. Someone from Northbay Community Council has agreed to go on it.

- **Drugs**

Alarmed and concerned about the availability of drugs and how it seems to be growing more socially acceptable. It was agreed to write a letter to the Chief Inspector of police and ask him to come and address & give feedback on this issue.

Action: MG to write letter to Chief Inspector

Date of Meeting	Action	Updates	Action Against	Status
Nov 2015	Position of Clerk	Marie M ^{ac} Leod has agreed to take up the position	All	Closed
08.02.16	Bus Shelter for Airport	E-mailed, council agreed if HIAL would partly fund	Mìcheal	Closed
08.02.16	Annie Jane Monument	Checked funding criteria etc. Sought some quotes for work contact groundwork closed off	Iain G	Closed
08.02.16	Facebook Page or other	No update – waiting for clerk, create it and keep updated	Marie	On going
09.05.16	Write to council asking what discussions etc. took place on the run up to their decision (funding)	Verbal communication with Local Councillor to try and obtain copy correspondence.	Eoin	Closed
09.02.16	Request documentation regarding funding application to Scottish Government for full project	No update	D Manford	On going
09.02.16	Castlebay Play Area Insurance – Clarify with Marion	No update spoke about it council insure play park	Marion	Closed
27.06.16	Letter to Transport Scotland & MSP Transport & Islands	E-mail sent to Michael Bracher cc Transport Minister, thanking them for current service	Mìcheal	Closed
27.06.16	Joint (C/bay & N/bay) CC meeting Airport Facilities	No update	Mìcheal	Closed
27.06.16	Letter to Council regarding the poor state of the fitness suite	E-mail received updating situation with intension of upgrading facilities	Eoin	Closed
27.06.16	Contact Council to place more Bins around Football Field	Look at either possible access passed Padula's for bin lorries to pick-up rubbish, or transport bins up on collection days	Mìcheal	On going
27.06.16	Receipt from Barra Games	Nothing received to date	Iain G	On going
27.06.16	Road Improvements – Clarity on requests	Received an e-mail from Donald Johnston – CnES regarding Road repairs	Mìcheal	Closed
29.09.16	Contact Belle Anne – CnES regarding Admin payments	£500 to be paid for Admin payments for year	Micheal	Closed
29.09.16	Contact Iain GG Campbell – CnES regarding state of C/bay Play Park	Suitable all year surface for play park. Flood lights replaced. Falls under assets for community, not council responsibility to upkeep	Iain G	On going
29.09.16	Contact Co-op regarding Waste Management	Awaiting response back from Co-op manager	Mìcheal	On going
29.09.16	Letter to Malcolm Burr – CnES Chief Executive ; regarding reinstatement of Benbecula/Barra flights	e-mailed yesterday, 23.11.16, Malcolm replied saying he was not given enough time to respond before tonight's meeting but will respond in due course.	Mìcheal	On going
29.09.16	Contact David Smart – CnES Bus Timetable	e-mailed and still awaiting response.	Eoin	On going
29.09.16	Letter/e-mail to Jessie M ^{ac} Neil (Chair of Locality Group) regarding concerns of the CPN	Eoin emailed Jessie	Eoin	Closed
24.11.16	Letter/e-mail to CalMac requesting additional Tuesday sailing on winter timetable	No update	Clr Donald	On going
24.11.16	Bus: Arrange meeting with Malcolm Burr and Transport representative for January	Malcolm indicated that he intends to come to Barra in Jan 2017	Clr Donald	On going
24.11.16	Community Empowerment: Arrange meeting for Saturday 17.12.16 ~ Alasdair Allan will be in attendance	Meeting set-up for 16 th Dec	Clr Donald	On going
24.11.16	Letter/e-mail Chief Inspector re concerns over increased drug use	No update	Micheal	On going