

Benbecula Community Council

Minute of Meeting Held on Thursday 7th July 2016

Tagsa Uibhist Office, East Camp, Balivanich, at 7.00pm

1. Welcome and Present:

Councilors: Gail Robertson (Chair), Irene MacKay (Secretary), Murdina Naylor (Vice Chair & Treasurer), Hugh MacCormack, Roddy MacKay

Note of Conflict of Interests:

A ward funding application has been received from Eilean Dorcha Festival which is to be discussed at this meeting. As Chairman of EDF, CC Roddy MacKay will leave the meeting during discussion.

Secretary Irene MacKay, as sister of Roddy MacKay, will not be involved in any decision making relating to this application

2. Apologies:

C'Illoir Uisdean Robertson, PC Ross

3. Minutes of Meeting held on 12th May 2016 & 9th June 2016

Approval of Minutes from 12th May was proposed by CC Robertson & seconded by CC MacCormick

Approval of Minutes from 9th June was proposed by CC Robertson & seconded by CC Naylor

4. Matters Arising:

- i) Griminish War Memorial – still awaiting further information from Catriona Garbutt
- ii) No further correspondence received from Donnie Johnson. Request that he / his replacement attend the next BCC meeting
- iii) MOT requirements – carried forward

- iv) Email / Facebook issues have been resolved. A Twitter account has also been set up to encourage engagement with younger members of the community.
- v) A resolution has been reached on the bus issue at Tuzo Close – provider has confirmed that there should no longer be a reason to stop at this area.
- vi) Street lights – further communication expected in police report.

5. Treasurer's Report:

CC Naylor advised that the bank balance remains the same, with £250 expected to be deducted following the issuing of a cheque to Nunton Gala Day Committee.

CC Naylor to write to HHP (lease cannot be terminated on email) to confirm termination of the lease of garage at Tindill.

6. Correspondence:

i) Angel Awards

CCs to consider anyone that they would like to nominate for this award from the local community

ii) Community Choices Fund

An application could be submitted to assist with EDF

- **Secretary to look into application requirements**

iii) Generations Working Together – Local Network Meetings

Agreed to join mailing list and attend any forthcoming meetings to gauge benefits

7. Recruitment of Community Councillors

Names have been put forward for 3 community members who may be interested in joining the CC. An invite will be sent to request to attend the next meeting of BCC

8. Comhairle Members' Report

Apologies received from C'llor Roberston, therefore no update this month.

Discussion took place around the award of funds from CnES to Hebridean Celtic Festival in Stornoway. Substantial funds have been awarded to this group, with CnES only willing to provide funding of £2,000 to the upcoming Eilean Dorcha Festival (EDF) in Uist.

- **Secretary to write to CnES requesting clarification on the reasons for the variation of award between the 2 events. This letter will be written by BCC on behalf of the Association of Community Councils in Uist following discussion at an earlier meeting where members of other Community Councils were present.**

CCs are asked to be aware upcoming meetings on transport issues:

- FlyBe meeting on 10/07/16 at 10.15
- CMAL – date to be confirmed & will be communicated

9. Police Report

Police issued their apologies for this meeting. A further update will take place at the next meeting, including an update on street lights.

10. Activities & Funding

Item added to Agenda in error – no discussion

11. AOCB

CC MacKay left the meeting at this point

Due to conflict, secretary did not vote on this matter.

i) EDF Ward Funding Application

An application request for ward funding & CC assistance was received for the festival, due to a shortfall in funding. The festival is due to take place at the end of July.

Following discussion, it was decided that BCC would be happy to award £500 to the festival, and would support the award of £1000 from Ward Funding. Suggestion that assistance from other CCs in the Uists would be appropriate as the festival will provide a community benefit to all areas

- **Secretary to request that the ACC write to all Uist CCs to assist the festival to reduce the shortfall in funding**

CC MacKay was invited to rejoin the meeting

- ii) CC MacCormick raised a query on the ownership of the shed at market stance. Roof works have been ongoing at the building, which could be utilised, but ownership is unclear.

The Torlum School building was also discussed due to the dangers of the fabric of the building.

- **Secretary to write to CnES Technical Services to clarify ownership and responsibility for the upkeep of these derelict buildings**

- iii) It has been noted that roadside grass cutting remains an issue

- iv) A recent accident on the North Uist causeway has highlighted the safety of this road. BCC considers that the installation of chevron warning signs on the road could prevent accidents in the future.

- **Secretary to contact the Police to request whether these warning signs could be installed**

12. Future Meeting Schedule

The following schedule of meetings has been put forward for the remainder of the year. Meetings are expected to take place at Tagsa Offices, at 7pm on each date, unless otherwise communicated.

01 Sept 2016

13 October 2016

10 November 2016

08 December 2016

13. Date & Venue of next meeting

7pm, 01 Sept 2016, at Tagsa Office, Balivanich.