

# **Benbecula Community Council**

**Minute of Meeting Held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016**

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

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## **1. Welcome and Present:**

**Councilors:** Gail Robertson (Chair), Irene MacKay (Secretary), Murdina Naylor (Vice Chair & Treasurer), Hugh MacCormack, C'Ilor Andrew Walker, PC Elizabeth MacKay, Police Scotland

## **2. Apologies:**

C'Ilor Uisdean Robertson, CC Roddy MacKay

## **3. Minutes of Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2016 & 9<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

Approval of Minutes from 7<sup>th</sup> July was proposed by CC Robertson & seconded by CC Naylor

C'Ilor Walker noted his apologies for non-attendance at this meeting

## **4. Matters Arising:**

- i) Donnie Johnson to attend a future meeting before finishing in his CnES post
- ii) Streetlights: Benbecula Police have emailed the Inspector to request support for streetlights to be left on for longer periods. Police suggest logging of incidents or near misses to strengthen the case

## **5. Treasurer's Report:**

CC Naylor advised that the bank balance sits at £7,602.54 with EDF funds having been deducted.

Issue with Tindill Road resolved. A small fee may be payable but this has not been communicated.

Payment of clerk fees to be arranged.

## **6. Correspondence:**

### **i) Calum MacKenzie, Head of Assets & Infrastructure, CnES**

Letter received from Mr MacKenzie confirming that if BCC are still interested in the acquisition of the workshop at market stance. Mr MacKenzie also confirmed that CnES are currently assessing derelict properties for safety and security

- CC will be key holder for the property at market stance and will take income for the property.
- Criteria will be considered for leasing the property.
- Secretary to confirm BCC interest in acquisition of the property
- Report on assessment of derelict properties will be requested from CnES

## **7. Recruitment of Community Councilors**

Some members of the community have been approached with a request to join the Community Council and we await their attendance at future meetings.

## **8. Comhairle Members' Report**

There have been no council meetings since June, however there have been 4 meetings of various committees. C'llor Walker suggested that BCC may be interested in receiving copies of decision reports from committee meetings.

- C'llor Walker to forward reports to BCC for information

Members attended the recent Locality Group meeting, where discussion was held around the GP out of hours service, and options for the relocation of the dental practices. A paper is to be presented in due course. Consultation will follow before a decision is finalised.

### **Upcoming Dates**

A conference is due to be held on island population, in conjunction with HIE. Dates will be circulated once confirmed

A meeting will be held on 7<sup>th</sup> September to discuss the Uist bus timetables.

A meeting of the CPP will be held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September

### **Information**

BCC have been advised that Friday afternoon flights between Benbecula and Inverness are expected to be reinstated before the end of October. This information is to be treated as **strictly confidential** until a public announcement has been made.

## **9. Police Report**

Police advised that, since 4<sup>th</sup> June, there have been 54 calls in the Benbecula district, and 233 overall in Uist & Barra.

Eilean Dorcha Festival went well, with only 1 incident reported. The detour route which was in place following the festival close cause issue to some, and this may be reconsidered for future events.

## **Coastguard Notice**

Police highlighted that the public should be aware when identifying unknown items on the beaches. Coastguard should be notified in such instances and BCC will spread this message in the community

## **Hebridean Challenge**

BCC asked to take note that this cycling challenge is due to take place this coming weekend, and could see up to 150 cyclists taking part.

## **Street Lighting**

As previously mentioned, the police have requested an extension to the length of time the street lights are left on. One community councilor had previously reported lights being off in a particular area. It was noted that the street lights were not on for an extended period during EDF, and police mentioned that there was no record of any request for this.

## **10. AOCB**

An issue was raised with a CC regarding the turning of buses in Island Flodda. This issue will have to be raised directly with the operator.

## **11. Future Meeting Schedule**

The previous meeting time agreed will stand, with the exception of the meeting in October. Confirmation of the date will be circulated to community councilors in due course (reminder of dates to year end are below:

10 November 2016

08 December 2016

## **12. Date & Venue of next meeting**

To be confirmed, likely to be week commencing 10<sup>th</sup> October. To be held at Tagsa Office, Balivanich.