

## **NORTH TOLSTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Note of meeting of the **North Tolsta Community Council** held at the Community Hall meeting room, North Tolsta, on **Wednesday, 24 August 2016, at 7.00pm.**

**PRESENT:** Anna Mackenzie (AMcK); Effie MacMillan (EM); Angus Murray (AM); John MacIver (JM); Fiona MacLeod (FM); Stuart Thomson (ST); Erica MacLeod (EM).

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr Donald Crichton; Cllr John A MacIver; Cllr Catriona Stewart

**CHAIR:** Anna MacKenzie

### **1. Note of the Last Meeting**

The Note of the last meeting of 22 June 2016 was approved.

#### **Matters arising**

##### **Memorial Service**

It had been suggested at a previous meeting that NTCC should ask the Minister about changing the memorial service to a Sunday as in most other communities. AM would write to Reverend Campbell on the matter.

### **2. Appointment of Treasurer**

No appointment was made.

### **3. Banking/Bank Mandate**

The change of address now seemed to be the main impediment to any progress although AMK would attend the local branch again on Tuesday 30 August 2016 to try and resolve the issue.

The bank balance as at 4 August 2016 was £7,791.81.

It was agreed that the NTCC would write a number of cheques for invoices outstanding to test whether the bank would honour these. There were a number of these invoices and AM would draw up a list for payment.

NTCC needed two trade references for Macgregor Industrial Supplies. RMK had provided one and it was agreed that Tolsta PO could provide the other.

It was agreed to open an account with the Grillburger for future business.

### **4. Community hall /Kitchen**

An application had been submitted to the Comhairle's Challenge Fund for improvements to The Tolsta Community Hall. NTCC had been awarded £1,716. The actual cost of the project was quoted at £8,082 although there was some duplication of works in the Comhairle and FES quotes regarding the installation of the new heaters. AM would speak to Technical Services about a possible reduction

in their quote if the heaters were installed by another party. It was also agreed to seek other quotes for the installation of the heaters.

ACE was going to do the PAT testing for the kitchen – it was agreed to seek a quote for the heaters – supply and fit.

Needed to progress the works with the kitchen and obtain quotations. The Home Improvement Centre, among others, could provide a kitchen plan and quotation. AMK to progress.

The school holidays were in October which was probably the best and most realistic time to carry out the works - public holidays would be 14 and 17 October 2016.

## **5. Locality Planning**

FM provided an update on the meeting of the Stornoway and Greater Broadway Locality Planning Group which was on 18 August 2016. Representative membership was still an issue. Stornoway had no community councils but there were numerous groups such as Residents' Associations and so on. Cllr Nicolson stated that there some 98 people that he knew of involved in different groups within Stornoway. JB the Tenants Participation Officer was going to be approached to facilitate wider membership.

The Chairman of the Stornoway and Greater Broadway Locality Planning Group was now confirmed as Hector MacLeod, Chief Executive of Third Sector Hebrides. Mike Hutchison from the Health Board was the IJB representative on the group, with Emma MacSween and Paul Dundas covering Uist and Barra respectively.

There had not been a great deal of community engagement to date; 6 of the 28 targets would be discussed in further detail at the next meeting. The Head of Executive had looked into the possibility of her team providing administrative support but this was turned down.

The Lewis Residential Care Review (Dunberisay and Duneistean) was a major development for consultation. A Number of models were being considered. The West Side Locality Planning Group was not in favour of a centralised new build in Stornoway. The Shetland hub model had been cited as a good example which improved people's quality of life, enabled greater autonomy and better volunteer support. The ideal solution was probably a mixed provision model. The IJB Strategic Planning Group would meet with the 5 Chairs of each Locality Planning Group.

The next meeting was to be held on 15 September 2016 at the Health Board.

## **6. Highland Council Community schemes –Policy renewal.**

This related to the insurance for the Community Hall. AM would speak to MM at the Comhairle regarding the policy.

## **7. Community Jobs**

This would be a standing item until such time as the Community Council had funds to action these projects.

## **Painting**

- Chain anchor posts at the entrance to the village.
- Picnic tables at the Cladach.
- Picnic tables at Tràigh Mhòr.
- Bridge at Gary and tables.

## **Gardening**

- Beds at the entrance to the village.
- Bed at the car park.
- Pots around the village.
- Beds at the Community Hall.
- Garden at the War Memorial.

## **8. New Build**

It was anticipated that the new build would comprise a shop and café on the first floor and an office, laundrette, museum and store on the ground floor with a bowling alley, perhaps, adjoining the building. AMK circulated a drawing of the proposed new build. It was unclear as to how much public consultation had taken place about what should be in the new building. There would need to be evidence of public consultation in any business plan looking to attract external funding. It was suggested at the meeting that the drawing could form the basis of a future public consultation to determine what facilities the community might want in the new building or what it might offer.

## **9. School Parent Council**

At a recent meeting of the above group, there had been concern expressed about a falling school roll which threatened the future viability of the school and its impact and implications for the community. It was suggested that a joint approach would be beneficial in looking at measures which help to protect the school by attracting families to the community, e.g. childcare and after school activities and so on.

It was suggested that all local groups should work together (TCDL, Grazings Committees, the Historical Society and the Community Council, etc) to look at possible solutions and the funding of these. In a wider context, there was some discussion about a community appraisal and community development. There had been an appraisal undertaken previously facilitated by the Comhairle's Regeneration Team but the outcomes had not been publicised. AM would follow up with KR at the Comhairle.

JM would draft a letter in the meantime seeking a meeting with all the main local players.

## **10. War Memorial**

The next submission would be by the end of September 2016. The same quote would suffice but another would also be needed (technical spec').

**11. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting would take place on Wednesday, 21 September 2016 at 7.00pm, in the Community Hall meeting room, North Tolsta.