

NORTH TOLSTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Note of meeting of the North Tolsta Community Council held at the Community Hall, North Tolsta, on Tuesday 11 September 2018, at 7pm.

PRESENT: Angus Murray (AM); John A MacIver (JM); Fiona Black (FB); Fiona MacLeod (FM); Norma MacRitchie (NM); Cllr Calum Maclean (CM); Donald MacIver (DMI).

APOLOGIES: Anna Mackenzie (AMK); Cllr John A MacIver (JAM); Stuart Thomson (ST); Cllr Donald Crichton (DC)

CHAIR: Fiona MacLeod

WELCOME: Chair welcomed Annabel Pinker from the James Hutton Institute.

1. Note of the Last Meeting

Note of the last meeting of 19 June 2018 was approved.

Proposed: John MacIver

Seconded: Donald MacIver

Matters arising

- The Community Council and other members of the community interested in the future of the school met the Director of Education and Children's Services on 26 June 2018, chaired by the Chair of the Tolsta School Parent Council.
- Forsa Energy gave a presentation to the Community Council and the wider community on 14 August 2018 which was very well attended.
- DMI had agreed to take on the role of Treasurer and would commence these duties after the 2017-18 accounts were approved.
- Community Hall – site meeting involving ACE, AM and Medlock held on 29 June 2018.
- About thirty people went on the day trip to Harris which was successful.

2. Accounts/Bank Balance

The Treasurer was not present at the meeting and no balance was recorded.

3. Community Hall

At the meeting on 29 June 2018, ACE agreed to take the heaters off the wall and return these to Medlock for further discussion with the manufacturer. The latest was that the heaters had been lying in Medlock's yard because the manufacturer (Dimplex) would not take them back. AM wrote to CM at the Comhairle indicating that this was unacceptable and that the matter needed to be resolved asap to make the hall serviceable for the school pupils in particular with winter approaching. A further correspondence from ACE on 31 August 2018 indicated some positive progress, at least in terms of Dimplex willing to accept the return of the heaters.

4. School

AM and FM would combine notes from the meeting with the Director of Education and Children's Services and propose next steps which could be discussed further at a meeting of the key local bodies either independently or with the Director. At some level, further representations of a practical and tangible nature would have to be presented to the Director.

The Tolsta School Parent Council had met in the interim and the meeting was poorly attended. The Chair had also resigned which was untimely.

5. Football Pitch/ PACT

The consultant had now provided more detailed costings and the proposal was now at planning stage. AM would start to look into potential funding sources, including TCDL.

6. Remembrance Service

To avoid any unnecessary pressure on the day it was agreed that NM would seek quotes from the County for external catering. Soups could still be provided locally.

A singer and a piper had been suggested as this was the year of the commemoration of the Iolair (100 years since the disaster).

The service would be held on 10 November 2018 (Saturday).

A donation from local Councillors' ward allocation was requested in support of costs, perhaps £200x3.

7. AOCB

War Memorial

Restoration Ltd submitted a quote for £4k- the WMT grant would meet 75% of that. NTCC would have to fund the shortfall. It was anticipated that works would commence very soon.

No application had been made to the Challenge Fund to support the works as the application deadline had not been met (by one day).

Community Energy Scotland/Community Group Liaison

In terms of the Arnish project the current situation as reported by CES was that a consultant was looking at the feasibility of the site and until that had been completed there were no real actions that could be progressed. CES would want to see if the site could be developed before engaging with groups in the Stornoway Trust area. The feasibility study would be completed at the end of the year so any action would follow from there.

Play Parks

Mairi Smith (Comhairle) had been in touch in relation to the grant and she would be invited to the October meeting.

Lord Lieutenant

Donald Martin had intended to be at the meeting but had to cancel due to unforeseen circumstances. He would be invited at a later date.

Leaflet Drop

Monies outstanding for helping to circulate the CC leaflets would be forwarded to HT.

Locality Planning

Ron Culley and his team had asked for a meeting with the Community Council and as the Community Council was having a few guests in the coming months it was suggested that a NTCC sub-group, perhaps four members of the Community Council, could meet with Ron et al about Locality Planning at a convenient time. AM had written to the IJB Secretary but no response received as yet.

Bouncy Castle

NM indicated that it was likely that a further payment of £130 would have to be made by the Community Council in terms of adequate insurance cover.

AGM

The AGM of the Community Council would be held on 13 November 2018.

8. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday, 9 October 2018, at 7pm.

The Minutes of meetings of the North Tolsta Community Council are published on the Comhairle's communities web site (e-Sgìre) as follows:

<https://e-sgìre.org/communities/ward8/community-associations/>