



Ness Community Council

Minutes 25.09.2018 Rescheduled from 18.09.2018

Lionel School 7.30pm

Present: Katie M MacKenzie (Chair) D MacLeod (Treasurer/ Clerk) Peter Inger, Mr Calum Watson (Public).

In Attendance: Cllr J N MacLeod Cllr j MacKay

Welcome: The Chair welcomed all present to the meeting

Apologies: Jean Hawkett, Cllr K MacLeod, Cllr K J MacLeod

Minutes of previous meeting: The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Proposed by: Mr P Inger

Seconded by: K M MacKenzie

Matters Arising:

1. Health and Social Care: The meeting scheduled to take place at Ravenspoint on the 17th September was cancelled. However planning permission for the new care home, supported housing etc, has been posted on the CNES planning portal.

2. Ness Sign: James Leitch is at present working in Eoropie. The Chair will keep us informed as to his progress.

3. Scrap Cars: We are waiting on Danda completing the setting up of a bunding area at Habost, once complete the first 20 vehicles will be collected and dispatched to the mainland for disposal, we will publish an article and pictures in Fios when this has been completed.

4. Tourism: Jean was not able to attend tonight's meeting however she did submit a report which was distributed to all present. (see attached).

5. C C Forum: Donnie informed the meeting that the CC Forum had invited the Chief Executive of CNES Malcolm Burr to give the CC Forum a presentation on the proposed Service redesign (a copy of his presentation is available to all members). CNES will be holding a series of community engagement/ consultation events to explain the above. The Community Engagement for Ness will take place in Lionel School on the 14th of November at 7.00pm.

6. Roads: It was noted that the Dell moor road had been marked up in preparation for work to begin, however the start date is not known but the work is expected to take up to 6 – 8 weeks to complete.

Police Matters

There was no Police presence at the meeting, but it was mentioned that the previous problem of speeding cars and loud exhausts was starting up again.

A.O.C.B

The Chair asked about the possibility of sighting a bus shelter on the x skigersta road, possibly next to I Murray's Garage (to be looked into).

A letter was received from N Harris Trust regarding the problem and eradication of Gunnera (Chair to follow up).

Letter and Poster received from GPO regarding Scam Mail (Clerk to pass on to Fios for publication).

D.O.N.M

Monday 19th November at 7.30pm in Lionel School.

Attachments to Minutes

NCC TOURISM UPDATE – AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2018

VISITORS

Lots of campervans and coaches can still be seen in Ness [causing a few problems for the ferries which are unable to cope]. They will probably be here until October.

I've met a number of Bird Watchers, here for the Migration Season; a large number of people taking advantage of the Scottish and English kids having returned to school; and dozens of cyclists attempting various challenges: not only the Barra to Butt of Lewis route [Hebridean Cycle Way], but also linking up Lighthouses throughout the Islands; and exploring "Westside to the Butt of Lewis".

Lots of advertising by "Visit Scotland", various media outlets, authors of books, and articles in magazines, on television, on-line and via social media are still encouraging tourists to come to the "Islands".

Can Ness cope? Do we give tourists a good "Visitor Experience"?

In a word – NO.

We are still lacking in the basic necessities that today's visitors expect – decent roads, adequate parking and turning areas, Public toilets, waste-emptying facilities, accommodation, camp-sites, and places to eat.

SIGNAGE

Some new signage has appeared in Ness but,

- the untidy conglomeration of signs at Lionel t-junction has not been sorted out, e.g. the "Buttery" at the Decca was discontinued some time ago.
- new signage at the Bird Hide hasn't materialised.
- new signage for facilities at sporsnis hasn't been made prominent and permanent [there are only pathetic pinned-up notices which suffer from the wind and rain, and are virtually unreadable].

PLAY-PARK TOILET

Planning application has now been advertised by CNES.

Hopefully this facility will be up and running for 2019.

SELF-CATERING ACCOMMODATION

The holiday cottage, "Anchor self-catering", near the entrance to sporsnis, is due to open in 2019.

Jean Hawkett.