

NORTH TOLSTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Note of meeting of the North Tolsta Community Council held at the Community Hall, North Tolsta, on Tuesday, 8 January 2019, at 7pm.

PRESENT: Angus Murray (AM); John A MacIver (JM); Fiona Black (FB); Cllr Calum MacLean; Cllr John A MacIver (JAM); Cllr Donald Crichton; Erica MacLeod (EM).

APOLOGIES: Fiona MacLeod (FM); Donald MacIver (DMI) Stuart Thomson (ST)

CHAIR: Angus Murray

1. Note of the Last Meeting

Note of the last meeting of 13 November 2018 was approved.

Matters arising

- War Memorial – the grant had now been drawn down.
- Memorial Garden – Isabel MacRae (no 28) had shown an interest in taking care of the garden - DMI would follow up.
- Graffiti had appeared on the Garry Bridge; FB would e-mail the Stornoway Trust to see whether they would pay for cleaning it as the bridge was on Trust land.
- Community Hall - the new heaters needed some protection and there was some discussion as to whether the Comhairle could pay for that. AM would follow up with CM at the Comhairle.
- Play Parks – JM had worked on the application form. MS/CnES would be invited to the next meeting.

2. Accounts/Bank Balance

In the Treasurer's absence, the balance was thought to be c.£4k.

3. Football Pitch/ PACT

Planning consent had been deferred until the floodlighting issues had been addressed.

Initial funding enquiries had been made to TCDL, Sport Scotland and the Robertson Trust.

The Accounts had been submitted to OSCR. Insurances – Treasurer would follow up.

4. School

No action has been taken by the community since the meeting with the Director of Education and Children Services but it was agreed to make one more appeal to parents, but only if backed up by positive tangible action by all parties. As discussed at previous meetings, including the one with the Director, parents had considerable influence in terms of the long-term future of village schools, and it was acknowledged that if nothing changed fundamentally in the next six months, that would be the case in this instance.

There was extensive discussion in the context of the Community Conversations 2018 'Service Delivery Option Responses' and the practicalities of a Community Hub. The school could be that hub but the community capacity would be vital. There had to be jobs and housing and community facilities for example. It was important to mobilise the community in terms of the school but that would be challenging.

5. AOCB

Cemetery Road

There was some discussion about the Cemetery Road and whether it was open to the public as the number of people going down that route had increased significantly for ease of convenience to the Tràigh, adversely affecting the machair, among other things.

The gate was padlocked at one time, apart from official business, but it was thought that it was now open to the public. This could be a matter for the Cemetery Committee.

Forsa

Forsa would give a short presentation at the next meeting.

6. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday, 12 February 2019, 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/>