



# MANOR & CASTLE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 175

MAY 2019



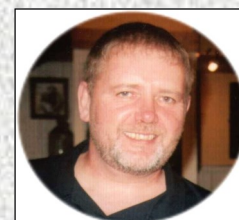
## Manor & Castle Newsletter

### Special points of interest:

- Chairperson's Comments
- Councillor's Comment's

### Chairman's Comments

Welcome to the May meeting and Newsletter.



The nice spring weather has been a blessing over the last month and hopefully continues and give us a good summer as well.

I attended the consultation follow up meeting with the council highlighting some of the changes (cuts) to the budget over the next few years, nothing finalized at this stage, we will find out in due course. There is no doubt that cuts do need to be made to keep within the budget, hopefully the right choices will be made and not make life harder for those in need of some lifeline services.

I hope you are all well and recovered from our trip last month it already seems like a long time ago.

Thanks for all your comments and faith in me to continue as Chairman. Onwards and upwards.

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Councillor's forum

As the weather seems to be improving, the expectation of a good summer hangs in the air.

Since the last association meeting there has a series of committee meetings at the council. I would not be alone in saying that the agendas were not as substantial as usual however, there were points made in the meeting that may be of interest.



The ongoing issue of Stornoway Primary did not really have a specific report on the Education agenda but I have asked for a report to the next Education meeting on a review of building a MUGA at Stonroway Primary with the help of Councillor Charlie Nicolson. A MUGA is a multi-use games area and would be a fantastic facility for the school.

A report on the ongoing interconnector progress was brought up at the Communities and Housing Committee. Ofgem, the body who has the ultimate decision on the interconnector needs case, has publicly stated that it is not minded to approve a 600MW connector due and would be more amenable to 450MW. I asked if the possibility of the Comhairle building its own turbines could be discussed and that income generated would be redistributed to every household regardless of owning land or not. I wish to represent those who don't have crofts to ensure they also benefit from our resources.

At that same committee, I raised the issue of recycling and asked about the bottle deposit scheme being reintroduced to encourage recycling. The head of Service, Mr David Macleod, informed the committee that there was a national proposal and that he hoped this would benefit the islands as well as the mainland.

Just to remind you to vote on **Thursday 24th May in the European elections**. I understand everyone is tired of politics and especially the European question but I am of the belief that the ability to vote is one of the benefits of living in a democracy and we should use it.

Councillor Gordon Murray

Community Skip

Bain Square

1st June

10am—2pm





# STORNOWAY

## Reduced number of councillors

There has been discussions and further proposals that the number of councillors in the council should be reduced from 31 to 28 with a redrawing of the electoral map. The new boundaries or wards could contain two councillors rather than the three or four member wards currently in place.

Lewis Post



### School Sports Day—help required

This years' WIIGA School Sports will take place on **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019** at the Smith Avenue Running Track, 10:30am – 2:30pm.

To ensure this event runs as smoothly as possible we would appreciate any voluntary support from coaches, parents, family, students, new S6 pupil - anyone who can spare a few hours to play their part in a busy and exciting day of Athletics. Roles on the day will include marshalling, station assistants, score keepers and time keepers. If you have any specific roles you would like you carry out, please let us know.



If you are available to support this event, or even give a few hours of your time, please let us know by

You are cordially invited to  
**Carers Week**  
10th to 16h June 2019

**The following event will be held to celebrate Carers Week (10th to 16th June) and acknowledge the sterling work undertaken by informal carers:**

**Tuesday 11th June**  
**Lunch with Guest Speakers**  
**Lewis Retirement Centre, Stornoway**  
**12.00pm - 3pm**

Guest speakers:

**Please call 01859 502588, or email  
info@wiccf.co.uk  
to book your place, or to get further information.**

**If you require respite for the person you care for,  
please let us know.**