

Inaugural Meeting

SANDWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Tuesday 29th October 2019 at 7.00pm

Sandwick Community Hall

MINUTE OF THE MEETING

Remembrance:

All those present remembered the recent passing of our Chair, Mary McCormack and our Treasurer, Willie Macfarlane. Our condolences to Angus and Anna respectively.

Sederunt: Anna Macfarlane, Duncan Mackay, Rhoda Mackenzie, Nicola MacSween, Mike Smith, Bob Walker(Chair)

Councillors: Cllrs Angus McCormack & Charlie Nicolson

Apologies: Sandy Morrison, Cllrs Keith Dodson, Rae Mackenzie

Derek MacKay, Governance and Election Manager officiated for the initial business of the meeting.

Election of Office Bearers:

Chairperson: Bob Walker
Vice-Chairman: TBA
Treasurer: Anna Macfarlane
Clerk: Nicola MacSween

All of the above were nominated and agreed by all those present. The Vice-Chair position will be agreed at the next meeting of Sandwick Community Council.

Additionally, Duncan Mackay was co-opted by all those present.

Draft Constitution:

The relevant documentation was signed by Bob Walker(Chair) and Nicola MacSween(Clerk) on behalf of the yet to be appointed Vice-Chair.

Points of Note: - Derek MacKay, Governance and Election Manager

- An online information folder is available on "E-Sgire" via the CnES website.
- A copy of the signed constitution will be kept on file by Belle Ann Scott, CnES who is the main point of contact for all CC matters.
- The CC is required to hold a minimum of 4 meetings per year.
- A further 4 positions may be considered for co-opted positions. (Cllr Charlie Nicolson suggested at least some could be young people in Higher and/or Further Education.)
- Communication: all CCs should consider a social media presence.

- A “Northern Scotland Community Council Forum” has been set up to share ideas and experience. BA Scott is the local contact.
- In reply to a request from Derek for information to be held on “E-Sgìre”, a list of tried & tested projects as well as top funding sources were suggested.

Bob Walker, Chair officiated from this point for the remainder business of the meeting.

AOCB:

Bank Account:

Balance: @£6400

Signatories: Anna Macfarlane, Nicola MacSween and Bob Walker agreed to be signatories and contact the Bank of Scotland accordingly.

Local Electricity Bill:

Cllr Angus McCormack informed the meeting that a not-for-profit organisation, Power for People was campaigning for the “Local Electricity Bill” that they authored to become law.

The passing of this Bill would enable locally generated renewable energy to be sold to local people where the set up and running costs would be proportionate and a fraction of current levels.

They urge Community Councils to adopt the motion. CnES will vote on this motion in December 2019.

A copy of the relevant information to be circulated to all CC members.

Misc.

Cllr Charlie Nicolson circulated a newsletter from Parkend, Holm and Mackenzie Estate Residents Association whilst highlighting that the second housing development would likely be underway now that the land identified had been purchased. This was likely to exacerbate the existing issues of a lack of amenities and recreational space particularly for children and young people.

The idea of preserving the existing football pitch on the “Donkey Field” and building a playpark was emphasised as well as creating a path from the proposed second phase of the estate in front of the existing houses on East Street leading directly to the pitch well away from the main road.

A suggestion was made that CC reps attend future HHP meetings to emphasise the lack of amenities included in the plans for these developments and the necessity to create all the required infrastructure at the time of construction.

Cllr Nicolson agreed to report back on this issue.

A new SHARE committee had been created Cllr Nicolson also reported and amongst their plans was the intention to adapt a room in the community hall for use by groups such as Senior Citizens that would have comfortable seating and essential hospitality facilities.

Duncan Mackay suggested that the display cabinets purchased for the Iolaire Exhibition be gifted to the Historical Society with the proviso they could be borrowed in the future if required.

Additionally the computer and printer also purchased for the same would be made available for use by the Clerk to SCC. Duncan or Cllr McCormack to arrange.

Ann Macfarlane raised the issue of undergrowth compromising visibility at the T-junction coming from Melbost to the main road. Cllr Charlie Nicolson agreed to speak to the Point Councillors about this.

It was noted that Point Councillors would attend future meetings of SCC by rotation as before.

DONM: Monday 18th November 2019 at 7pm in the Sandwick Meeting Room.