

Castlebay & Vatersay Community Council DRAFT

Minutes of the meeting held via zoom on Tues 27th October 2020 at 19.00

Present:

Brian Currie (BC) – Chair
Paul McGuire (PMG) - Vice Chair
Iain MacNeil (IMN) - Treasurer
Katie Denehy (KD) - Committee
Mark Wilcox (MW) - Committee
Alastair Campbell (AC) - Committee

In Attendance:

PC Phil Fardell
Cllr Donald Manford

1. Welcome

BC opened the meeting at 19.00 and welcomed all present. KD offered to take the minutes.

2. Apologies

Michael Galbraith (MG) – Committee
Kenneth MacLean (KML) – Committee

3. Minutes

Amendments were made to section Relating to Christmas lights. All agreed on minutes of last meeting.

4. Matters Arising

a) Speeding at corner of Nasg road

It has been raised as a concern by several residents the speed of which many cars travel past the corner of Nasg road end.

Action/s; PC Fardell to put Police Scotland notice in the Guth and this will also be shared on different social media platforms. PC Phil also agreed to follow up with Angus MacDonald the proposal of 20's plenty signage for Horve.

b) Playpark

Query Raised as to whether Playpark is included in new hub plans.

Action/s; Cllr Donald Manford to follow up

c) Streetlights

Concern has been raised by numerous residents in regards to the lack of street lights in certain areas on the island. Concern was also raised at the disrepair of one street light in Horve which looks as if it is due to fall over.

Action/s; PC Phil has already submitted Letters on behalf of Police, Fire Brigade and both Community Councils to head of Assets and has since been advised by the council that these letters now need to be submitted by Chief Inspector to Head of Assets. This has been done and awaiting reply. PC Phil to follow up.

Action/s; Cllr DM to follow up with Roads in regards to broken lamp post.

d) CalMac

A meeting took place on 27th October with BC, Cllr DM and EMN with Transport Scotland and Findlay McRae. This was regards to Isle of Arran Run and lack of service. It was noted that this was a productive and positive meeting and this was acknowledged by all. It was also raised about the possibility of looking at increasing the number of vessels sailing in summer from Ardmhor to Eriskay rather than sailing with empty vessels in the winter. Sound of Barra ferry has a good reputation for being flexible.

Action/s; Cllr DM To follow up on their invitation to explain Calmac decision making on vessel choice

Action/s; EMN to build on more discussions with Calmac in-regards to flexible use of timetable and to engage in principle on having a banking system.

Action/s; It was agreed to park the Transport committee and to continue with transport forum which includes NC/CC and Calmac representatives.

e) Vatersay Causeway

PMG reported back that a committee has now been formed and that a crown estate revenue funding application has been submitted for Round 1 to look at a feasibility study for making improvements to the infrastructure of Vatersay causeway. Vatersay Pier Association in dialogue with Harbour master and some minor repairs have been done. There are issues being presented with gear storage and PMG getting no definitive answers from CnES.

Action/s; Cllr DM agreed to engage in dialogue with CnES to help identify safe storage for the kreens.

Action/s; PMG to continue to give updates.

f) King George IV Land

5 options were presented by CnES on 6th October to representatives in the community for consultation. Barra Sports forum was only group that gave feedback and it was proposed by Cllr DM that support be given to the Sports forum position. This was agreed on.

Action/s; No further Action

g) Covid Economic Recovery Group Update

This group meets every fortnight and are working on an regeneration Action Plan. This forum is open to all businesses on the island and information goes into the Guth fortnightly with updates.

Action/s; BC to continue to give updates

h) Hub Update

Cllr DM stated that the next 2/3 weeks were crucial in terms of the future funding package for this project. Full application is due to be submitted to Scottish Government first week of November.

Action/s; Cllr DM to continue to give updates.

i) Campervans

Concern has been raised by residents in-regards to campervans parking in layby's and in other parts of Barra & Vatersay and not using the campsites. Cllr Uisdean Robertson has submitted a report to the council looking at the viability of introducing a by-law which will ensure all campervans have to go to a designated campsite.

Action/s; Cllr DM to follow up with more info at next meeting.

j) Bins

KD reported back that the areas have been identified and this has been relayed to Cllr Iain MacNeil who has sent in a request to Waste department at council.

Action/s; No further action

k) Christmas Lights

AC to lead on Christmas light decorations and it was agreed to have them on display by first week of December.

Action/s; AC to lead on this and will ask others in the community to help when required.

5. Respiratory Assessment Centre

2 beds have been set up in Castlebay Hall to offer this facility to NHS if required. These works have been completed by the community with various tradesmen offering their time and materials to ensure there is a facility fit for purpose on the island to deal with Covid-19 cases.

Action/s; It was agreed to cover costs of materials to builders for this facility and EMN to ask NC to also help with covering costs.

Action/s; EMN also agreed to write an article in Guth addressing the concerns of the community as well as highlighting the offer to the NHS for this Respiratory Assessment Centre

6. Police Report

Pc Farndell reporting a staffing update with 2 Northern Constabulary Police officers joining the team in Barra.

7. Library Closure

KD reported back that the library will be operating a click and collect service and that there will be 2 members of staff operating the library working on a part time basis.

8. Financial update

IG reported the CC current balance stands at £7.770.

9. AOCB

(a) BC asked if there was anyone who could do a summary sheet of all the work the CC has been involved in.

Action/s; KD agreed to do this and will send round to other CC members.

(b) KD raised as previous action point regarding broken railings being reported at Bentangaval

Action/s; Cllr DM agreed to raise this with the relevant council department.

© It was also raised the issue of abandoned van's at Horve road which causes obstruction for pedestrians.

Action/s; PC Farndell to follow up.

Date of next meeting;

Tues 8th December 2020