

Minute/Note of Meeting	TITLE	Iochdar Community Council Meeting		
	DATE	Wednesday 2 nd June 2021	TIME	7.00pm
	VENUE	online		

Present:	Peter Bird (Chair), Donnie Steele, Robert Currie, Anne Bird (mins), Morag Ann Steele, Angela Brass, Ronnie Macphee, , Cllr Paul Steele, Jemma MacVicar, Gail Robertson, Angus Campbell
Apologies:	Cllr I A Macleod, Cllr Iain A MacNeil, Neil Johnstone, Cllr MacMillan, Neil MacPherson

	Agenda Item	Summary	Action	Who?	When?
•	Previous Minutes	Previous minutes (29/04/21) proposed by MAM seconded by RMacP.	Submit approved mins to CnES.	AB	asap
•	Matters Arising	Salt bins	Ask community where they would like to see them placed.	ICC	For next meeting
•	Ferries	<p>Gail Robertson and Angus Campbell from Communities Board explained the role of the board and the actions they have been taking over the last few months in the face of the ferry difficulties. Angus is Chair of the Board and meets regularly with Transport Scotland and representatives of CalMac and CMal. Also there are meetings with the Transport Minister ~every 6 months.</p> <p>Discussion re lack of vessels, it will be next summer at least before the first of the new vessels will be available and a further year before the second vessel will be near ready.</p> <p>The board believe that three new large vessels are needed along with up to 8 smaller vessels.</p> <p>ScotGov are in advanced negotiations with owners of the Pentalina ferry, term would be for a minimum of 2 years, crewing would be part of the charter. Issue of unions raised, unclear how the plans will sit with the CalMac's employees' union.</p> <p>Dry-docking regime is under scrutiny with concerns that turnaround times have been too short.</p> <p>Discussion re what can community groups do to best support the efforts of the Local Authorities and the Communities Board? There was general agreement that communities should push for public consultation on the proposed investment programme. Budget is there but allocations have not been confirmed. Islands Act should be used to give a voice to communities.</p> <p>Concerns raised that CalMac are missing opportunities to move land-based jobs to the islands.</p>			

		<p>Replacement of LOTI – concerns raised that replacement be ready for the completion of the harbour work due at Lochboisdale.</p> <p>Discussion re Transport Scotland plans for free bus travel for under 22s, agreement that for Islands Youth to truly benefit, ferry travel should be included in the scheme.</p>	circulate TS survey re under 22s travel scheme	ICC	asap
•	Treasurer's report	Nothing to report.			
•	Pathway project	Public Consultation planned for June.	Continue to work on Funding Plan	ICC	On-going
•	South Uist and Eriskay Forum	Contractor has been hired for 10 weeks to do some initial work on identifying the needs and wants of the community with regards to the Forum. In the next few weeks there is expected to be a consultation of the general public and community groups/private businesses.			
•	Councillors Update	<p>Funding secured for a Bus Shelter at lochdar road end.</p> <p>Spinal route – UK Gov infrastructure funding may be available to dual the remaining single track sections.</p> <p>Murdo Macleod is the Council's Empty Homes Officer for the Outer Hebrides. He can provide advice to anyone with a question about an empty home. He can help identify options for bringing an empty property back into use and offer support and assistance.</p> <p>Boundaries Scotland (previously Boundaries Commission) have released their final proposals for Ward changes, overall Uist and Barra will retain 7 Councillors but allocations will change - Barra is to get 2 Councillors, North Uist will have 2 Councillors, Barra will have 2 and South Uist, Eriskay and Benbecula will share 3 Councillors. Overall CnES Councillor numbers will be reduced from 31 to 29.</p>			
•	AoB	<p>Issue has been raised by a member of the community about traffic speeds on Ardmore Road, concerns due to number of children in homes by the roadside.</p> <p>Sgoil an lochdair agus a'Choimhearsnachd AGM is scheduled on 15th June, all are welcome.</p> <p>Issue raised at lochdar School Parent Council, re security issues in the school playground out with school hours, they are asking the Police to have a presence to deter further problems.</p>	<p>Letter to Ardmore residents re road safety</p> <p>Contact Police to support Parent Council request.</p>	ICC	asap
•	Date of Next Meeting	Next meeting will be in Aug/Sept tbc, meeting ended 8.55pm			