

# POINT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Ordinary Meeting  
held on  
26<sup>th</sup> July 2021  
via Google Meet

**Present:** Ken MacLennan (Deputy Chair); Joanne Dixon (Treasurer); Donald Macritchie; Margaret Ralston; Donna Smith (Guest).

**Apologies:** Alex John Murray (Chair).

**Matters Arising from Previous Minute:** Minute of 31<sup>st</sup> May adopted.

**Margaret and Donna** were welcomed to the meeting by Ken who is standing in for Alex John as acting chair tonight.

**Donna Smith** told us that she has been asking questions about housing need in the community related to the surveys that came through everyone's letterbox recently. She has had about 1500 paper responses to date plus more submitted online. The survey was commissioned by HHP to establish if there was a housing need that they were unaware of. It deals with all sorts of housing tenures and will inform the Comhairle's housing strategy.

Donna requested that if any members are aware of anyone wishing to move back to the island to encourage them to fill in the survey online. Ken asked Donna to formulate a notice that could be added to our Facebook page. Ken also asked if there was any link to the James Hatton survey who were also surveying about housing as well as other issues. That survey was commissioned by the Scottish Islands Federation, which concluded that there was a lack of affordable housing and a poor variety of tenures available. It was also noted that there are barriers to young people in securing crofts.

In relation to the questions contained therein, members present gave their views to Donna. There was some discussion of how the Islands Act relates to housing. Ken asked Donna to come back to us in the future with the results of the survey in relation to Point.

**Planning Applications:** None of note.

**Treasurer's Report:** Nothing new to note.

**Action Plan:** No new developments other than a meeting with Calum Mackenzie from the Comhairle who is sending a plan of Point so as to identify areas for priority action to create footpaths and cycle paths.

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**LACC Meetings with CalMac:** Issues raised about inadequacies of freight transport. Petition for action raised with acknowledgement that building of new ferries taking some time. New freight arrangements were subsequently put in place but that arrangement has now broken down with the failure of another ferry.

LACC organisation is working well in terms of being heard with expectation of having a positive effect on conditions and services for islanders.

**CNES Electoral Review:** This process is just starting and will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

## **AOCB:**

Ken thanked members for helping out at the recent beach clean.

Ken also proposed a new member to be co-opted onto the committee, which was agreed. Her name is Lina Koser.

**Next Meeting:** 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021.