

Back Community Council Meeting
Tuesday 9th November 2021 @ 7:30pm
Loch a Tuath Community Hut
Minutes of Meeting

Present: Margaret-Ann Maciver (MA), Sara Maciver, Andrew Morrison, Cllr Calum Maclean, Colin Thompson, Neil Davis, Kinny Davis, Alex John Macleod, Gordon MacIennan, Boyd Mackenzie.

Apologies: Cathy MacInnes, Cllr John A Maciver, Cllr Donald Crichton.

Chair: Margaret-Ann Maciver (MA)

Margaret-Ann Maciver welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

Cathy has stepped down as Chair of the Back Community Council.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes from our meeting held on Tuesday 12th October 2021 were proposed by Neil Davis and seconded by Kinny Davis.

Matters Arising

Brevig Harbour Users Group

Gordon and Alex John kindly attended our meeting;

- Made yellow tags to attach onto the equipment that will be disposed of, to make the owners known to the committee by a certain date.
- Spoke to McLaughlin Plant who agreed to take away the wrecked boats, creels and scrap steel, provide skips.
- Alex John – Talking with Environmental Health who promised the provision of skips and discussed a community clean up day
- Will provide a notice of 4-6 weeks, to have a harbour clean up day in January 2022.
- Received £22.5k from the Crown Estate
- Ivor Murrays are contracted to carry out work on safety rails and corners – quoted £8k.
- The harbour area is getting worse – the Comhairle owns Brevig pier so the Harbour master is responsible. Check the terms and conditions of the use of harbour. There is no enforcement.
- Possibility of a further £22.5k in next year's round of funding.
- Progress - McLaughlins have begun breaking scraps.
- If there is a skip charge, our councillors will pay this out of their ward funding.

Development Worker

There was one unsuitable applicant for the development worker post who did not meet the criteria. Cllr Crichton suggested that we wait until January and get a consultant on board. Andrew will forward the job description over to Colin

Polycrub

Colin will get updated quotes for the polycrub and materials.

Gress Beach Signage

There has been no update on this. This will be kept on the agenda.

Speed Sign

The sign was off for around 3 – 4 weeks. MA contacted Murdo Florence in the Comhairle who advised that they couldn't change the batteries unless there were other jobs to do in the area.

Hut Street Light

Murdo Florence was under the impression that the street light had been ordered. Hopefully there will be progress in the next week or so.

Crown Estate

There is no word on the Crown Estate. May not be any update until the next election in May. This will be kept on the agenda.

Finances

The balance stands at £59, 257.46. This includes all the crown estate funding and play park monies.

AOCB

Caravan Park

There has been no update on this

Road Signs

A Cnoc Catriona sign has been put up in Coll.

Brevig Toilets

Colin was given the code to the toilet from the Harbour Master. The toilets need a joiner to carry out work before its cleaned. Colin received a quote for works for £3k to carry out rewiring and tiling. Colin will send this spec to Iain Buchanan, the assistant harbour master.

Enchanted Garden

Boyd Mackenzie joined our meeting to discuss potential funding to apply for to develop an enchanted forest on his croft at 23 Back.

- Planting trees 20 years ago to create a lit up, enchanted forest.
 - Similar to one in Pitlochery but on a smaller scale
 - Open woodland walk to the public next year
 - Scotland's Garden Scheme
 - Honestly box – small entrance fee – good for local community
 - Environmental benefit. Renewable energy, water and wind powered, solar power. Suggesting off-grid kit.
 - Community energy grant
 - Crown estate - Work on the costing and submit a funding application for the next round.
-
- All agreed it is a great idea, will be fantastic for families and children
 - Community Energy Scotland. Kathleen. Andrew will forward on Kathleen's email to Boyd – point in the right direction to speak to the right person.

Sara will forward Laura Carse's email address to Boyd Mackenzie.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting will be on Tuesday 8th February 2022 at 7:30pm.

The original date of the next meeting was Tuesday 11th January 2022 but was postponed.

Margaret-Ann Maciver thanked everybody for attending and closed the meeting.