

**Back Community Council Meeting**  
Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2022 @ 7:30pm  
Loch a Tuath Community Hut  
Minutes of Meeting

**Present:** Cathy MacInnes, Margaret-Ann Maciver (MA), Sara Maciver, Andrew Morrison, Cllr Donald Crichton. Cllr Calum Maclean, Colin Thompson, Neil Davis, Kinny Davis.

**Apologies:** Cllr John A Maciver

**Chair:** Margaret-Ann Maciver (MA)

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

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes from our meeting held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021 were proposed by Colin Thompson and seconded by Andrew Morrison.

**Matters Arising**

**Brevig Harbour Users Group**

Alex John was in touch with Andrew to let us know that the cleanup is almost complete, safety rails are in place and the harbour is looking good now. The users group are looking at putting timber around the harbour edge, and a few other jobs depending on funding.

**Brevig Toilets**

The Comhairle have taken over cleaning the toilets at Brevig Harbour. Andrew will speak to Iain Buchanan at CNES about the email Colin had composed regarding work would need done to the toilets before beginning to clean it.

**Development Worker**

Unfortunately, there is still no interest in this post. Kathryn Lamont Smith and BCC all agree that it needs to go down the route of getting a consultant to help us employ somebody suitable and assess what needs to be done.

**Polycrub / Asset Transfer**

Colin has received half of the updated quotes back and will redo the costing document. The cost of the polycrub remains the same (£9700). There is a backlog so it may take a while to arrive. William Wilsons and Macivers quotes remain the same cost. There is an increase on Mayburys due to the increase cost of compost etc. Angus Mackay's will cost £500.

The crofters are unable to procure sheds – we may need to revisit this part or apply for additional money to buy supplies and build a shed, and raised beds.

Andrew will discuss with Colin on how to begin ordering and invoicing for the polycrub supplies.

Comann Eachdraigh Sgìre a Bhac has now had the lease of the land confirmed with CNES. This means that we can now enter into discussion regarding using the land for the polycrub.

### **Signage at Gress Beach**

There has been no update on this matter. Cathy will speak to Bunter from Gress Common Grazings about this.

### **Speed Sign**

The speed sign has been taken away from its pole by the Renault Garage.

### **Loch a Tuath Community Hut**

The street light has been installed and wired into the Hut building. The Comhairle are to help the Hut towards the cost of this. The install cost £271.00 excluding labour costs.

### **Crown Estate**

The Crown Estate is hoping to have a third round of funding this year. Our councillors will discuss at the Crown Estate meeting tomorrow.

### **Finances**

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

### **AOCB**

#### **Snooker Table in Hut**

Colin spoke with Simon Dunne regarding the snooker table, who mentioned that we would be more likely to sell this on the mainland. Simon will keep in touch if he hears of any interest. The green cover is torn on the table. It is taking up a lot of space in the Hut and it would be good to get it sold.

#### **Constitution**

Neil has noticed that our constitution is a standardised copy which is given to all the community councils, and it is not current and we hope to get it updated. Derek Mackay will be emailed to follow this up.

- No mention that our finances need 2 signatories
- Asset – Add into the constitution that the polycrub is owned and stays with the BCC.
- There is no mechanism mentioned for appointing office bearers.

Check previous AGM minutes to see if Colin and Neil have been co-opted into the community council. Belle Anne Scott said that Back's constitution was never returned to the Comhairle but we have signed it and had legal representation at our last AGM (28 May 2019).

## **Enchanted Garden**

Boyd Mackenzie has been in touch with Kathleen at Community Energy Scotland, and is currently putting costs together for this project. No further update on this.

## **Survey**

BCC checked the survey from 2020 to see what folk in the Loch a Tuath area wanted in the community. 200/600 residents responded to our survey mentioned that they would like to see more street lights, pavements, better beach access, sports and leisure facilities, bowling and to do something about energy efficiency - BCC can get TIG to chat to those interested in the area.

It would be good to have a consultant go over the survey, although it is now 2 years old, and assess needs going forward.

## **Community Programme (Euan Macleod)**

Euan Macleod, Community Sports Hub Officer for L&H, is hoping to set up a community programme for the inclusion of our elderly residents (65+). He is looking for two things from the BCC, information/contacts on any community groups for the elderly operating in the LAT area and about £75 for Easter eggs and wee baskets for the East egg hunt. BCC mentioned that we could provide £500 to this project.

Rural community testing change fund which has up to £5k available towards a community initiative.

Jennet from BFRC has a bike club for preschool in the Coll Centre. Sara will invite Jennet along to our next meeting to discuss.

## **Loch a Tuath News**

A huge congratulations to the Loch a Tuath News for winning the best community newspaper in the Highlands and Islands.

## **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting will be on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 7:00pm.

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