

CASTLEBAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in Castlebay School on 29th September 2016 at 6.30pm

PRESENT:	Michael Galbraith	Chair	Christina MacNeil	Vice Chair
	Iain G MacNeil	Treasurer	Angus MacNeil	Committee
	Marion MacNeil	Committee	Eoin MacNeil	Committee
	Tina Campbell	Public	Neil MacLennan	Public

Michael welcomed those in attendance. As there is no Clerk at present, Marion agreed to take minutes. Discussions were had regarding the possibility of hiring a clerk. The Committee agreed to pay a fee of £50 per meeting towards the Clerk.

Action: Michael to contact Belle Anne in Stornoway regarding the payments due to the Community Council for administration.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES (27/06/16)

Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by Christina MacNeil and seconded by Eoin MacNeil.

Annie Jane Monument

Iain G reported that works have taken place at the Monument – protective fencing. Noone is aware of who completed the work so Tina to ask the community. Eoin to check to see if Mr MacIntyre (Memorials) is able to clean up monument.

Old Coop

No further update on the old coop building. It was agreed to retain the item on the Agenda.

PlayParks

Question over who insured the Playparks in Castlebay/Northbay. Issues with state of the playpark (drainage) and whether funds are available to upgrade.

Action: Iain G to contact Iain GG Campbell from Cnes who may be able to advise.

Trees/Bins – Horve and Castlebay

The ongoing concern regarding the mess of the overgrown, rotten trees and rubbish mainly around the Horve area. Lack of ownership and no tree management scheme in place. Also concern regarding the rubbish located around the coop.

Action: Marion to contact Peter Coldwell (Cnes Environmental Officer) for advice. Michael to speak to Coop regarding their waste management.

Fitness Suite

Cnes have agreed to fund the upgrade of the fitness suite which will include extensive refurbishing (tiling etc). This was welcomed by the Committee.

Roads Improvements

With budget restraints, there is limited funds for road repairs. It was highlighted that Ardveenish was in a poor state.

Community Council Funding

It was noted that we have yet to receive a receipt from the Barra Games Association for the donation they received from us. Christina to issue a reminder.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. TRANSPORT

Ferry Service: The timetable is good although concern has been raised regarding the vessel choice. The Isle of Arran has been operating from October for approx. 3 weeks and again in January for similar length of time. The Arran is not a comfortable vessel for passengers, particularly over the winter months. It was agreed to monitor how the winter service operates.

Air Service: Michael updated the Committee on the recent decision to reinstate an additional flight from Benbecula to Stornoway which commences October 2016. The decision was made before the Air Service review was completed. Loganair aim to have discussions with Transport Scotland regarding increasing summer flights to Glasgow to 3 a day. There are also future plans to expand/renovate the airport terminal building to increase capacity for passengers and the café.

Action: Michael to write to Malcolm Burr – Cnes Chief Executive – expressing disappointment that Barra was excluded from consideration for flight reinstatement to Benbecula.

Bus Service: Marion declared an interest on this matter. The new timetables came into operation on August 18th 2016. A number of services are request only. Passengers must phone in advance to book these services. Tina raised concern on behalf of individuals on Vatersay that there is limited afternoon service to Vatersay and that the school bus does not carry public passengers.

Action: Eoin to contact David Smart to discuss the timetable.

Allasdale Road Closure: It was noted that due to extensive repairs to the bridge at Allasdale, this road would be closed from 17th – 21st October 2016. Alternative diversions would be in place via East.

2. NHS / CNES LOCALITY PLAN UPDATE

Michael and Eoin are both representatives on this group. The merge between both organisations aims to streamline resources. There are 25 priority areas and 5 locality areas. They meet 4 times per year. It is vital that Barra & Vatersay prioritise what is important to them. Discussions regarding the CPN post on Barra (or lack of it) and the concern about the importance of retaining it.

Action: Eoin to write to Jessie MacNeil (Chair of Locality Group) to reiterate the community concerns of the CPN.

3. HERRING WALK EXTENSION

CBaB (Community Company) have put forward a proposal to extend the herring walk to allow for a walkway to continue to the new Pontoon development. A feasibility study would be required. The Community Council agreed to support this project as it would benefit many people in the community and create a new, safer walkway for families/tourists.

4. TREASURER UPDATE

Iain G confirmed that the current bank balance is £9,300.

Funding Requests

The local Provincial Mod requested support and it was agreed to donate £100. It was also agreed to allocate £500 towards the Castlebay Christmas School parties.

AOCB

Concerns were raised regarding the pavement obstruction at the Post Office. Parents with prams were having to walk onto the main road, which is a dangerous corner, due to the tables on the pathway.

Michael thanked everyone for attending and advised the date of the next meeting will be confirmed by email.

Date of Meeting	Action	Updates	Action Against	Status
Nov 2015	Position of Clerk	No responses to date	All	On going
8/02/16	Bus Shelter for Airport	Emailed, council agreed if HIAL would partly fund	Michael	On going
8/02/16	Annie Jane Monument	Checked funding criteria etc. Sought some quotes for work	Iain G	On going
8/02/16	Facebook Page or other	No update	Christina	On going
9/05/16	Write to council asking what discussions etc took place on the run up to their decision (funding)	Verbal communication with Local Councillor to try and obtain copy correspondence.	Eoin	On going
9/02/16	Request documentation regarding funding application to Scottish Government for full project	No update	DManford	On going
9/02/16	Castlebay Play Area Insurance – Clarify with Marion	No update	Marion	On going
9/02/16	Co-op Sponsor clean-up around football field and play park	No update	Christina	On going
27/06/16	Letter to Transport Scotland & MSP Transport & Islands	Email sent to Michael Bracher cc Transport Minister, thanking them for current service	Michael	Closed
27/06/16	Joint (C/bay & N/bay) CC meeting Airport Facilities	No update	Michael	On going
27/06/16	Letter to Council regarding the poor state of the fitness suite	Email received updating situation with intension of upgrading facilities	Eoin	Closed
27/06/16	Contact Council to place more Bins around Football Field	No update	Michael	On going
27/06/16	Receipt from Barra Games	Nothing received to date	Iain G	On going
27/06/16	Road Improvements – Clarity on requests	Received an email from Donald Johnston – Cnes regarding Road repairs	Michael	Closed
29/09/16	Contact Belle Anne – Cnes regarding Admin payements		Michael	
29/09/16	Contact Iain GG Campbell – Cnes regarding state of C/bay Play Park		Iain G	
29/09/16	Contact Co-op regarding Waste Management		Michael	
29/09/16	Letter to Malcolm Burr – Cnes Chief Executive ; regarding reinstatement of Benbecula/Barra flights		Michael	
29/09/16	Contact David Smart – Cnes Bus Timetable		Eoin	
29/09/16	Letter/email to Jessie MacNeil (Chair of Locality Group) regarding concerns of the CPN		Eoin	