

SANDWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Monday 17th January 2022 at 7.30pm

Public Meeting in Sandwich Hall

MINUTE OF THE MEETING

Sederunt: Anna Macfarlane, Duncan Mackay, Rhoda Mackenzie(Vice Chair), Nicola MacSween(Clerk), Bob Walker(Chair)

Councillors: Cllrs Angus McCormack & Rae Mackenzie

In Attendance: PC Ross Masson
Public Attendees: record retained by Bob Walker, Chair

Apologies: No apologies received.

Minute of the Previous Meeting:

The minute of the meeting held on Thursday 1st October 2020

Matters Arising:

lolaire Remembrance/Wreath Laying: Official ceremony cancelled due to adverse weather on the 1st January 2022. SCC wreath placed by Bob Walker on 10th January 2022 accompanied by Cllr McCormack & Nicola MacSween.

Posthumous Awards WW2 – Cllr McCormack reported: Ginny Hutchison, Sculptor & creator of Stornoway's Herring Girl statues, engaged to create a bronze relief of Cpl Macaulay. A suitable mounting to be considered and to include Military Association, story of action and a copy of Annabel Goldie's letter.

Chriselle MacLennan Cup: now resolved.

Female Representation/Community Views/MOWG: 70 were said to have attended the training sessions

Area Water Safety Groups: matter concluded

Housing & Environment: Mossend T-junction visibility issues now resolved

Association of Community Councils: Chair and Vice Chair now appointed.

Street & Landscape Furniture: 2 benches arranged by Cllr McCormack, Bob Walker arranging fixing of plaques in memory of the late Mary McCormack and Willie MacFarlane: SCC Secretary & Treasurer respectively. Agreed: 2 plaques at £70 each in stainless steel with black lettering.

GDPR: On hold/CnES.

Bank Account Signatories: 1 new signatory: Rhoda Mackenzie

Payment for Clerk Services: Being resolved

SHARE: Ongoing

Local Electricity Bill: No developments to report.

Housing & Environment: Pathway from Mackenzie Park now complete.

Dog Fouling: Ongoing

Signage for Walkers & Cyclists: No signage in place at Parkend/Melbost

Reconvening:

SCC Members met prior to the SCC Public Meeting to ratify the following Office Bearer changes given that:

Bob Walker stepped back temporarily

Sandy Morrison, Vice Chair resigned: 4th February 2021.

23rd February 2021: Rhoda Mackenzie, Vice Chair & Interim Chair

Proposed By: Anna MacFarlane Seconded By: Duncan Mackay

23rd February 2021: Duncan Mackay, Interim Vice Chair

Proposed By: Anna MacFarlane Seconded By: Rhoda Mackenzie

17th January 2022: Bob Walker, Chair

Proposed by: Rhoda Mackenzie Seconded By: Duncan Mackay

17th January 2022: Rhoda Mackenzie, Vice Chair

Proposed By: Anna MacFarlane Seconded By: Bob Walker

Traffic Management Issues: East Street, Sandwick

- Further to this issue being raised by Sandwick resident, Amy Cunningham in a letter to Cllr Angus McCormack, PS Ross Masson addressed the meeting. This ranged the wider district profile including East Street and other, current issues.
- All CCs encounter issues with speed
- There are no specific crime trends in the district save for speed and exhaust noise
- 9 speed detections in the last 7 months; 1 report to the Procurator Fiscal, ASBOS, 1 vehicle seizure
- Most detected at North/East Street crossroads
- Sandwickhill School to the Braighe; mainly motorbikes - speed/noise
- No figures for the Melbost area
- Speed issues on Constable Road and Mossend
- Finite police resources are used wisely. Require 2 officers deploying a range of measures including: electronic speed devices (most effective), access to vehicle & driver information, black box deterrent for young drivers.
- Local authority measures used in tandem such as signage(mainly), rumble strips, chicanes, education/re-education, and advice. Not all of which are suitable for main arteries.
- 20mph speed limit measure: agreed for town centre but not including Matheson Road; difficult to maintain and causes frustration. Charges depend on speed excess.
- Exhaust sound pollution/anti-social behaviour: mindfulness advised. Managed daily. Some non-standard exhausts permitted on specific makes and models for example.
- Town centre bike issues: managed through dialogue/police intervention in bike/youth gatherings. Careful consideration of legislation surrounding the seizure of bikes. Identification difficult given "Ninja style" appearance.
- **101 is first point of contact.** (Any difficulties should be reported)

Planning Application - Radar Station Plasterfield;

This application for a housing development and associated access and infrastructure is not designated in the Local Plan.

SCC has submitted a written objection and received confirmation of receipt from CnES Planning.

Local Place Plans: defer to next meeting

Transportation - Ferry Services:

- Bob Walker reported he had raised the issue with AJ Murray, Chair of the Association of Community Councils
- The meeting proposed the AoCC in conjunction with CnES, lobby ScotGov and include mention of a freight ferry, an island base for CalMac together with locals as Board Members.

Sandwickhill Hub:

- Cllr Angus McCormack raised the aspiration of community ownership of the former Sandwickhill P School with C.I. Maciver, CnES and received a positive response indicating the project could be supported by "The Levelling Up Fund"
- Following an informal meeting, a letter of Expression of Interest was lodged and accepted by CnES
- This meeting agreed to accept the proposed community ownership of the property.
- David Macleay—CnES Officer appointed to the project
- Steering Group to be created representing all community groups locally, young people in particular, and community survey to be carried out
- Calum Mackenzie, CnES had advised the building was in temporary use by the NHS Covid Action Team and he would arrange site visits for the steering group as soon as practical
- Anna MacFarlane asked if a Community Development Officer post could be created to assist this, and other developments throughout the district
- The meeting was advised that CnES had recently indicated that a participant in the CnES Apprenticeship Scheme would be appointed to SCC and would be involved in a range of activities including the Sandwickhill Hub project.

Point and Sandwick Trail:

Steinish Stage 2: anticipated to be underway this year

Lower Sandwick to the Iolaire Car Park:

- ScotGov Funding in place and awaiting Crown Estate Funding outcome
- Cllr McCormack written to all Cllrs requesting further contributions
- Mound near car park to be demolished and stones used as infill for route foundation
- Awaiting final planning decision. Staffing issues/pandemic
- Completion of project: end March 2022

AOCB:

Challenge Fund: consider for Iolaire Funding

Anti-social Behaviour:

Cllr Rae Mackenzie referred to the ongoing issue in Stornoway town centre involving a group of youths on bikes and mentioned earlier in the meeting by PS Masson. Contact from CI Alasdair Macleod would be arranged.

Branahuie Junction:

Anna MacFarlane raised an issue of impaired visibility at the "T" junction due to undergrowth. Bob Walker to contact the property owner or CnES if relevant.

DONM: TBA

