

SANDWICK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Meeting

Monday 6th March 2023 at 7.30pm

Sandwick Hall (upstairs)

MINUTE OF THE MEETING

Sederunt: Anna Macfarlane, Duncan Mackay,
Nicola MacSween(Clerk), Bob Walker(Chair), Mike Smith

Councillors: Cllr Angus McCormack

Apologies: Cllr Frances Murray

Minute of the Previous Meeting:

The minute of the meeting held on: Monday 6th February 2023 was accepted. Proposed and Seconded by Duncan Mackay & Anna MacFarlane respectively.

Matters Arising:

Posthumous Award WW2 – Cllr McCormack reported he hoped to meet up with Ginny Hutchison, Sculptor when she was next on the island.

Association of Community Councils: Ongoing.

Street & Landscape Furniture: Photos to be arranged in good Spring/Summer weather.

GDPR: On hold/CnES.

Local Electricity Bill: organisers hoping for Government support. Change essential and possible for islands to be self sufficient with optimal mix of different, green technologies. UHI/CnES could form a generating company to enable.

CnES have formed an “Energy MOWG” for current and future operations. This has not yet met!

Housing & Environment, Dog Fouling & Traffic Issues: Cllr FM to report back

Sandwickhill Hub:

It was noted:

- Hub group meeting regularly
- a warm space had been created upstairs in the hall building
- youth group activities held regularly in the main hall as well as upstairs
- survey of old school buildings complete and clear plan to make usable
- flat roofed/corridor section is first priority requiring most work
- David Macleay, CnES assisting with funding plans
- Hub Group itself will submit funding applications
- Community Survey designed and administered by Mike Smith to determine purposes of the Hub buildings. 200 responses received.
- Appreciation for Sandwickhill Hub group efforts noted.

Point and Sandwich Trail:

- Steinish, Phase 2 – works onsite imminently, hopefully. Positive indications from HIAL subject to written confirmation. Works likely to commence from village end towards airport environs.
- Sheshader to Black Sandie – first section to commence subject to planning consent
- Lower Sandwich to The Iolaire Carpark section – included in the Stornoway half marathon route on 27th May 2023

Transportation: Ferry Services:

Agreed communities needed to keep pressure on and agitate. Utilise all contacts for flights & ferries: Rhoda Grant and Loganair.

Cllr Frances Murray & Bob Walker contacted Alasdair Allan MSP – no reply received.

Cllr Angus McCormack received an email stating “response delayed” relating to a meeting request with Humza Yousaf

Green Footprint: Committee had not met. Noted that UHI Outer Hebrides had to cancel Hydrogen course as plant not operational.

Local Place Plans:

CnES Planning contacted and SCC interest in LPP noted. A programme of Community Engagement may be likely but plans not confirmed at this point. No resources to provide speakers for individual groups as requested.

Equipment to be resourced for group to explore LPP software and scope.

Project List: (ongoing)

Aspirational projects to be matched to funding sources as they open for bids:

- Drapes for Sandwich Hall(main hall): Bob Walker/Hall sub committee
- Wifi/Hybrid online meeting technology: Cllr McCormack/Sandwickhill Hub
- Steinish Mission Hall -new door & path: Mike Smith/speculative bid to CE Fund

Finance:

Anna Macfarlane, Treasurer reported an a/c balance of @£14 146

AOCB:

Development Worker: resources continue to be shared with Stornoway Community Council. No supervisor. Community Learning Dept is now the lead on Development Worker appointments. Budget holder:Dolina Smith.

Cllr Angus McCormack meeting with Stornoway Cllrs to pursue later this week. Derek Mackay, CnES to be contacted for meeting dates also.

Steinish Mission Hall: awaiting written confirmation of transfer to community ownership. Mike Smith engaging assistance to progress this.

Community Safety: concern expressed at what appears to be an escalation in level of serious crime locally. As well as stretched resources resulting in longer response and follow up times.

Iolaire Lifebelts: Now installed and Duncan Mackay to check.

DONM:

Monday 17th April 2023