

STRUAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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SECRETARY
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Minutes of the meeting of Struan Community Council, held in Struan Primary School on Monday 12th January 2015 at 7.00pm.

Present: Miss C MacLennan (Chair) Mr A Morrison Mr B Morris Mr K Davies
Mr M N Beaton Mr G MacKinnon Mrs H MacLeod & Ms S Illingworth

Item 1: Welcome

Miss C MacLennan took the Chair and welcomed all to the Meeting, particularly Ms Illingworth.

Item 2: Apologies for Absence

Mr A Lockhart

Item 3: Minutes of Meeting of 8th September 2014

Minutes from the meeting of 10th November 2014 were put forward to the meeting for approval. Adoption of minutes was proposed by Mrs H MacLeod and seconded by Mr B Morris and duly signed.

Item 4: Matters Arising

a) Web Page

Mr A Morrison advised that this has not yet moved forward, will try and arrange a sit down with Mr N Till to go over how items should be input onto the Web Site, as not entirely clear from the instructions provided.

Action: AM

b) Great War Commemoration

Mr A Morrison advised that after much toing and froing with the Planning Dept, Ward Manager and TEC Services, it would appear that we will not require to apply for Planning Permission for the erection of the Flag Pole, just a couple of points to be cleared with Mark Crowe, once this has been resolved can proceed to order the required items as previously costed.

Action: AM

c) Telephone Exchange

Mr G MacKinnon confirmed all works are complete; Invoice submitted and settled by Mr B Morris, Mr A Morrison to contact SSE to arrange for the Electricity Supply to be re-instated. It was further agreed we should insure the property for £20,000, Mr A Morrison to contact Highland Council, so that the property can be added to the Zurich Insurance Policy held through Highland Council.

Action: AM

d) Shooting & Fishing Rights

Mr A Morrison advised that he along with Mr A MacAskill, Ebost, had spoken to a number of people in the Community, the responses gave the impression that there is insufficient interest in progressing the matter any further, Mr A Morrison advised he would e-mail the relevant people to advise the Community would not be taking the matter any further

Action: AM

Prior to commencement of discussion of this issue, Miss C MacLennan advised that as she has an interest (Non- Financial) in the next item, she would not be taking any part in the discussion, therefore, asked Mr M N Beaton to take the chair for the duration of the discussion

e) Planning Application - Old Manse

Ms Illingworth advised the meeting that since the last meeting matters have moved forward, in that the Developer has proceeded to fell trees, lop branches, demolish and re-build a portion of the wall, causing distress to Ms Illingworth, particularly as the work is clearly in breach of the terms of the Application. Subsequent to this Mr M Harvey, Local Planning Officer, attended the site to view what has been undertaken, he was dissatisfied with the way in which the wall has been re-built as not in line with the Listed Planning Consent, in addition he advised he had concerns with the development, taking into consideration the changes to the Application with respect to the Listed Planning Consent granted.

However, it has now become apparent that the Planning Application for the 2 Houses on the site has been withdrawn by the Developer, this was noted from the most recent Planning Lists issued on 9th January 2015, the consensus being that a further amended Application is likely to be submitted.

After further discussion, it was agreed that there are grave concerns with the way in which this Planning Matter has been dealt with by the previous Planning Officer, Mr M Hoare, as according to Ms Illingworth she was consistently informed that no Listed Consent had been granted, when it has been in place for a number of years and is due to expiry in February 2015.

In conclusion, Ms Illingworth is to seek further advice regards the Listed Consent, consequently may seek legal advice as to her position going forward.

Miss C MacLennan re-took the chair at this point

f) Glen Ullinish Wind Farm

Mr M N Beaton, Mr B Morris & Mr A Morrison, since the last meeting, have gone over the Planning Application Pack supplied by Kilmac agents; all did not find anything of concern within the Application Documents.

g) BT Exchange – Up Grades

Mr A Morrison confirmed he had written both MP & MSP expressing our gratitude in what they have done to date and asking them to continue to do what they can to advance the provision of better Broadband Connections. It was further agreed to write Digital Scotland requesting an up to date timeframe for improved speed and service within the Community Area.

Action: AM

h) Advertising Community Council Meetings

At the last meeting it was agreed to advertise future CC Meetings on the Noticeboard at The Green, however, this has not been possible as the Noticeboard has recently suffered Storm Damage. Therefore, Mr G MacKinnon agreed to take a look and see if it would be possible to repair the Noticeboard or will a replacement be required, will advise outcome at next meeting.

Item 5: Lease Agreements – Cemetery Car Park & Play Park

Mr A Morrison sent out copies of the revised Lease Agreements to members recently for their perusal and comment, all in order with the Play Park Lease, however, Mr B Morris noted that the Cemetery Car Park Lease states that a boundary fence to be erected around the leased area. Mr A Morrison advised he was of the opinion that this related to the initial Draft Lease when we were initially only going to obtain the Cemetery Car Park in isolation where a boundary fence is required. It would appear that when the additional ground was included this portion of the Lease should have been amended to specify that only the Cemetery Car Park area requires to have a boundary fence, will confirm this with Mark Crowe and proceed if this is the case, otherwise, will revert to members at the next meeting.

Action: AM

Item 6: Struan Primary School

Mr A Morrison advised that the Consultation Report had been issued and as suspected the recommendation is to close Struan Knockbreck and Edinbane, build a new School in Dunvegan and combine the catchments areas so all pupils would go to Dunvegan. Furthermore, on going through the Submissions within the Report it was noted that our Submission was not within the Document, Mr A Morrison immediately contacted Mr Jackson at the Education Dept to find out why this was the case, appears our Document must have been mislaid, Mr Jackson apologised profusely and subsequently a letter of apology was received. In addition, our Submission was added as an addendum to the Report and copies of addendum issued to all those that had been provided with a copy of the Report.

After discussion it was agreed that our points raised in respect of Financial Information, Consultation Process and Re-Drawing of Primary School Catchment Areas had not been answered satisfactorily, if at all, therefore, agreed that Mr A Morrison would submit a further representation to be submitted to the Education, Children and Adult Services Committee Meeting on 14th January 2015.

Action: AM

Item 7: New Police Inspector

Miss C MacLennan advised that she had received an e-mail from the new Policy Inspector Linda Allan, introducing herself, she also offered to attend a future Community Council Meeting, it was agreed that Miss C MacLennan would invite the Inspector to our next meeting if date is convenient for her.

Action: CM

Item 8: North West Skye Walking App

Mr A Morrison advised that he had been invited to a meeting last week in Dunvegan by Miss M Munro of Dunvegan CC/Trust, however, was unable to attend, the meeting was to gauge interest in setting up an App to publicise walks in the North West of Skye. Mr J MacKinnon & Mr A MacPhie attended on behalf of the Struan Community Trust, they advised that the Plan would be to fund the App from contributions from the Struan, Dunvegan & Edinbane Trusts, set up costs are anticipated at £6000, with annual running costs of £500, it would be hoped that annual running costs could be paid for from purchases of the App. It was agreed that it sounds an interesting idea, but would require further information before any decision was made to progress.

Item 9: Correspondence

None

Item 10: AOCB

a) Treasurers Report

Mr B Morris advised that the balance of the account at present was in the region of £1,500.00

b) Cemetery Sign & Signs in the Community

It was noted that there is no sign to indicate where in the village the Cemetery is located, it was thought that the Highland Council are responsible for signage for Cemeteries, agreed Mr A Morrison to e-mail Billy Nicolson at Highland Council for his comments, in addition to mention the main sign at the Dunvegan end of the village that has yet to re-erected, also the general deterioration of signs in the village and passing place signs on the Hill Road. Also, the Slow marking on the road at the end of the Hill Road has more or less worn away, to request if possible to re-mark.

Date of next Meeting will be Monday 2nd March 2015.

Miss MacLennan thanked everyone for their attendance

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 8:45pm.