

STRUAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON
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TREASURER
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SECRETARY
Mr A Morrison
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Minutes of the meeting of Struan Community Council, held in Struan Primary School on Monday 7th September 2015 at 7.00pm.

Present: Miss C MacLennan (Chair) Mr A Morrison Mr B Morris Mr M N Beaton Mr K Davies Mr A Lockhart Mrs F MacKinnon Mr J MacKinnon & Miss C MacIntyre

Item 1: Welcome

Miss C MacLennan took the Chair and welcomed all to the Meeting. .

Item 2: Apologies for Absence

Mrs H MacLeod & Mr G MacKinnon

Item 3: Minutes of Meeting of 10th June 2015

Minutes from the meeting of 10th June 2015 were put forward to the meeting for approval. Adoption of minutes was proposed by Mr B Morris and seconded by Miss C MacLennan and duly signed.

Item 4: Matters Arising

a) Web Page

Mr A Morrison advised that the site is now fully operational, Mr G Semler has kindly re-vamped the site and is happy to input information, at present Mr Morrison on behalf of the CC and Mrs A Munro on behalf of the Struan Trust will provide information to Mr Semler for up dating the site. Miss C MacLennan asked that a letter be sent to Mr Semler thanking him for all his work.

Action: AM

b) Great War Commemoration

Mr A Morrison advised that all items required should be to hand in early course, therefore all should be in place for the Act of Remembrance in November

Action: AM

c) Telephone Exchange

Mr A Morrison advised he will chase up SSE regards having the power connected.

Action: AM

d) BT Exchange

Mr A Morrison advised that still no response and will therefore e-mail again in an attempt to elicit a response.

Action: AM

e) Lease Agreements – Cemetery Car Park & Play Park

Mr A Morrison advised the Tender process is ongoing with a view to submitting an application to the Trust for the quarter to September 2015 or at the latest December 2015

Action: AM

f) Cemetery Signs & Signs in the Community

Mr A Morrison advised that it appears poles have now been put in place for the Cemetery Sign, however, no sign in place, will contact Donnie MacLeod at HRC for update, in addition a number of other queries regarding signs to be made known to him, sign at Peiness Road end appears to have been moved and is not facing traffic, sign at Dunvegan end of village still down, any possibility of repairs to Ose Township & Coillere Road. **Action: AM**

g) Defibrillator Training

Mr A Morrison advised he had spoken to Mr D MacDougall to arrange Refresher Training evenings, he will liaise with Mr N Campbell Training Co-ordinator to agree suitable dates probably after the October School Holidays. In addition whilst in discussion with Mr MacDougall it was noted that the Batteries and the Pads for the Defibrillators at Struan & Ose are almost out of date, cost to replace amounts to £650.00, Mr A Morrison proposed to the meeting that we submit an application to the Struan Trust for funding to replace these items, all in agreement, Mr A Morrison will progress the Application. **Action: AM**

j) Grass Cutting

Mr A Morrison advised that since the last meeting he had submitted an Application to the Struan Trust for funding in the sum of £300 for Grass Cutting around the Seats & Picnic Benches around the village, an Estimate was obtained from Mr J MacKinnon to cut from April to September, Trust accepted the Application and work was undertaken.

k) Shopping Bus Trips to Inverness

Mr B Morris advised that there is still significant interest for Bus Trips, he will therefore submit an Application to the Trust for further funding of £3,000 to facilitate this service. **Action: BM**

Item 5: Struan Primary School

Mr A Morrison advised that a letter had been received from Mr B Alexander in response to our letter of 21st May 2015 regarding Nursery Provision in Struan Primary School, Mr Alexander confirmed that there is no National Guideline figure setting out the minimum number of pre-school pupils to allow a Nursery to operate, also advising that it is Highland Council's view the viability of Nurseries is not determined just by numbers, but also for example the location of the facility in relation to the nearest alternative. Mr Alexander also conceded that Nursery provision could still be provided in the Struan School Building if the School was closed, however, he pointed out that this was not the Council's proposal, they wish to merge Struan with the other 3 schools, if approved, all educational provision for Struan would be from the new school and they would not operate Nursery provision from the Struan School. In relation to Transport for Nursery Provision, Mr Alexander stated that as noted in the Consultation Report that there would be a financial burden for parents from the 3 smaller communities, Mr Alexander went in to state that it is not unusual for parents in Highland to have long journeys to the nearest pre-school facility, due to the low population density in Highland it means that pre-school learning and childcare cannot be provided within easy travelling distance of every family home in the area. Mr Alexander therefore did not give any firm answer on provision of costs for Transporting children to pre-school education. After discussion, it was agreed that at present nothing further could be done until the outcome of the Appeal by Highland Council is known, the appeal is to go before Portree Sheriff Court in November 2015.

Item 6: Planning Application – The Old Post Office

Miss C MacIntyre had submitted details to the CC of a Soakaway System she wishes to install to service her new property on the site adjacent to the old Telephone Exchange and Play Park, as we control both, the Planning Dept requested Miss MacIntyre to advise us as neighbours, also requires us to confirm that we have no objection to the system. In addition, Miss MacIntyre attended the meeting and outlined details of the system and where it would be sited, all agreed that we had no objection, an e-mail had been received from Mrs H MacLeod confirming she had no objection. It was agreed a letter was to be sent to Miss MacIntyre confirming we have no objection.

Action: AM

Item 7: Adopt a Kiosk

Miss C MacLennan provided an up date on this matter, confirming that the statutory notice period required by BT is almost complete, notices outlining the proposal have been lodged at each Kiosk and also one placed on the village noticeboard, also BT happy with the proposed use of the Kiosks, housing the defibrillators. Miss MacLennan further advised that she had spoken to Mr & Mrs Urquhart at Cioch Direct regards moving the defibrillator to the Kiosk, they are quite happy with the proposal. Miss MacLennan confirmed that if we do take the Kiosks on we will take as they are, some work will be required to tidy them up, general clean up and painting, along with arranging a power supply to the Ose Kiosk. It was agreed that if matters progress an application could be submitted to the Struan Trust for funding for the works required, in respect of the providing power to the Ose Kiosk, Mr A Morrison advised he would speak to local electrician to see what was required.

Action: CM & AM

Item 8: NHS Up-date

Mrs F MacKinnon attended the meeting in her capacity as the Community Council's representative in respect of NHS issues, Mrs Mackinnon provide an up date on meetings she has attended in respect of SL&SWR Transport Access and Redesign of Health Services in SL&SWR, her briefing notes are attached at the end of this document. Miss C MacLennan thanked Mrs MacKinnon on behalf of the CC for her valued and continued contribution to the Community. Mrs MacKinnon will report further when it is deemed to be necessary, as this will be an ongoing process for some time to come. .

Item 9: Bonfire & Fireworks

Mr A Morrison confirmed he would arrange the Annual Bonfire & Fireworks, likely date being Friday 6th November 2015, the Gala Committee have once again kindly offered to take on the catering for the event, Mr Morrison will enlist the assistance of the usual volunteers and will submit an Application to the Trust for funding to purchase the Fireworks and cost of catering.

Item 10: Act of Remembrance

The Act of Remembrance will take place on Saturday 7th November 2015 at the War Memorial, Miss C MacLennan & Mr M N Beaton will arrange community members to lay the wreaths, Miss MacLennan will also contact John Caldwell to see if he is available to take the service, contact Donald Beaton to lead the singing and arrange for the opening of the Church if the weather is inclement, Mr A Morrison will arrange collection of the wreaths and speak to Gerry Smith to see if the British Legion Colour Party are available to attend. Once again the Primary School will provide a Poppy Tea at the school after the event.

Item 11: Community Council Elections

Mr A Morrison provided copies of a Time table of the Community Council Elections issued by Highland Council, the date for nomination papers to be submitted begins from Tuesday 22nd September and concludes on Tuesday 6th October at 4.00pm. It was agreed to publish the Timetable on the Web Site and everyone was encouraged to either put themselves forward for re-election or to canvass for other members of the community to submit a Nomination Form. It was agreed by all that it is imperative that there is a Community Council going forward particularly as the Community continues to receive significant monies form the Wind Farm and looks likely that further monies will follow in years to come as likely that the Ullinish Development is to go ahead.

Item 12: Correspondence

None

Item 13: AOCB

a) Post Office

Mrs F Mackinnon provided an up date on the positon with the Post Office, she advised that Mr T Warby has now been accepted by Post Office Ltd to run the local Post Office, this after he has been put through a near impossible number of requirements, however, these have been satisfied and it looks like the decision will be confirmed by the end of October with the Post Office service transferring to the Shop in Struan by January 2016.

b) Treasures Up-date

Mr B Morris advised that the Grant ahs now been received from the Highland Council in the sum of £859.46, therefore the total balance of the Account at present stands at £2,298.05, this includes some Trust funding that will be paid out in early course.

Date of next Meeting will be 28 OCTOBER 2015

Miss MacLennan thanked everyone for their attendance

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 9:07pm.

M. F. Beaton. 28/1-15

Morrison
25/1-15

25/1-15

SL&SWR TRANSPORT ACCESS

Meetings Attended:

A Thursday 18th June 2015 - Broadford

B Wednesday 26th August 2015 - Portree

A Main item - presentation about Lochaber Transport Advice & Booking Service - known as "L TABS".

Scottish Government funded trial project - now extended until October 2015. Great success:

- a) Identified all forms of transport available throughout Lochaber
Timetables; when used; when free/idle; ownership; contact details
Public & private services; any legalities involved
- b) Central point of contact - co-ordinating booking/organising/advertising - (egs given)
- c) Would work in Skye but to extend Ltabs remit would require funding, so try to arrange ourselves.

Therefore: **essential** that each Community Council identifies all forms of transport available in its area and helpful to include suggestions for useful services, particularly to & from hospital services. (Suggestions of shuttle bus between Portree & Broadford.)

B Report from OPW Minibus - discussed requisites for drivers' licences, insurances & testing esp where volunteers involved. Once a month in this area.

Responses already received from Community Councils noted & discussed.

Specific problems raised at **A**, continued at **B** with input from 2 RNLI members - evacuation of Raasay patients during the night to Broadford hospital.

Lifeboat takes 16 mins to reach Raasay, patient transported to Portree pier and treatment in waiting ambulance prior to journey Broadford. Very lengthy & traumatic for patient. RNLI can provide only basic First Aid.

Ideal would be direct to Broadford by Lifeboat, but piers totally unusable due to winds, currents, landing, access, etc. Now considering Sconser but new pier unsuitable. Investigating use of pontoons and/or liaising with local fish farm base there. Helicopter used in clinical necessity only and requires Raasay Fire Service to set out landing lights.

Other items discussed: ferries, trains, Skye Bridge, helicopters.

Noted Community Council elections November, School & Public Transport services soon to go to tender for new contracts starting 1st January 2017. HC Transport Officers happy to speak to public & Community Councils re most cost-effective services within budget.

Local knowledge is essential viz. Community Councils, CVO - offering co-ordination, publicity via press & Cuillin FM. (Next meeting end September.)

REDESIGN OF HEALTH SERVICES SL&WR

Meeting attended: Tuesday 4th August, Portree.

(Includes details I hadn't had time to prepare for Monday's SCC Meeting.)

1. **Design Statement** Draft Version 4 - circulated to Community Councils.

Not a blueprint but highlights desired environment & ethos to be included by architects.

This is the first stage of a strict formal process following Scottish Government's Scottish Capital Investment Manual (SCIM) Clinical brief & technical specifications are the second, more detailed, stage. Entire project is 'bundled' with Badenoch & Strathspey for funding purposes.

2. **Initial Agreement** for the Modernisation of Community & Hospital Services in Skye, Lochalsh & South West Ross. Final draft - Version 9. Published only that day, so no time to study, but to be forwarded to Community Councils (??) 125 page document which I have since studied. Covers entire project from the start. A few questions answered at meeting but no exact details. No of beds to be in Broadford - between 19 & 27 - but still to be determined.

3. **Report** on Transport & Access Sub Group by Chair Hamish Fraser.

4. **Presentation** via video-link by Dr Hugo Van Woerden, Director of Public Health & Policy, explaining all statistics:

- Number of over 75s will more than double in next 20 years
- They will have long term health conditions eg dementia plus multiple other problems
- Fewer young people to care for them
- General population steadily increasing
- Population can triple in holiday period (eg there are 800 registered holiday homes in S&L)
- Deprivation/Poverty by area
- Drive times & distances by area. Many in N Skye over 60 minutes away from Broadford.

Copies circulated to Community Councils.

5. **General discussion** - A&E services; Ambulances - pointed out not all personnel are 'Paramedics' Some, eg Dunvegan ambulance only 'QATs' at present; Care at home; Palliative care at home; Elderly; Mental health problems; First Responders Scheme; Community engagement.

Next meeting in 3 months. Hoped soon to arrange dates of meetings for the next 12 months.