

Stromeferry and Achmore Community Council

Minutes of Meeting held on 28th October 2014 @ 7:00 p.m. Achmore Hall

1 Present & Apologies

Present: Audrey Sinclair, Kath Biss, Ellanne Fraser, Phil Game, Dawn Lupton (till 9.05pm), Mary MacBeth, Neil MacRae (till 9.10pm). Jann MacRae has resigned from the Community Council.

2 Approve and adopt previous minutes

September's minute's referred to Kath as Kate, otherwise the minutes were accepted, proposed by Kath and seconded by Neil.

Copies of minutes are on our website at: - www.stromeferry-and-achmore.co.uk/index.asp?pageid=220934

Email Phil at CC@fernaig.fsnet.co.uk if you would like to be put on the circulation list.

3 Communications received

3.1 By the secretary

October 2014

Email - Weekly - J. Robertson - Skye & Lochalsh planning x 4 - distributed
Email - Weekly - J. Robertson - Delegated list x 4 - distributed
Email - Weekly - A. Allan - Ward 6 Planning x 4 - distributed
Email - Monthly - SLCVO - Community toolkit x 1 - distributed
Email - Monthly - SLCVO - Monthly Bulletins x 1 - distributed
Email - 2/10/14 - Donnie MacLeod - S & A CC Winter resilience request - distributed
Email - 2/10/14 - Rudram J (NHS Highland) - Transport access Sub Group - Participation required - distributed
Email - 3/10/14 - Donnie MacLeod - S & A CC Winter resilience - distributed
Email - 6/10/14 - Liz Bird - SWRI thanks for Auction notice - complete
Email - 6/10/14 - Rory Waugh - Achmore Bridge refurbishment - distributed
Email - 6/10/14 - M McIlwraith - Stronger Voice Remote Participation Event - distributed
Email - 6/10/14 - R Bain - HC urges communities not to miss out on Vodafone mobile 3G access - distributed
Email - 7/10/14 - GADT - Outcome of today's discussion with NHS Highland re GP & OOH G &A - distributed
Email - 8/10/14 - Gary Taylor - PC's Lochcarron Police Beat reports - distributed
Email - 9/10/14 - Jack Bird - Request for £500 for Hall cooker - to be discussed under Hall updates - distributed
Email - 10/10/14 - Policy - CC newsletter - Planning matters October 2014 - to be discussed under AOB - distributed.
Email - 13/10/14 - Policy + htspinterface - Skye & Lochalsh Third Sector Census - distributed - to be discussed
Email - 13/10/14 - M McIlwraith - NHS24.com website refresh survey - distributed
Email - 14/10/14 - SLCVO - AGM - Portree 30/10/14 @ 7.30pm - distributed
Email - 16/10/14 - M McIlwraith - Stronger Voice Remote Participation Event - distributed
Email - 20/10/14 - Thompson M (NHS Highland) - SLWR consultation - completed
Email - 20/10/14 - R Bain - Communities Services - Open Evenings - Portree 26/11/14 @ 6.30pm, Dingwall 28/10/14 @ 6.30pm - discuss AOB - distributed
Email - 21/10/14 - J MacLennan TECS - War Memorials Restoration - discuss AOB - distributed.
Email - 22/10/14 - Gary Smith - A890 Options - distributed
Email - 22/10/14 - Alan Bentley - Update on Recycling centre at Auchtertyre - awaiting update
Email - 22/10/14 - Donnie MacLeod - Salt bins for Achmore - 3rd Nov
Email - 22/10/14 - Audrey Sinclair - Salt Bins & road faults - completed
Email - 23/10/14 - UHI - Information about courses - distributed to all in community
Email - 24/10/14 - J Bird - Stromewood maintenance request for volunteers - distributed to all in community
Email - 25 -26/10/14 - D Mockett & D MacLeod - Braeintra Bridge side collapses - dealt with over weekend
Email - 27/10/14 - A Jupp - Fire Beaters - see 7.5
Email - 27/10/14 - R Bain - Copy of audited accounts for our CC as requested by us. Done
Email - 27/10/14 - Colin McAndrew - Fernaig Trust update see 8.2 2
Email - 27/10/14 - Policy - Budget consultation - phase 2 - discuss
Post - 7/10/14 - Highland Council - 4 x Highland Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference - to be passed around @ meeting.
Hand - 20/10/14 - J Bird - letter re request for £500 for hall boiler - see 8.3
Post - 10/10/14 - Scotways - AGM notification 22/11/14 Saturday Perth.
Post - 23/10/14 - Lochalsh & Skye Housing Association - Annual Report 2014

3.2 By the chairman

None.

If anyone would like copies any of the above documents please contact Mary at CC@fernaig.fsnet.co.uk or 01599 577 296.

4 Treasurer's report

Dawn has now finally received copies of the monthly statements from the bank. There was some debate about the best way to present the expenditure and income figures in the minutes and we will do some more work on this before the next meeting.

The updated figures are:-

Opening Balance	£ 3,722.76
Expenditure this period	£
Income this period	£
Closing Balance as at 29/9/14	£ 2,903.12

Most of the expenditure was the £800 loan to CMNet, our annual grant of £813.48 has yet to be credited to the account. **Action: Dawn, Mary, Phil**

5 Ongoing Items, progress reports

5.1 AGM chair's report

Neil circulated a copy of his report asking for comments, which were presented at the meeting. Neil will circulate an amended copy. **Action: Neil**

5.2 Provisions of benches

Phil has purchased the bench discussed at the last meeting; we will find a suitable site near the cattle grid and look for a method to deter theft. **Action: Phil**

5.3 TEC Services

Donnie MacLeod has given us an update of all the ongoing issues and Audrey has reported the water running across the A890, Phil will update the spreadsheet. **Action: Phil**

5.3.1 *New issues reported*

The smaller Braeintra Bridge (which can be identified by the "temporary" red plastic fencing) has partially collapsed and is in need of repairs. The Strome Ferry bypass is blocked with a landslip. **Action: Phil**

5.3.2 *Outstanding issues*

831820 (Braeintra bridge, reported by Dave Mockett) see above. **Action: Phil**

Speed control through the village. Mark Crowe has suggested we talk to the police. We will invite them to the next CC meeting after the Achmore Bridge has been reopened. **Action: Mary**

The new road from the Strathcarron junction to Coulags ends without warning just before the narrow bridge. Audrey is waiting to see Colin Howell to discuss this. **Action: Audrey**

672709 - The Achmore bridge over the river Ascaig, works have started; Neil asked why local contractors had not been given the chance to tender. Audrey will raise this with the HC. **Action: Audrey**

Phil passed on our thanks to Donnie & TEC services for their prompt action.

5.3.1 *Road fault spreadsheet*

Click [here](#) to view the latest spreadsheet.

5.4 Defibrillator for local emergencies

5.4.1 *Installation*

Mary has completed the documentation apart from sending photographs to show the location of the unit. Mary will organise another training course. Ellanne will give Mary contact details for the paramedics.

Action: Ellanne, Mary

5.4.2 *Fundraising*

It was agreed we would all put forward suggestions to be discussed at the next meeting in January; our goal is to raise £1,200. **Action: All**

5.5 Provision of a recycling centre at the Auchtertyre Business Park

Mary wrote to Graham MacKenzie and Colin Clarke head of waste management. **Action: Audrey, Mary**

The skip and village cleanup organised by Dawn took place as planned.

5.6 Storage of CC records

No progress this month. **Action: Mary**

5.7 Winter resilience

Neil has spoken to Donnie MacLeod and the equipment will be available in November. **Action: Neil**

5.8 Vodafone initiative

More details have been circulated by the HC and the deadline to register has been extended. Neil will look into this further. **Action: Neil**

6 Update from our Councillor

Audrey reported this has been a quiet month next week there will be a meeting for all 80 highland councillors in Inverness and the next round of meetings will start in November.

7 Update from Regional & National Organisations

7.1 NHS

7.1.1 *Redesign of Services in Skye, Lochalsh and W Ross*

A subgroup is being formed to look at transport and access to the new hospital, Mary will attend this meeting on the 29th October. **Action: Mary**

7.2 Tilhill

7.2.1 *Access*

No progress this month. **Action: Mary**

7.2.2 *Fire beaters*

This item is to be dropped, see item 7.4. **Action: Mary**

7.3 Reroute of A890

The documentation is now complete and will be available on the HC website by the end of this week. It will be discussed at the HC committee on the 5th November. **Action: All**

7.4 Police & Fire

We have had a response from Alistair Jupp regarding fire beaters and he has given us details of the type of beater required however he has also advised that the CC would need to do a risk assessment and recommended that calling the Fire Service should be the first action. In light of his response we feel it would be wise to drop this topic. His comments have been forwarded to the Fernaig Trust. **Dropped**

7.5 Scottish Water

Nothing this month

8 Update from Local Groups

8.1 Broadband - from Phil Game

The volume trial with ten subscribers was completed with no major problems. More time is needed to look at the results in detail but we already have enough information to predict how many subscribers can be supported by one ADSL line. As a result of the trial the bandwidth settings per household have been increased to 2 Mbps download and 300 Kbps upload and we have set tariffs to cover 10, 20, 30 and 40 GB monthly usage. We will circulate more details about the results of the trial in due course.

We have installed equipment for another six subscribers and ordered a second ADSL line for their use; this is due to be delivered in the first week in November. We have equipment in stock for four more installations and these are now just waiting for a break in the weather. That will take the total number of connections to twenty.

We have to do more work on the final location of the relay for The Glen and then will contact residents to discuss their connection dates. Aside from The Glen there are five more households within sight of the current access points on Creag Mhaol who have asked for connections now and we are waiting for the delivery of more equipment so these can be completed.

There are six more households who could be connected to the current access points but these either did not respond when asked when they wanted their connection or have replied to say they do not want a connection just yet. No equipment has been ordered for these households.

We have decided to provide access points for Craig, Portchullin, Strome Ferry and Ardnarff from the north shore of Loch Carron. We have ordered equipment to cover these installations; once the access points have been installed we will contact subscribers for their preferred installation dates. Creating access points on the north shore of Loch Carron will mean extending the system to residents in Ardaneaskan and North Strome. This is likely to take the total number of subscribers over 60.

Two households have decided they do not want to join CMNet; however two more have now come forward so the total number remains the same at 47.

We have run a successful test from the relays on Creag Mhaol to Lochcarron and ADSL line speeds at our chosen location are good.

We are waiting for a response from Robbie Bain regarding the grant towards our running costs.

Peter Buneman has told us that progress on the West Coast Backbone is still very slow.

There are more details on the website:- www.stromeferry-and-achmore.co.uk/index.asp?pageid=433827

8.2 Fernaig Trust - From Colin MacAndrew -

There was no Fernaig Trust October meeting, the next one will be Tuesday 11 November. The Trust AGM has been provisionally arranged for Thursday 27 November. Lizzie will be in touch shortly to confirm.

8.3 Hall Committee from Lizzie for Jack Bird

Spooky Bingo planned for 1st November

8.3.1 Grant to help the Hall Committee replace the hall boiler

The Hall committee have asked the CC for £500 to help fund the replacement boiler. Everyone felt this was a good use of CC funds but that we should understand more about the hall finances before proceeding. Mary will ask Jack for a copy of the hall annual accounts and circulate these to the CC. **Action: Mary**

9 AOB

9.1 Planning matters

We received a newsletter from the HC detailing the timetable for the next local development plan for Highland region.

It also included a section on Community Councils' responsibilities when dealing with planning matters.

9.2 SLCVO + 3rd Sector Interface survey

We did not complete this survey as we did not know who or what the 3rd Sector Interface is and what role they fill.

Mary will find out more about the 3rd Sector interface. **Action: Mary**

9.3 NHS 24 Survey

We completed the survey and Mary will submit our response. **Action: Mary**

9.4 HC Community Service - Open Evening

There will be an HC open evening at Portree High School on the 26th November at 6:30 pm to discuss refuse collection, grass cutting, waste management, homelessness, roads maintenance and much more.

9.5 War memorial Fund

This does not apply as we do not have a memorial

9.6 HC Budget Reductions

The HC has to reduce its budget by £64 million a year which is about 11%. We started to go through the questionnaire but realised it would take far too long to complete at the meeting. We therefore decided we should agree our response by email after the meeting. Mary will submit our response. **Action: Mary**

9.7 Village Clean up vote of thanks

Although Dawn had to leave just before this item we wanted to record our thanks to her for organising the village cleanup & skip.

9.8 Skye Bridge Closure

The recent high winds have led to several closures of the Skye Bridge. We felt the bridge should only be closed as a last measure as it is the only way on and off the island, much better to restrict speed limits as happens elsewhere in Scotland. If the bridge does have to be closed to high sided vehicles then the queues must be managed in such a way that they do not block vehicles that are allowed across the bridge. Audrey will take this up with the Scottish Government. **Action: Audrey**

10 Calendar

August / September, prepare for winter roads, gritting stocks, gritting schedule for Strome Ferry hill.

11 Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 27th January 2015 at 7:00 p.m. Achmore Hall.

12 Formal close of meeting

The meeting closed at 9:30 pm