

RESOLIS COMMUNITY COUNCIL (RCC)

Minutes of Meeting 04 October 2016

Venue and time:

The meeting was held at Resolis Memorial Hall at 7.00 p.m.

Present:

Alister Matheson (AM), Marion Campbell (MC), Norma Holm (NH), Neil Cameron (NC), David Alston (DA), Sally Ann Jackson (SAJ) (member of public)

For Item 2. Susan Hunter (SH) HSCHT, Steven Gregg (SG) HSCHT

For item 3. Caroline Matheson

1. Welcome and Apologies:

Apologies were received from Ian Phillips (also for the November meeting)

2. Presentation. Susan Hunter. Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust.

SH introduced the mission of the Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust which is to enable the provision of affordable housing in rural communities with various funding models and forms of tenure from rental, through rent/buy to full ownership with shared equity and buy back provisions. The bespoke allocation procedures/criteria and flexible tenure differentiates the HSCHT approach from social housing provision although Housing associations and/or the Council could be partners. Housing could be provided at up to 40% below market values and self-build was also possible.

The proposal to develop possibly 6 homes on the Newhall playing field site was discussed. A positive Feasibility Study has been produced in 2008 but that scheme had been a victim of the financial crisis at that time. The land was still in Council ownership as was the adjoining redundant School building (which had formed part of the 2008 scheme).

SA explained the process from this point. The first stage would have to be a housing need study, which HSCHT would produce and manage (SG would provide an exemplar for comment and adaptation). It was agreed that a small number of questions relating to community uses of the old School Buildings would be included in the questionnaire. SAJ would be asked to contribute these questions.

The next steps would be for the community Council to agree the survey and NC to liaise with HSCHT on land ownership and other issues. The CC was very supportive of this initiative and thanked HSCHT staff for the presentation and explanation.

3. Black Isle Cares.

Caroline Matheson CM, Chairperson of Black Isle Cares had been invited by AM and joined the meeting. CM explained the aims of BIC and described the successful introduction of the Meals on Wheels service on the South side of the Black Isle. CM also described the successful recruitment of appropriate care staff which had significantly reduced 'bed-blocking'. There were issues however with overstretch, particularly with the high number of referrals and call on resources from the NHS. Fundraising was a constant concern. In this regard a fundraising coffee morning in Resolis in November was a possibility.

CM concluded with a call for volunteers from Resolis and other North Black Isle

communities particularly for the delivery of Meals on Wheels.

4. Previous Minutes

The minutes of the 06 September meeting were approved as correct subject to minor amendment. Minutes proposed by AM and seconded by MC.

5. Matters arising

1. From item 2.6, Donation to Resolis School.

A donation of approximately £400 to Resolis School for Nature Study Equipment was agreed at the September Meeting. MC had written a cheque made out to the School. Presumably receipts would be forthcoming in due course.

2. Parish Signs Maintenance.

MC has met with Ian Chalmers who had produced the original signs. His initial view was that no maintenance was required but he would look at them again and do whatever was necessary at no cost. Concern was expressed about the apparent disappearance of the 'Cullicudden Fish'. NH would be making enquiries.

6. Treasurers Report

There was nothing further to report on income or expenditure. There was a discussion on other possible donations to community groups to make use of accumulated funds. It was agreed that all members would try to contact community groups to assess need and bring back suggestions to the next meeting (December). Black Isle Cares was mentioned as a possible recipient of CC funds.

7. THC Councilor's report

1. Newhall School sale

The building has not been sold. Nothing further to report.

2. Newhall Bridge

The scheme is still in planning but there had been a delay. The issue appears to be the purchase of two small pieces of land from two separate owners. The land is required to enable widening and better access to the new bridge. No start date for construction has been announced.

3. Raddery Education Centre

There are no children or staff at the centre and consultation is underway on closure of the facility. The property will be disposed of in due course. If the property was gifted for educational purposes and if there is a legal requirement that any sale proceeds are required to be used in a particular way then that will have to be honoured.

4. Section 75 Planning conditions

IP requested a view from the Council regarding the blanket rescinding of all historic Section 75 planning conditions in the light of a recent appeal decision. DA stated that although new planning guidance had been issued in this regard, there would be no blanket rescinding of Section 75's because they could cover a number of planning issues and many were not affected by the appeal decision. Individual appeals on individual cases

would continue to be the requirement

7. Any other business

1. DA stated that Resolis CC had a right to nominate a trustee of Cromarty Museum. He had approached NC who had expressed interest. The CC agreed that NC could take up the position as the Resolis CC trustee.
2. There were various ongoing roads and drainage issues in the parish, notably potholes on the road between Fanny's Brae and Balblair and a road drainage issue at Craigton. DA advised that calls to the Council Service point in Dingwall was the best approach as all service calls from the public were logged and passed on for action. Logged issues not acted upon could then be escalated to the Councilors.

8. Planning Applications

None for comment

9.0 Request from MOP (Sally Ann Jackson)

1. SAJ requested funding from the Community Council initially for a feasibility or 'needs' consultation study followed by a property survey for the former Newhall School. This would now be covered by the HSCHT survey, see 2. Above
2. After meeting note on points raised.
The (2011) population of Resolis CC Area was 760. The 'core' number of members on the CC was 7. 5 places had been filled at the last election (November 2015). The required quorum number is 4, irrespective of the number of elected members

8. Date of Next Meeting. Tuesday 06 December 7.00pm

(NC and IP cannot attend in November therefore the meeting would be inquorate)