

**Minute of Beauly Community Council Meeting  
held on Monday, 24th September, 2012, in the Phipps Hall at 7.30pm**

Present: C.Council: Rosie McDonald, Belle Maxwell, Jane Campbell, James Campbell,  
Maratena Coleman.  
HC.Member: Cllr Helen Carmichael  
Public: Ivor Campbell  
Guest: Dr Keith Williams, Ness & Beauly Fisheries

Apologies: Tony Boyland, Seona Fraser, Jim Stewart, Cllr Margaret Davidson

In the absence of Tony Boyland, the Chair was taken by Rosie McDonald, who introduced Dr Keith Williams, and he gave the following update on the burn barrier at Bridgend.

The last time I spoke we had an engineering assessment of the burn. Since then we have had a visit from SEPA's Restoration Fund Manager, Alistair Brewster. What is suggested is that we remove the culvert, the section under the cover, and restore the channel back to what it was before. We would also remove some of the silt. Highland Council's Core Paths Manager, Stewart Easthaugh, was fairly relaxed about the path being closed for a short time. There is to be proper consultation with the public and the Community Council. SEPA will fund the next stage. One good thing is that all that land is under one ownership at the bottom - Lovat Estates, further up it belongs to the Department of Agriculture. If anything happens to the path, or we need a bridge over the burn, that will be incorporated into the project, but if it goes on to the Council land, or any other land, we might have to try and find some extra money to do the work. If everything goes alright, and after public consultation, there is the potential to get it started next year. We have the equipment to tackle Japanese Knotweed and a licence for Himalayan Balsam and hopefully get some working parties from the Angling Club to help clear it all out. There is also some pockets of money around for trees, which I will investigate.

1. **Previous Minute**

Minute No.48 was read and approved. Proposed by James Campbell and seconded by Rosie McDonald.

2. **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

- a) Police Matters - Ongoing
- b) Cnoc - Ongoing
- c) Braeview Community Development Sub-Committee

Work on the play park started this morning and is estimated to take one month but the zip cable for the slide may take slightly longer. The old swings were meant to be refurbished but Highland Council took them away for disposal. Balblair Quarry has supplied the hard-core and Willie Matheson has loaned a 'compactor' for the duration. We now need to get a bench and dedication plaque ordered in the name of Joyce Howes.

- d) Village Plan

Awaiting response from Mike Stephens regarding the proposed public meeting. The acting head

teacher Kenneth Morrison would like to be notified of the meeting.

e) Benches

TEC Services will be installing 1 bench at Braeview Park and 1 at Beaufort Gardens. Unfortunately they would not allow a bench to be installed opposite Braeview Park but suggested somewhere around the war memorial or beside the Monk. CC members would view these locations and then discuss.

The refurbished bench on the green area near the toilets has to be moved each time to cut the grass but is much better there than its old position under the trees. TEC Services to be approached re the possibility of placing some hard standing (slabs) under or near its current position in the middle of the grass. Action Cllr Carmichael.

f) Fairburn Wind Farm

SSE has acknowledged our interest but at present the planning application has not been completed but when it is there will be some presentations, probably near the vicinity of the site, that we should attend.

g) Funding from Highland Cross

Cllr Carmichael had contacted the Lighting Department who cannot do anything without a layout of the path through the play park. Jane Campbell will provide a suggested plan.

h) Monument Clean-up

Part of the gala flag is to be removed and growth on the stone investigated. Action James Campbell.

i) House of Beaully

Cllr Carmichael attended a meeting with representatives of the Scottish Government and there is the possibility of an application going in on behalf of the Beaully Care Project. This would take about 2 months. The Liquidators have not yet appointed an Agent. The rateable value of the property is £65,000, therefore the rates will be approximately £38,000.

j) Web Site

Coleen MacIntosh provided 6 examples of web sites previously developed. Belle Maxwell to email them to all CC members and HC members.

k) The Old Priory

Mr Brian Ford, from Historic Scotland, will meet with any CC member at the Old Priory to discuss maintenance and notice board problems, etc. on Monday, 22nd October, at 1pm.

l) Switching-on of Christmas Lights

The school has organised a concert on Thursday, 6th December, in the Phipps Hall, therefore the switch-on has now been changed to Thursday, 29th November. Lighting Department has been notified and Cath and Jack Jenkins confirmed. There will also be a lantern parade - the week prior to this the children will be making lanterns in the Church Hall. James Campbell will confirm change of date with the Fire Service and Adrian Hooper.

m) Purchase of Laptop for Secretary

This laptop will be the property of the Community Council and recorded as an asset.

3. Correspondence

- a) Munro & Noble re Joyce L Howes - letter enclosing cheque for £4,365.47 together with Form R185E for tax purposes. These to be passed to Treasurer, Seona Fraser.
- b) Copy of letter sent to Shinty Club by P.Lynas, asking that all netting be raised from the ground when not in use, as animals are being trapped in it.
- c) Stagecoach - asking for contact to which email information can be sent. Belle Maxwell to action.
- d) H. Council Licensing Board - Application for The Lovat, Loch Ness, Fort Augustus. This has obviously come to us by mistake. Belle Maxwell to email Licensing and ask them to check that The Lovat, Fort Augustus has received the application.
- e) Highland Council - Budget Consultation - 30th September, Inverness High School, 30th October, Culloden Academy Complex - emailed to all members.
- f) H.Council - Details of the Universal Home Insulation Scheme - emailed to all members.
- g) Scottish Government - Planning & Building News - emailed to all members.
- h) Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust - Open Day & AGM, 10am on 28th September in Town House - emailed to all members.
- i) H.Council - Community Council Insurance - emailed to all members.
- j) Email from David Cowie, Planning, with attachment from Richard Crawford re collective response to IMFDP. Tony Boyland replied that we prefer to concentrate on Beaully.
- k) SSE, Gavin Steel, acknowledgement of our letter re Fairburn Wind Farm (2f).
- l) The Big Lottery Fund is hosting a free event in Eden Court on Tuesday, 6th November, for potential grant applications. Anyone wishing to attend needs to register, details of which are in the email sent to all members.

4. Any Other Business

a) Gala Flags

Muir of Ord has wire between their poles and the wire takes the strain. Their poles are also closer together than ours. The Gala Committee will investigate this prior to next year.

b) Beaully Station

Michael Portillo is doing a programme on Highland Railways and he was in Beaully 2 weeks ago with Frank Roach of Hightrans, who was most impressed at the number of people using the station. He would like to see 2 tubs of flowers on the platform, anchored down. If we looked after them, they will pay for them. James Campbell to action.

A meeting took place with Hightrans, Lovat Estates, Mr Macrae of Teawig Farm and Mr Macrae from Highland Council, Charles Stephen, Ward Manager and Cllr Helen Carmichael to look at where we could extend the car park along the railway line which will double the size. Money is going to be available. It may be temporary to begin with as local agreements have to be reached.

During the closure of the Kessock Bridge additional trains and coaches will be required.

c) Boundary Changes

Our submission to be included with Inverness & Skye has been rejected by the Boundary Commission. We still have several weeks to appeal and it was agreed that we do so. Action

Tony Boyland.

d) Allotments

A dangerous fault on a corrugated iron fence was reported. James Campbell to investigate.

e) Walk to Windhill

It was suggested opening up the river path to Windhill, and then extend it to Red Castle. This would make a lovely safe family cycle and it could go all the way to Kessock, avoiding main roads. It would be popular with tourists and locals. This item is minuted for future reference.

f) War Memorial at Toll

Kilmorack Community Council has fitted 2 teak benches up at the war memorial above the Beaully Toll. One is financed by the Lovat estate in memory of Lady Rosamund Fraser who passed away this year and the other by Beaully and District British Legion. They are concreted into place with ground anchors. These benches will be of particular benefit during the Armistice Day Service.

g) Printer

It was agreed to purchase a printer for the use of the secretary. This printer will be the property of the Community Council and recorded as an asset.

h) Highland Council Quality Awards

Our nominee is Samantha Hercher, Librarian, and the closing date for nominations is Friday, 28th September. Action Belle Maxwell.

5. **Planning Applications** - None

6. **Date of Next Meeting**

Monday, 29th October, 2012, at 7.30pm.