

Staffin Community Council Inaugural & Business Meetings

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3rd December 2015 at 7.30pm in Staffin Primary School

Present:

Lachie Gillies, Jennifer Shanks, Simon Gilkes, Isobel MacDonald

In attendance:

Willie MacKinnon (Ward Manager), Hugh Ross (Staffin Trust) from 8.10pm

Apologies for absence:

None

1. Welcome;

Willie MacKinnon welcomed everyone to the meeting & thanked them for their interest. He distributed hard copies of Community Councils in Scotland Scheme & outlined its content.

2. Call for nominations for appointment of Chairperson;

Lachie Gillies proposed by Jennifer Shanks & seconded by Isobel MacDonald. LG duly elected.

WM left meeting at 8.00pm for start of business meeting.

Meeting handed over to new Chair LG. Councillors agreed to the audio recording of the meeting to aid Minute keeping.

Simon Gilkes nominated by LG as Secretary, seconded by JS. SG duly elected Secretary. Presented with correspondence file & laptop.

Jennifer Shanks nominated by LG as Treasurer, seconded by IM. JS duly elected Treasurer.

3. Signing of Minutes of last meeting of unknown date;

No Minutes available for last 2 meetings.

4. Written Financial report from the Treasurer;

No report available but JS reported a balance of around £1,400 in the Staffin CC account.

Hugh Ross arrived & delivered report on Trusts activities.

- Affordable housing on Stenscholl grazing site next to school.
- Proposal for 6 houses & a business unit. Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) unhappy with proposal & will say 'no'. Nearest neighbours (Ian & Liz) want to see the detailed plans before making up their minds, offered alternative site between Milburn & shop but much smaller. Other parties apparently happy. Trust meeting in January to firm up proposals.
- Storr Survey. HR pleased with the size of the response. Lot of information still to be analysed but clear majority wanting Trust to be involved in managing. Meeting end of January.
- Lealt development. Work continues on observation platform & footpath. Car parking needs to be extended to accommodate expected visitors.

- Possible siting of a defibrillator at Community Hall in light of gym development, however, already one over road at Columba with outside access. May be call for one at north of area. Cost around £900.

HR left meeting 8.40pm.

5. Other business;

- Road signs & bus shelters.

Impasse over missing road sign opposite Quiraing turn & precarious state of the one at the top of Stenscholl flapping with broken bracket. Bus shelters at Brogaig & Flodigarry in dangerous condition. No action from Council Departments despite assurances over more than a year. SG to contact Mark Crowe & Donald Macleod at Council.

- Community Emergency Plan.

LG presented hard copy. Much discussion of proposals to gather data to help people locally in case of emergency. No conclusion. To be returned to.

- Communications & involvement between CC & the community.

Clear from low numbers of councillors & apparent lack of interest in council that action necessary. SG proposed:-

- Greater rigour with Agendas & Minutes with their display in shops, Post Office, school as well as existing Facebook page & new website.
- Creation of new website & purchase of domain name (staffincc.org.uk), suggest Spanglefish as effective & quite sophisticated but usable by non-IT expert. SG to set up, ad-free about £30 per year plus domain registration cost.
- Posting of meeting dates & requests for Agenda items, use of WHFP for dates.
- Promotional poster.
- Put suggestion box into Post Office for agenda items.
- Mugshots taken to put faces to councillors on website.

- Co-option of two new members;

Generally felt this essential as currently all four existing members required to be present for quorate. Must be people who want to attend regularly. JS suggested contacting Lindsay(?) in the shop – she will contact. Other suggestions?

6. Date of next meeting:

Thursday 4th February. Assumed same venue but any costs to be established by JS.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.25pm

..... Chair
Signed as a true record of the above meeting.

Dated: