

**KNOCKBAIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL (KCC)**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2016**  
**(NOT YET APPROVED)**

**PRESENT**

Helen Barton (HB), Sylvia Bertram (SB), Rachael Grist (RG), Sue Lowe (SL), Roy Sinclair (RS), John Stott (JLS), Jill Tilford (JT) & Cllr McCallum (IM)

**APOLOGIES:** Bruce Adams (BA), Alan MacDiarmid (AM), Kate MacKay (KM), Cllr Fraser (CF) and PC Ali Lee (AL)

**1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

**Action:**

John Stott (JLS) opened the meeting and thanked everyone for coming.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016**

April's minutes were approved. These will be displayed on the notice boards in NK and Munloch.

**3. MATTERS ARISING**

Munloch road sign: JLS yet to action. Collect the sign from the roads depot and have it re-lettered by the Sign Centre. Aim: completion: mid August.

**JLS**

The Roads Department has a new officer called Ian Moncrieff. He starts in post on 22 July 2016. JLS forwarded William Gilfillan the list of road priorities and he has passed them on to Ian Moncrieff, who will action them accordingly.

There has been no response from the email to Bear. It was sent initially to the generic email address but JLS now has a name and it will be forwarded to the named contact.

Forestry Commission: The plan of action for addressing the issue of water on the B9161 is as follows:

1. Empty the gulleys at the war memorial
2. Examine the drainage in the woods
3. Report back to the community council

**4. FINANCE**

The balance is £2,949.47, less unrepresented cheques = £2,239.75

**5. INFORMATION FROM THE POLICE**

No information was available this month due to PC Lee being on annual leave.

**6. CURRENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

**6.1 SPEEDING ON RURAL ROADS**

At the Black Isle Community Council (BICC) meeting last Monday, which was attended by JLS, the following was discussed:

- Fortrose and Rosemarkie Community Councils (FRCC) are not going to support the idea of a 50 mph limit on rural roads (this decision was made before the survey monkey results were presented).
- No support has been received from the letter from JLS to Community Council Chairs regarding reducing the speed and bypassing Munloch.
- Killearnan Community Council is not happy with the idea of increased traffic along the A832 to the Tore roundabout.
- Ferintosh Community Council is still supporting the 50 mph limit on rural roads.
- FRCC is anti-development: they use the Tore roundabout and the B9161/A9 junctions as an anti-development tool against housing developments in Fortrose / Rosemarkie, saying that the infrastructure can't cope with more traffic
- FRCC think that the Tore roundabout is unsafe but this has been proven to be wrong. An audit was carried out at the roundabout about two years ago and there have been no accidents.

Subsequently, Knockbain Community Councillors discussed the following:

- Our first priority will be to push ahead with the introduction of a 20 mph limit in Munloch, making this the same as in Fortrose, Rosemarkie and Avoch.
- There will be a need to police the speed limit.
- Cllr McCallum has enquired about the process to reduce the speed through Munloch to 20mph.
- There is a need to change commuter's mindset regarding the time it takes to travel via the Tore roundabout instead of through Munloch.
- An assessment has been carried out previously regarding the position of the chicanes in Munloch.
- There was a suggestion to ban right turns off the A9, which would be an inconvenience but safer with local traffic traveling instead via the old A9.
- JLS will share the next date the date of the next BICC meeting in September with members of Knockbain Community Council so that they can attend on mass to counterbalance the numbers of Fortrose and Rosemarkie councillors.

**JLS**

**JLS**

## **6.2 GORDON'S PARK BENCH**

The bench has yet to be built but JLS will contact Donald MacLennan when we know a date for installation.

## **6.3 BROADBAND**

Tim Pearson has stepped down. Each Community Council chair will shortly receive

a position letter/update from the Highland Council regarding rural broadband. This will be from Margaret Davidson.

Wi-Fi community hotspots are very limited in the Highlands and it would be good to have Wi-Fi in our village halls. BT has the contract with Highland Council to provide rural broadband.

Stage 1: BT are rolling out green cabinets (fibre-optic broadband) across the Highlands

Stage 2: rollout of 'not spots'. It is this that is not happening soon due to procurement issues.

**JLS /  
HB**

It is the Highlands and Island Enterprise (HIE) that are responsible for broadband on behalf of Highland Council.

**JLS**

Brora has a community broadband. JLS will investigate when he's visiting the area and HB will do some Internet research.

**JLS**

#### **6.4 TOILETS**

JLS to ask BA for an update. The Pier buildings look very run down and the doors need re-painting.

**HB**

It would be good to have toilet provision for tourists in both Munloch and North Kessock. The Fisher Hotel in Pitlochrie allows the public to use their toilets.

**Action: JLS** to investigate via the Ward Manager whether there are concessions available from the Council for the public to use private toilets.

It was noted that the NK tourist information office building is for sale. **Action: HB** to investigate if the adjacent toilets are still open.

#### **7. PLANNING**

**JLS**

16/02126/PIP: Erection of House (outline) West of Knowehead. NK

This is an infill site but the position is higher than the houses in front of it on the Caldwell road. The planning application implies that there was no flood assessment but percolation tests and assessments should be carried out. **Action: JLS** to check that it's an infill site in the local plan and comment on the lack of flood assessment.

16/02215/FUL: Replacement of Dorran Cottages, Lettoch Farm

There are access constraints to this development.

16/02265/FUL: Erection of Extension, Taindore Cottages, NK

16/0231/PNO: Prior Notification – Erection of Agricultural Building,

Knockbain

There were no concerns regarding any of the above applications.

Caldwell / B9161 / A9 house development

In 2009 this planning application was refused and in 2014 there was a second refusal but Scottish Ministers approved it on second appeal in May 2015. There are double gates onto the B9161 for construction purposes but the actual access is on to the minor road.

## **8. ROAD REPORTS**

The jet patcher is currently in constant use. There are no holes to report and there were positive responses from users of Fix my Street.

The water/drainage issue at the North Kessock / A9 junction appears to have been sorted.

## **9. PROJECTS**

### **9.1 MILLBANK – NK SCHOOL CROSSING**

To be removed from the agenda as it should form part of the next phase of Lettoch housing development.

### **9.2 DEFIBRILLATORS**

**JLS**

There is been no word from the Free Church regarding receiving a cheque from Knockbain Community Council.

Training has been scheduled for 27 June 2016. Staff from the school will be attending.

**Action:** JLS to contact the charity Lucky to be Here regarding initiating a defibrillator for Munloch.

### **9.3 COMMUNITY COUNCIL WEBSITE**

The website is being designed by Pete Rowan, from Sperable Publishing. Training has been arranged for 29<sup>th</sup> June from 10-4.

## **10. CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter has been received from Carol Whyte saying that the grass around the bench and cairn in Munloch are not being cut. JLS has asked Mendal Wilson to trim this area and this has been completed.

A letter has been received from Jane Arnold in North Kessock, as Highland

Council has unfortunately cut the grass. They won't cut this area again in the future.

MFR Cash for Kids has sent a letter asking for communities to hold street parties.

The Electoral Commission has submitted a letter with regards a review of electoral arrangements.

**JLS**

## **11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**JT**

The Heart Stone dance project, a Dingwall based non-profit making organisation, is looking for Community Council's support to book venues and spread the word locally. Their purpose is story telling and dance, bringing communities around the Black Isle together, whilst involving as many people as possible. There will be a publicity drive, involving four venues. **Action: JLS** to forward the e-mail containing the project information.

JT has received a copy of an old email from Owen Smith regarding street names. **Action: JT** to forward to RG for filing

Sue Howard from Transition Black Isle (TBI) is interviewing all the Community Council chairs and will be including the information in the next TBI newsletter

## **12. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS:** (3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm)

16th August 2016, Munloch  
20th September 2016, North Kessock  
18th October 2016, Munloch  
15th November 2016, North Kessock  
December - no meeting

## **AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING 19<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2016, NORTH KESSOCK at 7.30pm**

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies
2. Minutes
3. Matters Arising (not covered in the agenda)
4. Finance
5. Outstanding actions and current responsibilities
6. Planning
7. Road Reports
9. Projects
10. Correspondence
11. AOB
12. Future Meeting Dates

The meeting finished at 9:10 PM