

# **INSHES & MILTON OF LEYS COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

## **Inshes & Milton of Leys Minutes of Meeting**

**MONDAY 14 December 2020 at 7pm by Zoom**

**PRESENT: COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS** – Norman Cordiner, David Finlayson, Jean-Paul Kowaliski, Elizabeth Jane MacKinnon, John Macrae and Bob Roberts

**COUNCILLORS:** Cllr Carolyn Caddick

**A warm welcome to all was given by the Chair.**

**APOLOGIES:** Rod Andean, Christine Cordiner, Cllr Ken Gowans and Gordon Whittet

### **Community Policeman's Report**

As circulated to members and read aloud on Zoom. It was highlighted that the police have noted in their report the committee's issue regarding speeding outside Milton of Leys and Inshes schools. They are continuing to monitor the issue by carrying out speed checks and will continue this course of action.

**Minutes of Last Meeting** – David Finlayson

Seconded – John Macrae

### **Matters Arising**

- **Zurich Insurance** – Nothing further to add. It is still an outstanding issue and the committee will continue to wait until the Highland Council has reviewed the situation. Cllr Caddick will email the Finance Director for an update.
- **Secretary's Report** – Emails of acknowledgment from the committee have been sent to the secretary regarding the website which is now up and running.

### **Chair Report**

The chair raised the issue of the school capacity in the local area. Evidence provided by the Highland Council shows that Milburn Academy and Inverness Royal Academy are at full capacity. The Chair asked Cllr Caddick if there was any information for the capacity numbers in primary schools. He also asked why Inverness is faced with this severe problem and what is to be done about it. It was noted that schools are planned for capacity but the problems arise with inadequate developer contributions, they are not enough and cannot keep up with the demand. It was further noted that schooling numbers are based on the national average. However, the number of children in the highlands is far greater but the Scottish Government do not use our own local evidence and therefore planning and producing schools is not reflective of our own living. There are discussions regarding new schools for the future and the additional building at the Gaelic school to be used for the English medium, offloading some of the pressure in the area, but nothing was resolved.

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## Secretary Report

The secretary suggested that representation from the Inshes Park Association and Slackbuie Community Council would benefit all involved. It was noted that the secretary would provide as one for the Inshes Park Association as she has already volunteered to be on their Board at a previous meeting. This matter will also become a fixed agenda item.

It was noted for Slackbuie Community Council that any representation will continue to be on an ad hoc basis provided by those who attend the meeting.

## Planning Report

The following planning issues were discussed:

- **The “Lodges” at Castle Heather Cottages** – This application has now been withdrawn. However, it might come back in another format which should be a retrospective application for the present use.
- **Fairways Golf Course** - Approval has been given for change of use of existing lockers and toilets area to sports bar, toilets and food preparation area. Formation of hot food takeaway and cellar extension. This was granted under delegated powers.
- **The Inner Moray Firth Development plan** – The plan went to council on the 19<sup>th</sup> of November for an 8 week consultation period. He asked Cllr Caddick if the council will be formally contacted and offered the opportunity to comment. She concurred that a call for sites will be early next year but that it will be well publicised. She stressed the importance of all council members voicing concerns and questions during this time. It was noted that the briefing paper identified that the “development on currently allocated greenspace at Fairway’s Golf Course is not supported by the Main Issues Report” but that the new application should be compared with the previous report to see what changes have been made regarding housing, amenities and infrastructure.
- **Factoring in Milton of Leys** – David Finlayson highlighted that he has been unable to find out any detail about the factoring difficulties in the Milton of Leys area. He asked the members for further information on this issue. A previous community council member, Gary Campbell provided the committee on the history of the issue and an insight into the problems. It was also suggested that the Chair will communicate with Tulloch Development on behalf of the committee as he felt that this task was not solely up to the residents association to manage and that it should have council input.

It was noted that David Finlayson’s contact for Keep Slackbuie Green group has left the area but is looking to find another. He has also forwarded the November planning notes to the Slackbuie CC.

## Treasurer Report

The account balance stands at £3567.10. Payments have been made for Zoom subscription, the Community Council’s annual website fee and the Secretary’s annual allowance.

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It was noted that the HSBC account mandate has now been changed to recognise three signatories to the account – the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. The account address has also been changed to that of the current treasurer.

The HSBC account name still remains that of Inverness South, in the absence of the requested written confirmation of the name change from the Highland Council. Cllr Caddick replied that she would email the Finance Director for an update on this outstanding matter.

In addition to the above matter, the treasurer has not received any guidance from the Highland Council as to whether or not any money from the Inshes and Milton of Leys account should be transferred to the new Slackbuie Community Council or if they have already received appropriate funding. Cllr Caddick replied that she would email the Finance Director for an update on this matter also.

There has been an enquiry from Neil Fraser of the Highland Council as to the address to which to send invoices for the cost of Christmas trees and lights. The treasurer has forwarded the new contact details. It was highlighted by Jean Pumford (previous treasurer) to ensure the payments for the lights are correct. It was noted that a direct debit has been paid for the right amount.

The matter of indemnity insurance remains outstanding.

Jean Pumford questioned whether the council are still paying for Data Protection. Cllr Caddick will put this question forward to the Finance Director.

### **Greenbelt update**

See discussion under planning section. However no further updates in moving forward.

### **Residents Association**

Jean-Paul Kowaliski stated that the factoring charges for 2021 have been issued by First Port who will continue to provide the factoring for the 1st Phase of the HHA Expo, meanwhile Highland Residential will provide the factoring for the new Albyn Housing second phase as previously planned.

### **AOCB**

It was agreed to schedule the next formal meeting via Zoom for Monday 11 January, 7 p.m. The Chair wished those at the meeting a very Merry Christmas and a happier and healthier New Year. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.30pm.