

Shieldaig Community Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday 16th April 2020, via teleconference

Present:

Natalya Revitt (Chair)
Hannah Cundiff (Secretary)
Francois Raulier (Treasurer)
Hugh Gosling
Alex MacInnes
Kalie Wilkinson

Apologies:

None

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Accepting Constitution and Standing Orders

All members have now read and accept the constitution.

Matters Arising

CORONA VIRUS

NR has contacted every household that who responded the community questionnaire. The majority prefer to receive communications via email. Concerns were raised about Ken Gordon by his daughter, but the subsequent community response was excellent.

KW has received an update from Richard Munday, who expressed concern that some people were breaching the lockdown rules. KW suggested we reiterate the rules in the next newsletter, also, that we thank Peter Fenton for his work on the car scheme. AM agreed that there is real concern across the wider community about the number of people flouting the restrictions openly. The Highland Council (HiC) is setting up a phone line to report breaches. AM reiterated that key workers should carry ID or a letter from their employer. The police should be alerted to serious breaches.

The second newsletter was sent to 80 houses and downloaded 100 times. NR recommended a third newsletter be sent out on Wednesday (22 April) and will send HG the relevant information. AM will send a briefing document from the HiC for inclusion, re-affirming that the lockdown will continue. Our region is behind the curve on coronavirus so it is very important we maintain the lockdown.

The last community coordinated meeting was held on 3 April.

FUNDING

SCC has applied for nine grants, a total of £43,000, mostly for support with fuel and food, and the children's activity boxes. Small grants have been received for the children's activity boxes (£630) and for food and fuel grants (£500 from HiC). The National Lottery has approved £10,000 for food and fuel.

The Children's Activity Boxes will be distributed next week. Five grants for fuel assistance have been processed. They are all one-off payments. The process for the food parcel scheme is being decided.

Nannys will be a base for storing and packing boxes. Delivery of essential items is being organised. HC and HG to coordinate the scheme. It has not yet been announced, so unable to estimate uptake.

Hand sanitiser: 8 litres were bought from the Badachro Distillery, 3 litres for the shop. Another 15 litres has arrived. Sanitiser will be needed for food parcel packing Nannys. The campsite has a dispenser, which was due to be installed at the shop. NR asked whether other dispensers were needed over the coming months for other locations in the village, such as the village hall.

CRP

The resilience plan needs to be updated. NR is filing relevant information. It was agreed to update the plan within six months. KW will pass the contact details of the Resilience Officer. AM said HiC will be reviewing all resilience activity, so there will be a lot of help forthcoming.

PLANNING

KW: There are no planning applications to discuss.

Co-option/Association

HC proposed Ann Barton as an Associate member. The motion was passed. Associate membership to be reviewed after six months.

Chair's Report

All matters covered earlier.

Treasurer's Report

Accounts 2019-2020

FR has received all financial documentations and the records look complete. FR will submit for auditing once all bank statement have been received. FR has circulated a breakdown of expenditure.

KW queried expenditure against the resilience fund. NR will share a list of expenditure against this fund to clarify the situation.

The issue around past funding for the maintenance of sheep fencing has been resolved. Some small maintenance may be required; FR is waiting for correspondence from SCA regards the past funding.

Accounts 2020-21

We have now received £1,126.62 for coronavirus funding, and we have spent £1,095.54. The children's boxes cost £198.72 more than the grant. Hand sanitiser allocated to the resilience fund.

FR is applying to take over the online banking for SCC. Bank statements must be more frequent than twice yearly. NR to send a letter to the bank regarding signatories.

Secretary's Report

HC has written to the Lochcarron Development Officer about her communication with funding bodies regarding Shieldaig, asking for an explanation.

AOCB

Support for 'shielding' group

NR expressed concern that support services for those in the 'shielding' group were not working well, based on her personal experience. However, KW reported a good response.

Tesco update

NR called Tesco, which reported that the Scottish Government had not yet given a list of names of those in the 'shielding' group. NR will share the phone number to secure priority deliveries with KW

COVID-19 event

Kat Macauley from the Scottish Government asked if we had a venue to host a No one Left Behind event at the village hall (to run sessions on IT support etc). The village hall/church was proposed and the Church has agreed that this event can go ahead.

Local employment opportunities

FR suggests we offer employment to local people who are not currently working to help supplement depleted incomes to support our community activities wherever possible (eg, repairing fencing, food parcel deliveries, providing hot meals, etc). FR to liaise with the SCA to investigate any jobs that can be done sooner than planned to assist local people with employment, potentially sharing SCC funding.

Providing hot meals

NR to investigate the hygiene/social distancing issues and approach Lynn.

Date of next meeting

Monday 27 April at 7pm.