

# **Shieldaig Community Council**

## **Comhairle Choimhearsnachd Sildeag**

### **Minutes of meeting Tuesday 2nd December 2014**

**Present:** Richard Munday (Chair), Gerry Beard (Secretary), Gemma Livingstone (Treasurer), Viv Rollo, Ann Barton, Donald Gillanders, Duncan Carmichael, Cllr. Audrey Sinclair and 1 member of the public.

**Apologies:** Lyndsay Dacker

#### **1. Minutes of the last meeting**

Accepted as the record of the meeting.

#### **4. Matters arising.**

##### **Scottish Water**

Since the November meeting of the CC there has been a further failure of the water main on the school brae, Gerry has enquired if SW has any intention of replacing this main together with other parts of the network which are cement asbestos based and is yet to receive a response.

The inconvenience to road users caused by the bursts is obvious, however the ongoing pressure reductions to avoid further bursts is less so, unless one lives above the village.

Post meeting note; Cllr Sinclair has written to SW setting out the CC's concerns.

##### **Grit bins and winter resilience**

Robbie Bain has spoken to Highways who will check over our bins and fill them.

##### **SSE Emergency Planning**

Following the useful discussion at the previous meeting, it was agreed in principle to draw up a plan for the Shieldaig community and Richard, Ann and Donald volunteered to prepare a draft and report back.

##### **Bulk rubbish bins**

The meeting took the view that if recycling was taken more seriously then the existing bin capacity would probably be adequate. Gerry to source replacement self adhesive recycling advice labels to be stuck on blue bins lids. Furthermore, concern was expressed that many local houses used for holiday lettings seemed to be exempt from non domestic rates, which in the current financial climate seems counter intuitive. Richard to pursue with Rob Gibson MSP

#### **3. Police matters**

Beat reports not available.

The meeting discussed re-organisation of the service which seems to translate into a poorer community presence.

Cllr. Sinclair confirmed that there are future proposals for Ward Forums with the first meeting January 2015 in Lochcarron, at which Police, Fire and Ambulance matters will be discussed as will the Health Boards decision on the Broadford Hub and the ongoing Service Point review.

#### **4. Finance**

Current balance £2,145, Secretarial allowance now set at £250 plus consumables. It was agreed to look for somebody local who could act as minute secretary to reduce the load on Gerry.

#### **5. Roads**

Coast road; timber lorries are still running and appear to be ahead of schedule. However there are a number of areas which have experienced damage to the verge, as yet to be dealt with. Road re-surfacing is almost complete and in a number of locations has exceeded expectations. Cllr. Sinclair confirmed that for the purpose of gritting, the present road classification will remain unchanged for 2015, and clarified the details of the South Strome road closure and the options under consideration:

	£M
1. Bridge across the narrows and a bypass of North Strome	105
2. Move railway line further into Loch	132
3. Southern bypass (Attadale)	86

It is unlikely there will be a decision before summer 2015.

#### **6. Shieldaig Community Assn**

The meeting expressed thanks to Cllr. Sinclair for supporting the Hall refurbishment project bid to the Discretionary Fund which resulted in a £3k grant award.

Hall kitchen refurbishment to start in February.

The working parties have made significant improvements to the village infrastructure

#### **7. Kinloch Woodland Charitable Trust**

The AGM held on 22nd November was well attended including Rob Gibson MSP.

The agenda included: deer management, progress in establishing the new woodlands, the Trust's financial position and restructuring of the Charitable Trust as a single tier SCIO with the current 7 trustees increased to 9 by adding 2 further trustees nominated by the community council.

While broadly supportive of the restructuring proposals the community council agreed to leave a final decision until it had seen the draft SCIO. It would be important to arrange a public meeting to involve as many people as possible in the local community.

#### **8. Correspondence**

##### **Highland Council budget cuts.**

An email from the Independent group of Councillors advocating an end to the 7 year Council tax freeze in order to protect services.

The CC was generally supportive with the qualification that efficiency savings within the Highland Council should not be neglected.

**Policy Planning matters survey.**

**Scottish Health Council** - Disestablishment of Community Health Partnerships in favour of Community health and social care arrangements.

**Skye Bridge** - Bear Scotland wind speeds explained.

**Digital Scotland** - Updated website

**9. Planning**

Clarification on what constitutes an outbuilding.

**10. A.O.C.B.**

The meeting agreed that road signs either side of Shieldaig on the A896 should show the local road rejoining the A896, thus encouraging visitors new to the area to come and visit. Gerry to pursue.

The meeting closed at 9 p.m.

**Date of the next meeting – Tuesday 3rd February 2015 at 7.00 p.m.**