

Shieldaig Community Council

Minutes of meeting Tuesday 3rd December 2013 at 7 pm

Present: Richard Munday (Chairman), Gerry Beard (Secretary), Gemma Livingston (Treasurer), Ann Barton, Donald Gillanders and P.C. Gary Taylor.

2 members of the public.

Apologies from Viv Rollo, Irene George and Audrey Sinclair.

1. Police Matters

The Lochcarron Beat Report for November

During this period there were 35 calls to the police, compared to 26 calls in November last year.

Crimes in month:

Breach of the peace, domestic assault, an offence of drink driving.

Other Police matters in November:

A minor RTC near Lochcarron after a car hit a sheep, no one injured.

Prior to November 5th P.C. Gary Taylor gave a 'Danger of Fireworks' talk to local school children.

Road safety – concerns were raised regarding the number of vehicles heading towards Torridon which have left the road on the bend prior to the Balgy bridge. It is intended to raise this matter with the Highways Dept. to try and ascertain the likely cause and the possibility of remedial action. PC Taylor's offer to attend the proposed site meeting was accepted.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

Accepted as the record of the meeting

3. Matters arising

The lawyers handling the establishment of the new SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation) require signed minutes of the Shieldaig CC meetings identifying the appointment of current office bearers to determine the authority to dispose of Community Council assets, namely, the transfer of the sports field to the new Shieldaig Community Association.

3. Finance Report

It was agreed to transfer the following budgets to the Shieldaig Sports Association and on establishment to the Shieldaig Community Association.

Publicity £1,570.30

Community Development £244.24

Remaining Balance £4253

Secretarial expenses yet to be disbursed.

5. Roads etc.

Bryan Stout has agreed a programme of remedial works relating to the problems identified by the CC, some of which have already been completed, some will be completed weather permitting within the current financial year and some will be submitted for inclusion in the next financial year (2014/15).

A site meeting was still required in relation to the accident black spot at the approach to the Balgy bridge and the Highways Dept's attention will be drawn to the damage to the barrier adjacent to Baile Shuas which forms part of the 'Safer Schools' route.

6. Scottish Water

Richard and Gerry had a meeting on 26 November with Dan Paterson of Ross shire Engineering who designed and built the new treatment plant and Ian McKenzie of Scottish Water who is responsible for its operation. There was a short visit to the plant afterwards. There was a useful and informative discussion on the use of chlorine as a disinfectant, dosage levels and monitoring and some possible explanations for higher than usual levels of chlorine in the system earlier in the year.

The site visit in particular provided an insight into the level of investment, and commitment by Scottish Water and its contractors to ensure communities like Shieldaig have an adequate and safe supply of drinking water. A key part of the water treatment process is maintaining correct chlorine levels; this is achieved by regular sampling at a number of points within the supply system. Ian said that he would carry out sampling at key points in the system over a 2 week period before Christmas and let the CC have the results. In due course, sampling results for Shieldaig will be publicly available on SW's website.

Finally, Richard secured assurance that the old treatment plant infrastructure and various left-overs from the construction process will be removed and the site tidied up. The case for some simple form of interpretation board explaining the working of the new system will be considered by Scottish Water.

7. Baile Shuas

HSCHT confirm progress to date on site should meet their completion date of end March 2014. The problem of TV/Satellite reception was raised from the floor and a number of possible solutions are being explored by residents, including a hard wired system fed from an aerial sited in the vicinity of the 2Lochs Radio equipment on Benn Shieldaig.

8. Planning

Notification of applications for:

An extension to the porch on Tigh An Leigh (13/04362/Ful), and
Erection of extensions to Willow Brae (13/04362/Full)

9. Road Safety Seminar - 22nd November – Inverness

Attended by Richard.

Road safety was a high priority for the Scottish Government, the Highland Council, Community Councils, the Police and the Fire and Rescue Service all of which were strongly represented at the seminar. Some statistics:

Fatalities in 2012 Throughout Scotland 174
 Highland Region 26

Fatalities to date for 2013 Highland Region 20

Accidents Visiting motorcyclists were a particular risk in the month of May.

There needs to be an emphasis on Road Safety training in Primary schools; P.C. Taylor will pursue this at the local level.

Pass Plus, new driver training courses – Highland Council has limited funds to support the programme, would Shieldaig think it worthwhile to help with funding for new local drivers? Apart from accident prevention Pass Plus links into cheaper car insurance for young drivers.

The CC would consider whether to organise a themed discussion on road safety during 2014.

10. Correspondence

email from:

NHS Highland

Notification of the start of 'Universal Credit' initially limited to a group of Job Seekers.

The Highland Council

Date change for Community Council training event.

The Highland Council

Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places – to ensure reasonable facilities and accessibility.

Letter from:

War Memorial Trust

Encouraging support for upkeep and repairs.

Gerry to explore the possibility of funding for improvements to the approach steps to the Shildaig Memorial.

11. AOCB

The access gate to Shildaig campsite has suffered damage, Gerry to speak with Nommie.

Hands on events.

Shildaig – Applecross (via Bealach) – Shildaig cycle race/event scheduled for the May 2014 Bank Holiday.
Gerry to check with Applecross CC to seek their views on possible re-scheduling.

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 4th February 2014 at 7pm**