

Shieldaig Community Council

Comhairle Choimhearsnachd Sildeag

Minutes of meeting Tuesday 4th November 2014

Present: Duncan Carmichael (Acting Chair), Gerry Beard (Secretary), Lyndsay Dacker, Viv Rollo, Ann Barton, Donald Gillanders, Robbie Bain (H.C.) Ali Macleod (Applecross CC) and 1 member of the public.

Apologies: Richard Munday, Gemma Livingstone, Cllr. Audrey Sinclair and P.C. Gary Taylor

1. Minutes of the last meeting

Accepted as the record of the meeting.

2. SSE - Power Distribution - on Community Emergency Planning (CEP)

Neil Wilson, Operations Manager, Shona Horn and Mo Bates (Stakeholder Engagement) gave an interesting and insightful presentation on Community Resilience and how communities can prepare for an emergency situation.

SSE Resilience Team work in partnership with:

Police, Fire and Ambulance

NHS

Highland Council, Social Work

The Voluntary Sector, and

SEPA

To put together a formalised community plan which is informed by local input and local knowledge which is then shared by all services in case of need.

For example; Neil Wilson stressed the importance of always reporting the loss of electricity supply, whilst SSE are always aware of major outages, local low voltage supply failures 'the last mile' are invariably only picked up when a consumer calls the emergency help line. A typical CEP would include the contact details for one or two local volunteers who had received training on low voltage issues, who would hopefully be able to step in when for example adverse weather conditions or major network breakdowns prevent SSE staff attending.

Duncan thanked the SSE team for their excellent presentation and explained that after the necessary wider community consultation Gerry would be in touch.

3. Winter resilience

Robbie outlined the HC proposals for local volunteers, tools, clothing and grit which are on offer in order for local communities to keep pavements clear of snow and ice and to ensure difficult bits of local road (school brae) are kept navigable.

A highlighted issue was grit bins outside the school, full of water and without lids, Robbie promised to contact the Roads dept. to replace and re-fill.

4. Matters arising.

Scottish Water

The school brae has recently been surveyed by a water industry engineering consultancy, hopefully to ascertain the replacement costs of the cement asbestos main in order to include it's replacement in the the upcoming SW capital projects bidding round.

Shieldaig Community Assn

There are a number of projects that need prioritising by the community, given limited resources.

Shieldaig Hall - Kitchen refurbishment. Robbie announced a £3000 award from the Discretionary Fund towards the cost.

5. Police Matters

P.C. Taylor to forward Lochcarron beat report.

6. Finance report

Approved

7. Bulk rubbish bins

Gerry met with Andy Tuckwood on the car park, he had arrived early and had already been 'through' the bulk bins and found numerous recyclable items including a large carton that had recently contained a TV, cooker parts and more cardboard. In addition there were numerous items of non-domestic waste.

Once these items were removed there was plenty of space for non-recyclable material, which is precisely the point that council staff have been making for some time.

As to the way forward; Andy Tuckwood will implement a waste audit whereby all non domestic premises (inc. B&Bs, Holiday lets and other commercial properties) will receive a visit from council staff who will explain how commercial waste will be dealt with in future.

In return we will have a number of green bins sited adjacent to the picnic areas for casual visitor use, which should take some pressure off the bulk bin capacity.

8. Roads etc

Strathcarron - South Strome road closure.

Robbie brought the meeting up to date on overnight closure and planned remedial works.

As usual we will be notified of progress and any changes to traffic movement.

Cattle grids still require attention.

Improvements to the North Coast road, progress very slow.

9. Correspondence

Highland Council budget consultation

Highland Communities Panel - offer to join.

A890 Strome update.

War Memorials - draft proposals for funding availability for CCs

10. Planning

Scottish Salmon Company

Notice of appeal for:

Non-compliance with condition 5 of permission 11/04228/full - Ten year time limit

At NW Sgeir Dughall Loch Torridon

The meeting closed at 9.05 p.m.

Date of the next meeting – Tuesday 2nd December at 7.00 p.m.