

Shieldaig Community Council

Comhairle Choimhearsnachd Sildeag

Minutes of the meeting Tuesday 3 November 2015

Present: Richard Munday (Chair), Gerry Beard (Secretary), Donald Gillanders, Viv Rollo,, Duncan Carmichael, Lyndsay Dacker Cllr. Audrey Sinclair and one member of the public.

Apologies: Ann Barton and Gemma Livingstone

1. Minutes of the last meeting

Accepted as the record of the meeting.

2. Matters arising.

Roads

Nanny's Parking – the meeting agreed that physical constraints on the Shieldaig frontage meant that there would always be some tension between business development and vehicle congestion/parking, particularly in the summer months. Successful local businesses were so important that the right approach was not to stymie their development but to consider carefully how the parking/traffic problems could best be mitigated on a location by location basis.

Lynn explained that holiday home/resident parking on the Corran, plus Torridon Sea Tours, Rivendell, Temperance Brae and Nanny's all contributed to the problem of congestion and poor sight lines on the corner by the cafe. A solution might be to create more off road parking by lowering the kerb adjacent to Nanny's allowing vehicles to park at right angles to the road, although Temperance Brae overflow and Windward resident parking already reduced casual parking space. An extension to the rip rap might also provide additional parking but at a significant cost.

The meeting agreed, that the Roads Dept., should be invited to visit the site, consider the various possibilities for improvement and in discussion with the local interested parties and the Community Council suggest a cost-effective way forward.

Signs – The long running issue of improving the approach signage to the village should be discussed with the Roads Dept. at the same time. It was important to have the signs agreed and installed before the next tourist season.

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3. Police matters

No beat report. Inspector Lynda Allan should be contacted to make clear the Community Council's disappointment that Police Scotland's policy on the priority to be given to community policing didn't appear to be carried through into practice.

4. Finance.

To follow as an attachment to the minutes.

5. Transition to the new Community Council

Meeting minutes to be circulated to new community council; Robbie Bain to be consulted about the timing and process for getting the new CC established. Current office bearers would be very happy to provide whatever help with the transition their successors wished. A list of ongoing issues which would fall to the new CC is attached to the minutes.

6. Syrian refugees

Audrey explained that the H.C. had sent out a request to private landlords to volunteer accommodation. Interest could be registered on the HC web-site.

7. Community Emergency Plan and SSE grant application

Cheque for £10,000 received, project to be taken forward by new CC.

8. SCA

Parent council meeting reported that a child had managed to get through the fence surrounding the swimming pool and had to be rescued. The health and safety risks underlined the need for decisions to be taken quickly by the SCA/school about what should be done with the pool at least in the short term.

9. Correspondence

Police Scotland - Notification of a proposed Police Consultation and Engagement meeting to be held 10th November in Inverness.

Highland Council - Transport Consultation - Survey to complement the public consultation, available on-line from 2nd November until 13th December at www.highland.gov.uk/transport-programme.

10. Planning Matters

Nothing to report.

11. A.O.C.B.

BUTEC - Local fishermen were meeting this evening (3 November) to be followed by a public meeting the following week.

Highland Community Councils – The Community Council noted the press reports about the link between a shortage of volunteers in some areas willing to stand as community councillors and the perception that the Highland Council often paid little more than lip service to the views which community councils put forward. Shieldaig Community Council's experience, particularly on planning issues, tended to support this negative perception. But it was extremely fortunate in having Cllr Audrey Sinclair as a regular meeting attender and a doughty champion of community interests.

The meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.

Date of next meeting to be advised.

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Ongoing issues

1. Implementation of community emergency plan and community resilience programme.
2. Community stance on Syrian refugees
3. Comments on HC public transport subsidies
4. System for commenting on requirement for local road repairs
5. Local development plan.
6. Safety issues on the N Coast Road/N Coast 500.
7. Meeting with Celtman organisers
8. Parking in the village and signage at village entrances
9. BUTEC – any action required in support of local fishing interests.
10. Kinloch Woodlands SCIO