



COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR

COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR

Minute of Meeting held via Microsoft Teams, on
Wednesday 29 September 2021 at 5.00pm.

PRESENT

Mr Norman A MacDonald (Convener)	Mr Finlay M Stewart
Mr Roddie Mackay (Leader)	Mr Alasdair Macleod
Mr Calum Macmillan	Mr Keith Dodson
Mr Iain Archie MacNeil	Mr Rae Mackenzie
Mr Donald Manford	Mr Angus McCormack
Mr Paul F Steele	Mr Charlie Nicolson
Mr Roddy Mackay	Mr Iain M Macaulay
Mr Iain M Macleod	Mr Gordon Murray
Mr Uisdean Robertson	Mr Donald F Crichton
Mr Grant Fulton	Mr John A Maciver
Mr Paul Finnegan	Mr Calum Maclean
Mr John G Mitchell	Mr John Mackay
Mr Ranald Fraser	Mr John N Macleod
Mr Angus Morrison	Mr Kenneth Macleod
Mr Norman MacDonald	Mr Kenny John Macleod

APOLOGIES

Mr Neil Mackay

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Malcolm Burr	Mr Murdo Morrison
Mr William MacDonald	Mr Tim Langley
Mr Calum Iain Maciver	Mr Derek Mackay
Mr Norman MacDonald	Mrs Marina Macaulay
Mr Colin G Morrison	Mrs Mairi Maciver
Mrs Morag Ferguson	Mr Allan Macdonld
Mr Joe Macphee	Nr Nigel Scott

Tribute: Mr
Norman M
Macleod

The Convener paid tribute to Mr Norman M Macleod, former Councillor, who had passed away on Saturday 24 July 2021. The Convener stated that Norman had represented the Knock and Bayble and Sgìre an Rubha Wards from 1999 to 2017 and had served as the Chairman of Housing and Environment and Protective Services Committees as well as the first island-based Convener of the Northern Joint Police Board. In addition, Norman had gone on to serve the community as Chairman of the Board of Hebridean Housing Partnership. The Convener indicated that Norman had been an effective and insightful Councillor who had been respected by his peers and had made a significant contribution to the community.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, extended condolences to Norman's wife Christine, the extended family, colleagues and friends.

Tribute: Mrs Joan
Macaulay

The Convener paid tribute to Joan Macaulay, from Bernera, who had passed away recently. Joan was employed by the Comhairle as a Community Warden for Uig and Bernera from September 2004 till June 2008 and as a Regeneration Officer from September 2004 till September 2019.

On behalf of the Comhairle, the Convener extended condolences to Joan's husband Neil James, the extended family, colleagues and friends at this time.

Tribute: 100th
Birthday, Mary
Fraser

The Convener referred to Mary Fraser, resident at Blar Buidhe Care Home, who recently celebrated her 100th Birthday.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, extended very best wishes to Mary on this occasion.

Tribute: Rachael
Johnstone

The Convener referred to Rachael Johnstone, from Balallan, who had just signed her first professional contract for the Celtic FC Women's Team, at the age of 17.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, congratulated Rachael on this fantastic achievement and wished her well for the future.

Tribute: Kerry
Macphee

The Convener referred to Kerry Macphee from South Uist who recently set a new record for the fastest female time for completing the 96-mile West Highland Way in a time of 11 hours and 46 minutes in April 2021.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, congratulated Kerry on this great achievement.

Tribute: Christina
Mackenzie

The Convener referred to Christine Mackenzie from Stornoway who had recently set a new women's record for cycling from Land's End to John O Groats, taking 51 hours, 5 minutes and 27 seconds to complete the 839-mile journey in July 2021.

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, congratulated Christina on this great achievement.

Tribute: Kenneth
Morrison

The Convener, on behalf of the Comhairle, congratulated Kenneth Morrison (Harbour Master) who was recently a member of the Scotland Disabled Golf Team, which beat England in the Phoenix Cup, which is a Ryder/Solheim Cup style event between Scotland and England disabled golfers, with a wide range of golfers represented which included blind, partially sighted, leg amputees and hand amputees.

Prayer

The Meeting was preceded with prayer, led by Mr Angus Morrison

MINUTES

Minute of Meeting of 25 August 2021

1 The Minute of Meeting of 25 August 2021 was **approved**.

Declaration of Interest

2 Mr Donald F Crichton and Mr Calum Maclean declared an interest in Item 7, as Members of the Stornoway Trust, and left the meeting during consideration of the matter.

QUESTIONS

Written Questions to the Convener and Chairmen of Committees

3 The following written question had been submitted by Mr Calum Maclean:

Is it the practice of this Comhairle that Councillors formulate Policy by consensus and that Officers enact this Policy as a result?

The Convener responded as follows:

Members set and approve Policy either by consensus or political decision following debate and a vote in the Chamber. Officers provide advice to Members to assist these processes and ensure that decisions of the Comhairle are implemented.

GOVERNANCE

Timetable of Committee/

4 With reference to item 4 of the Minute of Meeting of 30 September 2021 the Chief Executive submitted a Report which sought formal approval for the proposed public and

Comhairle
Meetings2022
Public and Local
Holidays 2022

local holidays in 2022, together with the proposed programme of Committee and Comhairle meetings. The Report stated that the series of meetings scheduled for March 2022 had been arranged on an abbreviated timetable basis to enable urgent matters requiring a decision prior to the issuing of the Notice of Election for the Local Government Election, to be considered.

It was agreed to approve the proposed timetable for Committee and Comhairle meetings and Public and Local Holidays for 2022 as detailed in Appendices 1 and 2 to the Report.

APPOINTMENTS

Appointment of
Chief Social Work
Officer

- 5 The Chief Executive submitted a Report which advised the Comhairle of the appointment of Mr Jack Libby, Head of Community Care, as Chief Social Work Officer. The Report stated that each Local Authority in Scotland was required, under Section 3 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 to appoint a Chief Social Work Officer, a post which had been held by Mr David Gibson, former Head of Children's Services, until leaving the Comhairle's service on 27 August 2021.

It was agreed to note the appointment of Mr Jack Libby, Head of Community Care, as its Chief Social Work Officer, with effect from 27 August 2021.

COMMITTEES

Committee
Decision Reports

- 6 The following Committee Decision Reports were approved:
- (a) Communities and Housing Committee: 21 September 2021
 - (b) Education, Sport and Children's Services Committee – 21 September 2021
 - (c) Transportation and Infrastructure Committee – 22 September 2021
 - (d) Sustainable Development Committee – 22 September 2021
 - (e) Audit and Scrutiny Committee – 28 September 2021
 - (f) Policy and Resources Committee – 29 September 2021

PLANNING

Mr Donald F Crichton and Mr Calum Maclean declared an interest in the following item, as Members of the Stornoway Trust, and left the meeting during consideration of the matter.

21/00255/PPDM -
Marybank Quarry -
Extend the mineral
workings through a
deepening of the
quarry floor

- 7 The Head of Economic Development and Planning submitted a Report concerning a planning application for the extension of existing quarry works at Marybank Quarry, Isle of Lewis. The Report gave background information, commented on the application and stated that as the planning application was classed as a major application under the Hierarchy of Development Regulations, it could not be determined under delegation and was therefore presented to the Comhairle.

It was agreed to approve the planning application subject to the conditions set out in Appendix 1 to the Report.

NOTICE OF MOTION

There were no Notices of Motion.