

North Lochs Community Council

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 19th January 2022 @ 7.30pm, via Zoom

Present

Angus Morrison – Councillor

Robbie Mackenzie – Chairperson

Donna Fairbairn – Secretary

Iain Macaskill - Treasurer

Bruce Mackenzie

Annabel Mackay

Sarah Macdonald

Erica Clark – Community Learning and Development Worker

Gemma Worker –Community Development Worker (North Lochs and Kinloch)

Apologies

Maggie Smith – Vice Chairperson

Agenda

1. Chairperson's Welcome

- Robbie Mackenzie (Chairperson) welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- The minutes of the meeting held on 1st December were approved by proposer Annabel and seconder Sarah.

3. Matters Arising from Previous Meeting

Walkway

- Gemma reported the development department advised it is best to approach projects individually but acknowledged if there is a recognised forum for the North Lochs area, a wider plan will strengthen funding applications.
- Linking the villages with a pathway is part of the wider plan and a committee is required to take this forward.
- The Healthy Islands Fund opens in March for its next round of funding and an application could be made to match Paths for All funding. Gemma is keeping in touch with Sheena who is administering the fund.
- The Amenity Group is an ideal body to be approached to form a sub-committee given their charitable status.
- Robbie to speak to Sarah.
- Gemma to speak to Grazings Clerks regarding the prospect of creating walkways through grazings.
- Given the number of walkers in the area, there is potential for community interest as well as attendance of representatives from each community group.

School Playground Access

- Iain G. Smith responded to Donna's email to confirm the pitch is out of use due to the rabbit problem and all areas are on school campus.

Challenger Fund

- Donna will contact Gemma on Thursday to gather project details to enable her to complete the form on behalf of North Lochs Community Association.
- Suggested projects are: plans to establish a fortnightly Pàrant is Pàiste group which would require the purchase of some equipment/toys, and a monthly cycle drop in event with support from Cycle UK and Back Football and Recreation Club.
- Annabel to phone Sgoil nan Loch to ask about bikes previously purchased and ask if they are still in storage.

4. Update from Angus Morrison CnES

Fire Alarms

- Angus to send TIG contact details to Donna so she can request information on assistance for implementation of the new systems which is available to those in the community on benefits.

Bins

- 2/3 weekly collection of recycling bins will commence once all householders on the island are in possession of a blue bin.

Road at New Holdings

- Angus will request the Road Safety Officer meet with Robbie to look at the narrow stretch of road at New Holdings.

5. NLCA Business

- Delivery of the over 70s dinner will take place on 29th January.

6. Treasurer's Report

- The balance is £5930.99 after receipt of the £1000 administration grant.

7. AOB and Correspondence

Wind Turbine

- Gemma reported that she had spoken to Richard Kershaw who confirmed that all clerks were invited to the meeting regarding proposed wind turbines on Soval grazings.
- The proposal is for placement of turbines on Grimshader and Airibrhruaich grazings with 50% benefit each to charity and the grazing committee.
- Potential of formation of a community trust if the project proceeds.
- In terms of peat restoration, it is up to the clerks to submit a plan of the proposed area. Selected sites would be ones not being used and carbon credits would go to the community.

Lamppost

- The stretch of road between Loch Fhionnlagh and the Crossbost manse was identified as the site for five lamp posts. Angus will arrange a site visit from the Road Safety Officer.

Grimshader Passing Place

- Costing for the passing place estimated to be in the region of £5K and funding would need to be identified.

Correspondence

CnES – Planning Application List 3rd December, 10th December, 26th December, 7th January, 14th January, 19th January

Women into Politics, Comhairle Responds to Continued Absence of Islanders on the Calmac Board, Uig Closure Timetable, Summer TT Decision Letters - CNES/Harris Forum, Participants needed for mental health chatbot study long trials starting in January 2022

Free Bus Travel for Under 22s – Baseline Travel Survey

Scottish Community Council Newsletter

Federation of Small Business – Winter Highlands and Islands Survey

PRESS RELEASE - Over 70 Registered for Women into Politics Workshop

PRESS RELEASE - Comhairle Welcomes Offshore Wind Announcement

Calmac Service Update – Covid-19 Timetable

PRESS RELEASE - Leisure Link Partnership extends to Shetland

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 2nd March 2022 at 7.30pm.

Chairperson Signature: _____ Date: _____