

Ness Community Council Minutes

Date: 28th November 2023

Time: 20:00

Attendance: Mary Duff, David Green, Donna MacIver, Muriel Macleod, Annie Macsween, Cairstiona Macleod

Apologies: Alison Macdonald, Donald Macsween (Cllr), Kenny Macleod (Cllr)

Chairing meeting: Muriel Macleod (Vice Chair) standing in for David Green

Minuting meeting: Donna MacIver standing in for Alison Macdonald

Item	Detail	Actions
1.	<i>Previous minutes</i> Approved – Donna MacIver Seconded – Annie Macsween	
2.	<i>Banking</i> The bank account from the previous Community Council is still in their Treasurers name along with their second signatory. We need to go into the bank to complete the documentation to change this so Cairstiona will be in charge as the Treasurer and Mary will be the second signatory. We have heard this can be a long process, so are starting straight away.	Cairstiona & Mary
3.	<i>Community Engagement</i> We agreed to set up an email address for the community council and this will be used to set up the Facebook page. We are aiming to use the Facebook page to show the community what we are doing, keeping them informed of progress on any projects we undertake throughout the year. We also discussed using the page as a point of information for local events but that only the Community Council could post to the page. This would mean anyone who would like an event advertised etc would message us and we would then post to the page. Donna & Muriel agreed they would organise setting this up.	Donna & Muriel
4.	<i>Correspondence</i> None to be discussed.	

Item	Detail	Actions
5.	<p><i>Habost Road</i></p> <p>An issue was brought to Mary's attention directly regarding the Habost road to the amenity site; however having discussed this we agreed that the Urras have been dealing with this problem and we do not have any authority for this.</p>	
6.	<p><i>Treasurers Report</i></p> <p>At the moment the bank statements we have are dated the 20th of October and state there is £3229.75 in the bank account. Once Cairstiona has access to the account we can see what the amount is after interest has accrued in this time.</p>	
7.	<p><i>Wreath</i></p> <p>We discussed that we would like to put a wreath on the Ness War Memorial at the next service. This will be arranged and representatives will attend the service in November.</p>	
8.	<p><i>Model Constitution</i></p> <p>The constitution has been signed and is to be sent to Shona in Governance & Elections, this will then be returned to us and it will trigger out £1000 admin grant. The only addition to the constitution was for the name to be added into Gaelic as well – Comhairle Coimhearnachd Nis.</p>	David
9.	<p><i>Officers & Roles</i></p> <p>Initial thoughts were that £500 will be allocated to the person who does the Admin role whether this is a sole job or to be split between two will be discussed at a later date.</p>	

Item	Detail	Actions
10.	<p><i>Committee Schedule</i></p> <p>We previously agreed that we would have a monthly meeting as every 2 months would be too spread out. David put together a schedule of meetings for us and we agreed that six of the meetings would be official meetings where members of the public were encouraged and welcome to join, whereas the remaining six meetings would be informal sessions closed to the public. Our next meeting is on January the 16th at 8pm.</p>	
11.	<p><i>Meeting Venues</i></p> <p>We agreed that Taigh Dhonnchaidh is a good central point for us to meet and that they can invoice us £20 per meeting, we will pay this at the end of each financial year.</p>	
12.	<p><i>Standing Order</i></p> <p>We all read through the Standing Order for the Community Council from Governance and all agreed it was fine.</p>	
13.	<p><i>Committee Members</i></p> <p>In the future once we are more established we can encourage more members to come onto the committee. The more members there are then the more help there will be when it comes to us running any events. Also the wider the group is, the more skill-sets are brought in to be used to our advantage.</p>	

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14.	<p><i>Procurement</i></p> <p>Martin Maclver (Senior Procurement Officer) has offered to help with any Procurement we undertake as a Community Council as we will be under audit regulations. The committee agreed that having expert advice on the matter would be very useful when the time comes.</p>	
15.	<p><i>Lionel Swimming Pool</i></p> <p>Agreed to investigate further the issues surrounding Lionel School Swimming Pool and whether anything could be done about swimming lessons for the local children. Swimming lessons are given in the Harris Swimming Pool and there should be no difference between the 2 pools. David is going to speak to Simon Amos in the first instance and we will discuss again at the next meeting.</p>	David
16.	<p><i>Logo Competition</i></p> <p>At the time of the meeting we had 15 completed application for the Logo Competition for the Community Council. We looked through them and agreed there were lots of lovely choices. We will wait until the closing date just before the Christmas Holidays and then choose our winner, and runner-up.</p> <p>Prize for the competition winners will be a £20 and a £10 voucher from any local business of their choice.</p>	
17.	<p><i>Urras</i></p> <p>Neil Mackinnon from the Urras is keen to speak to us as he thinks we should be one of the consultees for the Northland Environmental Scoping. He could talk to both us and Airidhantuim at the same time for this. Hopefully he could speak to us about the Community Investment Fund and how this works. We are interested in all the Urras projects such as the lighthouse redevelopment so this would be a great way to learn more about them.</p>	

Item	Detail	Actions
18.	<p data-bbox="320 208 376 237"><i>AOB</i></p> <p data-bbox="320 244 1182 349">We didn't have an address to use for Community Council post etc so we agreed that since Donna would be helping Alison that we could use 36 Cross, Ness, Isle of Lewis, HS2 0SZ.</p> <p data-bbox="320 387 1126 416">Next meeting is on 16th January 2024 at 8pm in Taigh Dhonnchaidh.</p>	