

Minute/Note of Meeting	TITLE	North Uist Community Council		
	DATE	11 th March 2024	TIME	7.00pm
	VENUE	Taigh Sgìre Sholais		

PRESENT:	Joan Ferguson (JF-Chair), Lynda MacLean (LM - Vice Chair), Neil Johnstone (NJ) Cllr Uisdean Robertson (UR) Public- Joan Macdonald , Sheena Stewart UCVO
APOLOGIES:	Fiona MacVicar (FM), Cllr Mustapha Hocine (MH) Nikki Woodhead (NW), John Macdonald (JM - Treasurer),

Agenda Item	Summary	Action	Who?	When?
Adoption of minutes from previous meeting	Minutes of the last meeting were approved by NJ & LML			
Matters Arising from previous meeting	<p>Little Minch – Public Engagement session to be held in Lochmaddy Hall on the 13th March.</p> <p>Graveyards- Rabbits continue to be an issue in Kilmuir & now Clachan Sands. UR advised that due to financial constraints the community must accept that this will be an ongoing problem. Uisdean has not received any complaints. NUCC has been asking for confirmation of remaining lair capacity in both graveyards for some time. Comhairle is planning to extend Kilmuir & Berneray Cemeteries , no plan to extend Clachan Sands. April 2024 Lair increase from £600 to £660 & Interment £475 to £525</p> <p>Spaceport Community Benefit Fund will not be ringfenced for North Uist it will now be for Western Isles wide. Disappointing that this change has not been shared with the community. The change was agreed by elected members on the basis that overall</p>	Any further issues	Contact Donald MacLeod , CNES	Going forward

		money available would be greater through a Western Isles wide fund.			
	Community Council Training	LML, NW & JF attended the Community Council Training Unlike other CC's NUCC had not been involved in the Crown Estate shortlist meeting. No formal invite to NUCC was received. UR advised that there may not be any distribution of Crown Estate Fund to the Community in 2024. Possible that applications will be ringfenced for piers & harbours.	Check e-mails	JF/LML	ASAP
	Transport	Concerns raised by parents with children who attend after school study classes. Bus from Liniclate – Balivanich is 16-seater, Balivanich – North Uist is only 8 seats. Bus company does not have a driver for a 16 seater for the North Uist bus. A pupil was left in Balivanich as there was no space on the bus North.	Contact Liniclate Parent Council UR to check with Comhairle	NJ	ASAP
	Councillors Report Mustapha Hocine	Kilmuir cemetery The Archologist, visited the cemetery few weeks ago, and we are waiting for their report before we continue the discussion on future plans Bank The Lochmaddy Bank has closed but we are continuing correspondence with the bank, to pursue the issue of having an ATM in Lochmaddy, their view is , there are adequate facilities for banking and accessing cash ,through the post office and the promised community banking situated in TC, in their view an ATM is not necessary, options; Pursue the issue and put more political pressure and raise social media profile. Explore an Independent Community ATM, situated in Lochmaddy or other suitable venue in North Uist North Uist and Berneray, Social and Economic Forum: Discussion have taken place with various stakeholder, and the proposal has been enthusiastically supported so far, notably, by Berneray Community Council, North Uist Development Company,			

	<p>and UU. The next stage is to review and update, the North Uist Development Business Plan, produced by NUDC, as a basis for discussion about the N&B form's priorities, a meeting will be called in the near future, and will invite some local employers and other major stakeholder in the areas to formally established the forum, funding has been promised, to employ a development officer, and discussion have been engaged with NUDC to host the post.</p> <p>Budget This year's budget been approved, council tax frozen, manged to avoid any staffing reduction which was our priority</p> <p>The Uist and Barra Housing Group Housing remains an issue and a priority, the Uist and Barra housing group had their AGM last month and are exploring the way forward (two reps from North Uist, Mustapha and Diane Macpherson NUDC)</p> <p>Education Donald Macleod, Chief Officer for Education & Children's Services, visit to North Uist was cancelled due to weather, it will be reschedule at some point in the near future.</p> <p>CnES The next committee series will be held in Uist and Barra.</p>			
<p>First Aid Course</p>	<p>16th March Clachan Church Hall 2 sessions for 12 people. NW will be a point of contact for the morning session & JF for the afternoon session .</p>			
<p>Ferry and Plane Service</p>	<p>Little Minch vessel/s should be in service by October 2025 New vessel will only be able to berth stern first. Outline business case with Transport Scotland to replace the linkspan at Lochmaddy.</p>			

	<p>Hebridean Air Service will be operating the air service between Benbecula & Stornoway. Operating 2 flights a day Mon, Tuesday & Friday Flights will be £150 return. Concern about the size of the plane & accessibility for passengers with mobility issues.</p>			
War Memorial	<p>Improvements to be made to paths & handrail. NUCC members to meet at war memorial to assess works needed. Advertise for volunteers, look at ideas for fundraising/ donations. Cadets to be asked for help. Check when the 100th Anniversary is ?</p>	<p>Members to meet at War Memorial</p> <p>Contact Cadets QR Code website link</p>	<p>ALL JF JF</p>	<p>Before next meeting</p>
Lochmaddy Visioning Plan	<p>JMD, JF, LML, NJ, NW met at Lochmaddy Pier walked from the pier to the hall to note areas that needed improvement in the village.</p> <p>Areas highlighted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ferry lanes lighting on 24/7 • Boardwalk near Cal Mac office needs repairing • Bike shelter at ferry terminal damaged. • Improved signage for AED, bins , waste disposal • Waste disposal in poor unhygienic conditions. • Manhole cover in poor condition beside the bench near Kersavagh junction. • Village noticeboard -signposting to amenities/ services • Bus stop- Digital display needs repair • Benches need painted/replaced • Empty properties in the village • Abandoned/ Derelict cars. • Upgrade of electric charging points at the pier. • Phone boxes in need of repair. • Improved road markings & pavement surface. <p>Emily NUBLPP is organising a clean up in the village.</p>			

	Playing field fence to be replaced . Aquatera Workshops 21st-23 rd March, NW & JMD attending.			
AOCB	<p>New pink bottle banks</p> <p>Could chipping from the spray & chip be used elsewhere -on unadopted roads to fill potholes</p> <p>Locheport AED pads were out of date when checked recently by SS. Check if 2 Locheport residents are willing to check AED on a weekly basis. Encouraging to see Clachan Sands Community Hub have their phone box completed. Taigh Sgìre have adopted the phone box at Middlequarter & GCA the phone box at Grimsay Road end. The old box at Carinish is likely to be relocated to Carinish School.</p> <p>SS to send LML details of the Locheport /Baleshare Christmas Dinner group.</p> <p>Committee to consider additional members to co-opt on to NUCC</p>	<p>Where to locate ?</p> <p>Check who the guardians are for Carinish Hall / Locheport.</p> <p>SS to e-mail LML</p>	<p>All</p> <p>Lynda</p> <p>Sheena</p>	<p>Next meeting</p> <p>Next meeting</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>Next meeting</p>
Date of Next Meeting	<p>6th May 2024 2024@ 7pm Hosta Hall</p> <p>Meeting closed at 9.15pm</p>			

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