



Eriskay Community Council

ERISKAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on 16th April 2024

Present

Triona Mackinnon, Ron Mackinnon, Craig Harrower, Kat Beedie, Robert Murdoch, Morag Campbell, Angus MacDonald

Apologies

Pat Cross, Susan Thomson (Councillor)

Matters Arising

Initial activity of the new council

Triona confirmed that the bank accounts have been changed and we have paid a number of outstanding amounts, although there are still a few to pay including the sexton fees for the end of the 2023/2024 financial year. All documents stored by the previous councils have been scanned and saved on a google drive for easy access and handover. There is also a new email address.

Community Bus

Triona confirmed that the funding for the bus had been reduced and that currently we have enough to last about 9 months with Hebco. Kat mentioned that she had met up with Susan Thomson, councillor, and the deficit may be found from another fund and this would be confirmed by the end of the month. Triona talked about the importance of raising money for the bus through donations, fundraising, and other individuals potentially using the bus. In addition to the reduced funding, it was confirmed that we need to find £800 each year just to have the bus and so emphasised the importance of raising money. We have a donation box which will be placed in the bus shortly.



Eriskay Community Council

A question was raised about whether the shop could contribute to the bus and Morag said she would speak to Catriona about this. Some funding ideas were noted by the group including approaching Calmac and Mowi.

It was confirmed that the bus has been moved and is parked outside the hall, although we are looking at a dedicated space longer term. There is also now a keylock beside the hall door.

Bottlebank

It was noted that we have questioned moving the bottle bank from outside the shop to the Ferry port, which is where it used to be. This decision would be made following a consultation with the community.

Container outside the Hall

We have raised the question as to whether the container could also be moved closer to the school. Sandra confirmed that due to the container storing items for exhibition purposes, it would need to remain close by but moving it slightly could be an option.

AOB

Young people on the council

Angus asked if we can encourage more young people to join the council, or get involved for consultation purposes. An outstanding action is how can we look to engage with more young people

Speeding issues

The issue of speeding through parts of Eriskay was flagged and whether we are able to get speeding signs. It was noted that other areas have tried to get signs but without much success. Kat noted that she had asked about pony signs and would also ask about options for speeding signs.



Eriskay Community Council

First Responders

Ron raised the issue with the location of the helicopter landing area on Eriskay and the challenge of not being able to get the ambulance to the football pitch. No decision was taken as there was uncertainty whether the council could do anything? It was noted that a donation request had been raised by the First Responders Team. Everyone agreed that donation requests should be dealt with on a case by case/merit basis and all of the group agreed that a donation of £150 should be made.

Community Notice Board

The committee members had discussed purchasing a community notice board to sit outside the shop, potentially shared by the other groups in Eriskay. There is one at the beach but no one knows who owns it. The group asked if we could try and find out? Kat will follow up with her contact in the council.

PSO Benbecula to Stornoway flights

Craig attended a conference call with the other community councils to discuss the changes in the flight providers for the 'medical support' flights and the challenges people are now facing. He noted that the Community Councils were coming together to support the push for a better service.

AGM and other meetings

The group confirmed that the AGM would be held on the 28th May at 6.30pm. We aim to run other ongoing meetings on the last Tuesday of the month at 6.30pm, every 2 months following the 28th May.

Date of Next Meeting

The AGM on 28th May at 6.30pm.