

# KINLOCHBERVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting held on 06.09.11 in The Village Hall

**Present:** Graham Wild (Chairman), John Mann (Vice Chair),  
Christine MacKenzie (Treasurer), Mairi Eastcroft, Joan MacKay, Sylvia Mackay,  
Murdo MacPherson, Stuart McHugh, Angus Ross

**Also present:** George Farlow (Highland Councillor), PC Ian Sutherland,  
Elaine McHugh (Secretary)

### Agenda Items

#### (1) Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Linda Munro, Michael Otter, Fiona Donaldson

#### (2) Minutes (05.07.11)

The Minutes of the last meeting were proposed for approval by John Mann and seconded by Mairi Eastcroft and duly approved.

#### (3) Matters Arising from the Minutes (05.07.11)

##### (a) Fishing and the Faeroes – under Item (2)

As Graham Gaw has now left KLB, Gary Sutherland had been approached to take the production of the video forward. Christine had spoken to John Thurso who will in turn speak to the Pharoos Ambassador when they meet. It was thought this would supersede the letter due to be sent by KLB CC. Cllr Farlow had also raised the issue with the Fisheries Harbour board and suggested that more support seems to be taken up for the east coast rather than the west. The meeting agreed that the decision affects KLB more than anywhere else, which is what John Thurso will pursue. John Thurso will be asked to keep the Community Council informed.

##### (b) Bench for Loch Innes path – Item (3)(a)

Christine estimates £500 for the whole unit but Graham will speak to Norman for a definitive answer. It was agreed the bench would not be place out until next season and a replacement for the old one at Achriesgill sourced. Sylvia asked about plastic ones and Christine agreed to get in touch with a supplier. **Action: GW & CM**

##### (c) Geopark – Item (3)(b)

The meeting held on 8 August was very productive with unanimous agreement that the first site recommended for the centre should go forward. A Geocentre sub group has been set up and Stuart, along with a representative from the other CCs affected, will form part of it, plus Cllr Farlow. It is hoped that the Geopark will be revalidated in three years' time. A further meeting is due on 26 September with reports being circulated beforehand and workshops at the meeting.

##### (d) New Community Council Constitution – Item (3)(c)

A copy of this has been countersigned by Andy Mackay and returned for the CC's files.

**(e) Water quality – Item (3)(d)**

John Mann reported on three burst pipes in Manse Road in as many weeks. Once repaired the water quality was subsequently tested and failed each time with Scottish Water adding chlorine to bring it up to the standard required so people do not fall ill. EU regulates the chlorine content. Stuart asked why so many bursts occur, which was put down to old pipe work, which eventually would all be replaced. Cllr Farlow said representatives from other CCs had toured treatment works and asked questions directly at that time. It was agreed that Cllr Farlow would take this forward and arrange a tour on behalf of KLB CC. **Action: GF**

**(f) Help from Forces.**

Murdo and Graham met with David Halpin who agreed the new site for the steps to OSM looked promising. It was suggested that once new steps were operational the existing route be fenced to eliminate temptation for people to use it. October 2011 or April 2012 are the dates put forward for commencement of work when troops will be in the area. Barry Pearson is to be asked to produce drawings for the troops to work to. The work would take a minimum of three days but could take up to a week and if any other suitable work needed doing they would be happy to take it on. Sylvia suggested the reinstatement of the path up to that point. Graham confirmed the new gate to the field from the car park had the go ahead from Matt Dent with Johnnie Robb Morrison carrying out the work.

**(g) Noticeboards – Item (7)(c)**

Stuart reported that the one at the garage appeared to be letting in water, so would need to keep an eye on it.

**(h) Broadband – Item(7)(d) - no update**

**(4) HomeAid**

There was concern by some members of the Committee whether this was an appropriate item for the Community Council to discuss. However, as 75% of the Community Council were cited in the letter as having benefited by a 'Tommy's Deal', as well as implications of benefit to other sections of the community and senior employees of Highland Council, it was felt the Community Council should have the opportunity to comment. The CC had every confidence in HomeAid carrying out a thorough investigation and their General Manager, Michele Whibley, reported that her findings suggested the allegations made were totally untrue and based purely upon a lack of understanding as to how the recycling container operates. Because of the nature of allegations, HomeAid felt the public should be aware of the letter and their reply and was happy for it to be published.

**(5) Community Project Co-ordinator's Report**

In her absence Fiona had produced an interim report and it was agreed that Elaine would scan and email it to the committee. **Action: EMc**

**(6) Treasurer's Report**

Christine reported £1328 in the bank account but we should receive £158 from Matt Dent the Access Officer, Caithness & Sutherland, this being the grant for the erection of the signposts. Christine will arrange for the purchase of the Wreath for the War Memorial and asked the Committee to approve the one chosen. The Committee agreed.

## (7) Correspondence

The following items of correspondence had been received and those of a public nature are available for inspection at the North and West Sutherland Advice and Information Service at the harbour.

### Highland Council:

- Weekly Planning Application lists
- Letter re *Consultation on Highland's Statutorily Protected Species (draft) Supplementary Guidance*. Draft available to view at Service Points, Libraries, Planning Offices or on line
- Signed copy of Community Council Constitution by Andy Mackay adopted by KLB CC in June 2011.
- Letter re *Draft Houses in Multiple Occupation : Interim Supplementary Guidance document* available to view at: [www.highland.gov.uk/yourenvironment/planning/consultation.htm](http://www.highland.gov.uk/yourenvironment/planning/consultation.htm)  
Comments invited.
- Highland Council Quality Awards 2011 – nominations invited
- Letter re Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – Policy Statement

### NWS LHP:

- Notes of July and August meetings and paperwork for next to be held in Bettyhill

### Community Project Co-ordinator – June Update

### Royal Horticultural Society – Letter re Britain in Bloom

### NHS Highland – Highland Community Development Strategy to Support Older People

**Stagecoach** – Bus services operated by Stagecoach in the Highlands. Invite to join scheme whereby staff will inform CCs by email of changes.

### SMP Playgrounds – Parish & Community newsletter for summer.

**MoD** – Notification of NATO Maritime Exercise Joint Warrior 1 – 17 October 2011. Notices to be displayed.

Graham highlighted the Highland Council Quality Awards and asked the meeting for any nominations, it was agreed to nominate Henry Flett.

## (8) AOCB

### (a) Problem with drain – Manse Road

John reported that an intermittent stream of water flowing passed the Manse gate occasionally freezes in winter. From local knowledge it would seem that by diverting the stream of water so that it flowed into a drain could easily rectify this. There had at one time been a channel that directed this water into the drain but this had been blocked up. However, it was believed it could easily be reopened. John suggested that an approach from the Community Council should be made to Highland Council for them to do this. GW to speak to Henry Flett. **Action: GW**

### (b) Promotional Website

Christine urged everyone to take a look at the brilliant website [www.come2KLB.com](http://www.come2KLB.com). This was started by Graham Gaw to try to encourage families to come and live in KLB in order to maintain the school numbers. There is a link to Gary's KLB website and it was thought it would be a good idea if there was one the other way. Murdo to investigate through school. **Action: MM**

**(c) Ward Forum**

The next Ward Forum is scheduled for 24 September in Lochinver. The theme is Planning for Integration for children's and adult services.

**(d) OSM beach and machair (SSSI)**

Following complaints about stock on these areas, Graham advised that if a crofter alters any remit of grazing on such land they must inform SNH. Richard is obviously aware of this and has contacted SNH himself and SNH will contact the crofter in question.

**(e) Housing**

Sylvia mentioned speaking to Albany Housing about their policy in moving people on from the key house to allow others to move in. Ronnie MacRae had been emailed but no response received. She also asked about getting in touch with Trust Housing Association regarding their criteria on housing people. The CC had written on 16 August about rules and regulations being broken but no response to date. PC Sutherland had also written, however, their stance is that unless a complaint is received they cannot do anything about it. It was hoped that a letter from a resident or residents would have some effect. Stuart suggested that another letter from the CC to someone higher up is sent referring to the letter of 16 August and non-response. One resident has already moved away due to the problems and the CC has a responsibility to the remainder.

**(f) NWTC Open Day**

Cllr Farlow suggested a vote of thanks to Jane Stevenson and her team for the event held on 1 September. Some of the Committee were able to attend and agreed that it was most enjoyable.

**(9) Date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting will be 4 October and this will be the AGM.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm