

KINOCHELVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on 03.09.13 at The Harbour Offices

Present: John Mann (Chairman), Gary Sutherland (Vice Chairman),
Christine Mackenzie (Treasurer), Angus Ross, Kirsty Holland

Also Present: Hugh Morrison (Highland Councillor), Jasmine Clarke (Ambulance Technician),
Alison Sinton (Minutes)

(1) Apologies– Fiona Donaldson (Community Project Co-ordinator)
Murdo Macpherson (Secretary), Mairi Eastcroft

Two ambulance technicians informed the community council that the problem of the shortage of ambulance crew has become urgent as the area is not being adequately covered. The community council suggested that a public meeting take place to include Kinlochbervie, Lairg and Bettyhill.

Gary volunteered to write to the North West Ambulance Service expressing our concerns and inviting them to come to a public meeting and also sending an agenda item request to the Sutherland District Partnership. **Action Gary**

(2) Minutes of 02.07.13

The minutes of the meeting held on 02.07.13 were proposed for approval by John and seconded by Christine

(3) Matters arising from Minutes 02.07.13

(a) Highland Small Communities Trust

As the result of the housing survey was that there is little demand, it has been decided that there will be no public ownership of available houses

(b) Geopark

Murdo's report on North West Highlands Geopark progress was discussed. Murdo has informed the community council that the Geopark has received a "yellow" card and funding has been secured of £85,000 for 2013-14 and £81,000 for 2014-15.

(c) Core Paths

John has emailed Matt Dent and he has replied stating that the community council's comments have been noted. It was decided to email the Highland Council to ask if there were any funds available for necessary maintenance.
Action John and Hugh

(d) Brochure

Ongoing.

(e) High School Availability

John Wood is looking into improving the facilities and opening them to the public.

(f) Creag Rhiabhack Wind Farm

No further news

(4) Community Project Co-ordinator's Report

The Community Co-ordinator's Report for August was discussed.

(5) Treasurer's Report

There is a Community Council balance of £6,532.81 less Christmas Lights Fund of £2,561.88 and Brochure Funds of £441.38. Making a total of £3,369.55. Hugh and Christine discussed the reduction of grant from the Highland Council. The gate at the war memorial needs fixed. Couriers delivering wreaths for Remembrance Day are expensive so it was decided to look into other ways of collecting these.

(6) Correspondence

Incoming:

- ⤴ **Caithness & Sutherland Local Development Plan-call for sites and ideas** – forwarded email from Fiona Donaldson
- ⤴ **Information for Police and Fire Plan Ward Forum Consultations** – forwarded email from Fiona Donaldson
- ⤴ **Police Fire Services Ward Forum** – poster from Andy Mackay
- ⤴ **Winter Resilience** – email from Highland Council
- ⤴ **Highland Road Safety** – email about seminar taking place on Friday 22nd November 2013
- ⤴ **Marine Scotland** – email
- ⤴ **Ewan Edwards, Marine Scotland** – email
- ⤴ **Highland Council Community Council Scheme Evaluation 2013** – three attached documents
- ⤴ **The Highland Council Quality Awards 2013** -community council nominations
- ⤴ **Murdo Macpherson** – Geopark receives a yellow card
- ⤴ **KLB Community Company Options Appraisal 2013** – by email
- ⤴ **Monthly Activity Summary** – Fiona Donaldson
- ⤴ **AGM for Kinlochbervie Community Company** – to take place on 11th September 2013
- ⤴ **Sutherland District Partnership** – Agenda Item Request

Incoming since last meeting:

- ⤴ **Important concerns re road safety** – email from Dr. Berrie
- ⤴ **Options Appraisal** – Peter Dawson
- ⤴ **MPA Meeting**

Outgoing since last meeting:

^ **Sutherland District Partnership – Agenda Item Request** - form to Andy Mackay

^ **Graham Macleod** – letter expressing concern about ambulance staffing levels (cc Alan Miller, Scottish Ambulance Service)

(7) AOCB

Hugh gave a short report on the progress of the Laxford Road improvements.

Discussion on Caithness & Sutherland Local Development Plan.

There is an ongoing concern over the shortage of policing in the area.

It was decided not to apply for Winter Resilience-Aid to Communities as there was far too much paperwork involved for what would amount to little benefit. It was decided that encouragement to clear pavements on a voluntary basis would be more appropriate.

A local business is experiencing problems in securing a necessary use of land in order for them to continue. John will write a letter of support to the Crofter's Commission.

Action John

Hugh suggested we invite the party that recently went to the Faroes to report on how it went.

The football pitch is still needing attention. Christine offered to make enquiries concerning this. **Action Christine**

(8) Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 1st October 2013 at 7pm