

KINOCHELVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on 05.11.13 at The Harbour Offices

Present: John Mann (Chairman), Gary Sutherland (Vice Chairman), Murdo Macpherson (Secretary), Christine Mackenzie (Treasurer), Mairi Eastcroft, Angus Ross, Kirsty Holland

Also Present: Hugh Morrison (Highland Councillor), Alison Sinton (Minutes)

(1) Apologies– no apologies

(2) Minutes of 01.10.13

The minutes of the meeting held on 01.10.13 were proposed for approval by Murdo and seconded by Angus

(3) Matters arising from Minutes 01.10.13

Concerns about ambulance staffing levels continue. Gary received a reply to his letter from Graham MacLeod (Divisional Head of Service – North West). The letter stated that since the staff are currently going through a Grievance Procedure and Employment Tribunal he was unable to respond. Gary was not satisfied with this response as he had expected more. John Thurso (MP) has been in touch with Kirsty about the recruiting problems with ambulance staff. Hugh will ask Kevin Crowe to raise a question on this with Alan Miller at the Health Partnership meeting. The helicopter is now only able to be used during daylight hours. This situation was discussed at length and John suggested that Bond be contacted to get more information on this decision.

Action John and Hugh

(a) Highland Small Communities Trust

no further news

(b) Geopark

Murdo reported on progress. The Northern Times and Associates will advertise for staff and posters will be put on local notice boards. Interviews will take place and positions filled in December. There is still a question of finding local office premises. The Geopark is already being recognised in information about walks in the area.

(c) Core Paths

The small bridge at the end of Loch Innes is in a dilapidated state. Hugh will ask Matt Dent about the possibility of having this repaired. **Action Hugh**

(d) Brochure

No further news.

(e) High School Availability

John Wood has applied for funding for this.

(f) Creag Rhiabhack Wind Farm

No further news

(4) Community Project Co-ordinator's Report

Fiona was not present at the meeting so this was postponed to next meeting. The Laxford Road is now officially open.

(5) Treasurer's Report

No change from last report. Kirsty gave Christine a cheque for £50 raised by herself and Jasmine Clarke in aid of the War Memorial Fund.

(6) Correspondence

Incoming:

- ^ **Ambulance Service in North West Sutherland** – copy of letter from Gordon Curd to Pauline Howie (Chief Executive Scottish Ambulance Service)
- ^ **Community Project Co-ordinator's Report - October**

Incoming since last meeting:

- ^ **Save the Date – Rural Housing Scotland 28.02.14 Conference** – forwarded email
- ^ **Queen's Baton Relay – Local Nominations Required** – email from Andy Mackay with attached leaflet
- ^ **Launch of Consultation on Community Empowerment (Scotland) Bill** – forwarded email
- ^ **2014 Homecoming Scotland** – forwarded email
- ^ **The Need For Dental Services in Durness** – Kevin Crowe's letter forwarded by email from Kate Morrison (NHS)
- ^ **In Support of Kevin Crowe's letter** – email from Alex Fraser (NHS Highland)
- ^ **Highland Licensing Board -Gambling Policy Statement** – email from Andy Mackay
- ^ **Sara Harkins** – reply to Alison's email
- ^ **Training for Community Council Members** – email from Sue Halford

Outgoing since last meeting:

- ^ **Letter in support of Kevin Crowe concerning dentist access in Durness** – email to Lorraine Coe, Ross Mackenzie and George Farlow

(7) AOCB

Hugh reported on good progress with the football pitch. Funding is being applied for.

The difficulty for people getting to the dentist was discussed and it was decided to write a letter of support for Kevin Crowe's letter concerning this.

Action Murdo and Alison

Hugh spoke on the Police and Fire Brigade Ward Forum and said it was very interesting.

Hugh is going to ask if the Sallachy Wind Farm money can be shared with this area. It was decided that if this was to go ahead a set percentage would be the best way for it to be done.

(8) Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 3rd December 2013 at 7pm