

Durness Community Council

Durness Village Hall, Smoo, Durness, Sutherland, IV27 4QA

Monday 7pm 13th May 2024

in the Village Hall

Minutes

1. Attendance

Don Campbell (Chair) (DC)
Ron Tucker (Secretary) (RT)
Kristina Coulton (Treasurer) (KC)
Barbara Sutherland (BS)
Ewan Macrae (EM)
Councillor Hugh Morrison Ex-Officio (HM)
Stuart Ross (SR)

2. Apologies

Major Curtis (MoD)
Fiona Saywell (Geopark)
Scott Mc Pherson (SM)
Anita Wilson (Minutes) (AW)

3. Minutes of the last meeting 8th April 2024

Agreed. Proposed by BS; seconded by EM.

4. Matters Arising

1. Smoo Cave and Road

No update.

2. Fire Hydrants

Still waiting.

3. Defibrillators

Await fitting.

4. Noticeboard

Awaits fitting.

5. Local Place Plan

Rispond harbour can be included on the plan.

5. Bridge over burn at Clearance village

Neil and Matt Dent have ordered the new bridge. They will need a lift to unload and fit.

6. Road on the Capeside

Stuart Ross explained how the state of this road is causing him to lose money on his business because the potholes are so large that he cannot run his van over them. This issue is also having a severe impact on two other businesses. HM pointed out this is a road maintained at public expense, i.e. it is the Highland Council's responsibility to maintain it. A long discussion took place and, following SR's statement that he had not received a reply to his letters to the Council, it was

agreed that DC should write to the Chief Executive with copies to the relevant departments.

Action: DC

7. Mothballing Nursery

The Council intend to mothball the Durness nursery next year, due to only one pupil attending. It was then pointed out that there will be three pupils attending in a year's time.

HM agreed to return to the Council and update them.

Action: HM

8. Ground Maintenance at the Cemetery

As the current maintenance person has retired, this job will be advertised.

9. MOD

No update from Major Curtis.

DC stated there will be exercises 9th to 20th September and 14th to 19th October.

10. N.H.S.

There is to be a meeting on 30th May at 6.30pm in the Durness Village Hall to update the progress of the care home in Tongue.

11. Police Matters (Police Constable Allan Cameron N0784)

No update.

It is stressed that all non-active crime should be reported to the Police by calling 101.

12. Reports

1. Durness Community Group

There will be yellow collection boxes distributed for fund-raising to purchase some Christmas lights for the village.

2. Geopark

Updates for the Durness area is on the website and a walking guide for Durness is in progress.

3. Treasurer

Current balance is £6,800.57.

4. Northwest2045

Nothing to report at present.

5. N & W Sutherland Trust

Nothing to report at present.

6. Windfarms

Monies from the Altnaharra windfarm will last 30-45 years.

7. Christmas lights

RT circulated copies of the posters created by Anita Wilson to be posted around the village.

13. Highland Council

Money for the Ranger service is now available, and three part-time Rangers will start on 14th May.

Parking in the Sango car park was discussed; this situation is to be reviewed.

14. Planning

None.

15. Any other business

BS raised the issue of the footpath in Sangobeg.

16. Date of next meeting

7.00 pm on Monday 1st July in the Village Hall. This will be an AGM followed by a full Council meeting.

This was subsequently changed to **TUESDAY 2nd JULY at 7pm.**

These Minutes were agreed at the meeting on...

DRAFT