

# Durness Community Group

Charity registration number: SC032179

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

## Minutes of the Meeting (Draft)

Meeting at the Village Hall 7pm 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022

1. **Present:**
  - Yvonne MacRae - Vice Chair (YM)
  - Ron Tucker - Secretary (RT)
  - Sheila Frazer - Treasurer (SF)
  - Kathy Parker (KP)
  - Stephen Woodruff (SW)
  - Joanna Tucker (JT)
  - Martina Macleod (MM)
2. **Apologies**

Dawn McKenzie, Neil Fuller, Don Campbell, Alistair Morrison
3. **Minutes of the last meeting** 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022  
Proposed by SF seconded by YM.
4. **Matters arising**
  1. Toilets on the Cape

YM said that we should ascertain whether the new toilets are now in operation. She will contact Angela Ure and, if possible, obtain a photo. SF gave the historical background of our involvement.  
**Action: YM**
  2. Website

RT asked if the website should have a better presence on the internet. SW recommended we leave it as it is.  
Also, Ronnie Lansley needs to be contacted to release the old website.  
**Action: SW to contact DC re photos**
  3. Sallachy Wind Farm (SWF)

RT gave a summary of the benefits the wind farm will give the community after about three years.
  4. Youth Work

No update.
  5. 1 Bard Terrace

Correction to previous Minutes: no insulation is required.
  6. Access to the Ceannabeinne Clearance Village

RT reported that Matt Dent will have a look at this. A tourist's vehicle recently gained access through the crofters' entrance and ended up stuck in soft ground. The crofters will review the access points.
  7. Children's Play Park

YM gave an update of a meeting on 'Teams' with Valerie and Beth of the Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust (KSDT) which RT and JT also attended. The KSDT have decided that they will no longer help us to raise funds for the play park. This is disappointing; however, they will now only invoice us for half the cost originally agreed.

An updated estimate for phase one of the play park (young children's area) is £153,000+VAT.

The meeting discussed fundraising and how best this could be achieved.

Suggestions were:

- Duchess of Sutherland
- Duke of Westminster
- Reay Forest Estate. YM has already liaised Caroline McCowan who will report back on how best to lodge a request for funding.
- Scottish Sea Farms. YM reported that an online application form can be submitted.
- Lottery Funding
- Collection buckets at the Games and in the shops
- Gift Aid and a Just Giving (or similar) website. JT offered to investigate this.
- Ward discretionary fund. RT will ask the ward manager.
- Matched funding

**Action:** YM, JT, RT

8. Community Housing

No update.

YM will email Councillor Marianne Hutchison (MH) regarding the council house which will be coming up soon and whether there is anything the Highland Council can do to make a family with primary school children a priority for the housing allocation.

**Action:** YM

*(Post meeting note: YM received a prompt reply from MH who is aware of the problem and will raise it with the relevant Housing and Education officers at the Highland Council.)*

9. Defibrillators

No update.

10. Press Release

JT circulated a draft Press Release. This was discussed and it was decided to wait until Gift Aid and a Just Giving page (or similar) had been set up.

**Action:** JT

11. Sutherland Community Trust

No update.

12. Sango Sands

RT met Matt Dent and he will ask for a new stairway to be built to the beach.

13. Near Me Team

RT will give the iPad Mini (donated by Durness Active Health/Cape Wrath Challenge) to Diana Clark (Practice Manager) at the surgery in the hope that those patients benefitting from the Near Me Team initiative may be able to use it if they do not otherwise have access to a device.

**Action:**RT

*(Post meeting note: the iPad Mini was handed to Dian Clark on 21 June.)*

5. **Reports**

1. **Financial**

No update. The balance is £54,000 and the insurance for Bard Terrace has been paid.

**2. Durness Community Council**

RT reported that the new rangers have still not been identified but they will be invited to the Community Council meetings when they have been contacted.

**3. NW Sutherland Trust**

RT explained that this is the group that will control the money from the Altnaharra–Creag Riabhach Wind Farm. DC is our representative on this group.

**4. SCDC Scourie Community Development Company**

This will be the group controlling the money from the Sallachy Wind Farm. At present they are applying to the Highland Council for money from the Investing in Communities Fund (ICF). This application window closes on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

RT and DC are our representatives. The name of this group will be changed to be more representative of the communities it serves.

**6. A.O.B.**

None.

**7. Date of next meeting:**

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2022 7pm at the Village Hall

These Minutes approved at the Meeting .....