

# KINLOCHBERVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Minutes of Meeting held on 07/04/09 at Taigh Ceilidh

**Present:** Graham Wild (Chairman), Christine MacKenzie (Treasurer), Michael Otter, Mairi Eastcroft

**Members of the public present:** Stuart McHugh

**Also present:** George Farlow (Highland Councillor) and Elaine McHugh (Secretary)

### Agenda Items

#### (1) Apologies

Apologies were received from John Mann, Joan Mackay, Sylvia Mackay and Murdo MacPherson

#### (2) Minutes 03/03/09

The Minutes were proposed for approval by Mairi, seconded by Christine and duly approved.

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

##### (a) Marina

This is now complete, bedded in and already full of boats. It appears that the area is considerably less than advised and it may well need extending at a later date. Cllr Farlow mentioned that more funding might be available in 2010/2011 to address this.

##### (b) Fences at Oldshoremore

Matt Dent advised that the fences were now in place along with an access gate.

##### (c) Community Bus

Still awaiting letter of comfort until grant monies can be rubber-stamped at TECS meeting in May. Cllr Farlow reported that there was a daily scheduled bus service from Durness to Scourie available for passengers and schoolchildren. Cllr Farlow to provide a timetable.

##### (d) Patient Transport Service

To date no response has been received to the Notes and action points sent to Linda Kennedy of the PTS. GW to follow up. Cllr Farlow said it was important to get Linda Kennedy involved in the non-emergency side. Since the Public Meeting on 23 March the provision of £25m is being made to provide new vehicles to assist in the transportation of patients to hospital and 91 of these would be allocated for PTS use. Cllr Farlow agreed to push for rural areas and was happy to speak to Linda Kennedy about two of the new vehicles being based in the area. Volunteer drivers, overseen by a co-ordinator who would take responsibility for the day-to-day care and use of the vehicles, could then run these. Volunteers would be able to claim expenses. One concern felt by the meeting was that the PTS does not relinquish responsibility and it becomes a community burden.

#### (4) Treasurer's Report

There was no change to the Treasurer's Report reported as at 03/03/09 other than £300 being received from the discretionary fund for the brochure, which left £67 short. This will be topped up from Community Council budget. The Treasurer also reported a bill received from Calico in respect of the old website. The Treasurer did not think we should still be paying this but would seek clarification from Gary Sutherland, the new website designer.

**(5) Correspondence**

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

1. Letter and Community Council Insurance Policy renewal documentation from Highland Council.
2. Email from Andy Mackay attaching Agenda for Ward Forum meeting to be held on 21 March 2009 at Strathy Village Hall.
3. North & West Sutherland Local Health Partnership Minutes 05/03/09.
4. Jamie Stone MSP – copy letters to Nicola Sturgeon MSP and Garry Coutts, NHS Highland, exploring ways forward to address the local communities PTS concerns.
5. Email from Liz Manson. Agenda for North West Sutherland LHP meeting 2 April 09 at Rhiconich Hotel.
6. Email from Matt Dent regarding progress on Oldshoremore fences.
7. Scottish Water – Kinlochbervie Water Quality Improvement Project – Sheigra & Rhiconich.
8. The Highland Council, Planning & Development Service. Letter re Pre Planning Consultation (changes to the planning system in Scotland).

With regard to Item 7, the works are due to begin Monday 13 April and a map of the areas affected will be available to view in the Community Council folder.

**(6) AOCB**

**(a) Community Company**

A date needs to be set for the first meeting of the Community Company. To be discussed at the next meeting.

**(b) MOD**

David Halpin has agreed to attend a future meeting of the Community Council in either May or June to discuss concerns over the safety of small boats in the vicinity of Cape Wrath during military exercises. Kevin has expressed interest to attend as well.

**(c) Lay-by above Rhiconich**

Concern has been expressed about litter being thrown over the bank from vehicles that stop there. Graham has spoken to Henry about a litter bin, he could not see any problem with this but a request to Peter Gordon (Waste Management, Highland Council) would need to be made. Graham to arrange for a draft letter to be raised.

**(d) Store for slaughtered animals**

A request has been made for the area to have its own store to house slaughtered animals. The general feeling was that this would not be approved.

**(e) Sheep feeding at Droman Pier**

Complaints had been received about the mess this was causing on the tarmac area. Graham undertook to have a word with the crofter concerned.

**(f) Viewpoint**

This has been turned down by the crofters. Disappointment was expressed by the meeting.

**(g) Geopark**

Cllr Farlow reported that SRDP funding has been secured for three years, however, match funding is needed.

**(h) Ward Forum Meeting**

Graham gave a résumé of his attendance at the last meeting. He felt the style of the meeting was the best format thus far and it seems this will be the way forward. Information he brought back will be placed in the Community Council folder in the office. The next meeting will be at Tongue Village Hall on 30 May.

**(i) Home Aid**

Cllr Farlow mentioned the press launch of the Home Aid scheme on Thursday 26 March. This was attended by councillors and included local schoolchildren. Cllr Farlow recorded a vote of thanks to Thomas Roberts for his involvement in looking after Home Aid.

**(7) Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Community Council was scheduled for 7.00 p.m. on 05/05/09 at Taigh Ceilidh

The meeting ended at 8.40 p.m.