



CREICH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of meeting held
on Tuesday 15th October 2013 at 7.30pm
in the Bonar Bridge Hall**

Present: Pete Campbell, Chair (PC), Russell Taylor, Treasurer (RT), Russell Smith (RS), Norman MacDonald (NM)

Secretary: Mary Goulder (MG)

Also present: PC Katy Hunter

Apologies: Sandy Chalmers, Vice Chair (SC), Lily Byron (LB), John White (JW), Brian Coghill (BC), Ron Boothroyd (RB), Highland Councillor George Farlow (GF), Elissa Steven

Item 1/3. Welcome/Apologies (as above) /Police report. Ahead of the meeting four members of the CC met two members of the Bonar Bridge Hall Committee to have the procedure for opening/closing the hall, using the lights/heating, and the upkeep of the log which records all hall usage. At 7.30pm Chair Pete Campbell opened the meeting. PC Hunter gave her report indicating thirty-three reported incidents, most of little consequence but one theft and one vandalism report had been recorded. A call to an 'insecure building' at the Golf Club revealed that windows had been left open. Those in charge of public/business premises are reminded to ensure full security when leaving at the end of business. The usual mention was made of speeding, although this does seem to have lessened, vehicles with single headlights, drivers using mobiles while in motion, in particular drivers of fully laden log lorries. The Police recommend that anyone seeing such an infringement should take as many details as possible regarding the lorry and report it to the company concerned. Questionnaires regarding expectations for the local Police service were completed and returned to PC Hunter who left at 7.50pm.

Item 2. Minutes of August meeting/matters arising (if not on agenda). The Minutes of the August meeting were approved as a true and accurate record, proposed by Russell Taylor, seconded by Russell Smith. No matters were raised from these Minutes.

Item 3. Regular updates:

- (i) **Planning & licensing.** (RS). Good news has come in the form of a Planning application by Scottish Water to install an extraction pipe into Loch Buidhe, a small pumping station to take the water to the existing treatment works which will be extended accordingly. The request to contribute to the 'Call for Sites and Ideas' for the Caithness and Sutherland Local Development Plan had not been seen by CC members before this evening. A request will be made to THC for an extension to the 17th October deadline. Also it will be pointed out that if the correspondence had been digitally sent it could have been circulated ahead of this meeting. The matter is felt to be too important to be rushed and will now be an agenda item for next month. **Agenda item. MG Action.**
- (ii) **TEC Services.** (SC) Best wishes for a speedy recovery were expressed to Sandy Chalmers. **Invershin bridge cycle ramp.** PC will talk with Cllr Farlow to attempt to bring this matter to a satisfactory conclusion. If various reports are indeed required, structural assessment etc, it was suggested that an application could be made to THC Ward Discretionary Budget to fund them after which it should be possible to progress to installation of the ramp. **PC Action. Access problem in Bonar Bridge.** The CC has been made aware of incidents of structural damage incurred at The Corner Shop due to large vehicles attempting to negotiate the junction when cars are parked on the Kyle Bakery side of the road. A letter will be

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sent to Gavin Steele of SSE asking the company to negotiate with the shopkeepers to take whatever steps might be possible to alleviate any further problems. The volume of heavy traffic is bound to increase as works begin by Scottish Water and SSE further along this road. **MG Action. Seat opposite Library.** SC has advised that this is now in poor condition and he has obtained a quote to have it repaired and returned to good condition. He will be asked to instruct the contractor to go ahead. Funding will come from the CC's Environmental Fund. **SC Action.**

- (iii) **Financial report.** (RT) Russell passed round the current bank statement showing a balance in the Treasurer's account of £7,525.47. The No.2 account remains unchanged at £9133.00. The cheque in support of the butchers' retiral event was mistakenly issued from the Treasurer's account; this will be refunded from the No. 2 account. RT advised that he has written to THC suggesting it acts as a central negotiator with the Bank of Scotland for all CCs using that bank. More than one CC is having difficulty when trying to get through the red tape/procedures and perhaps this could be eased if matters were dealt with through THC. **RT Action.**
- (iv) **Spinningdale.** No representative currently.
- (v) **Police Matters.** (NM) Nothing to add to PC Hunter's earlier report.
- (vi) **& (vii) Environmental/ health; Youth.** Neither responsibility is filled at present.
- (vii) **Education/schools.** (LB) Nothing in LB's absence.
- (viii) **KOSDT.** (PC) The recent public meeting with regard to the buyout of the Post Office building was attended by over fifty people. A synopsis of KOSDT activity on this will be circulated. The AGM will be held on Monday 11th November at 7.30pm in the Bonar Bridge Hotel. New members will be welcomed. **PC Action.**
- (ix) **Rosehall.** (JW/LB) Nil of note.
- (x) **Invershin.** (SC) Nil of note.
- (xi) **Highland Councillor's report.** While on holiday Cllr Farlow has submitted a report which includes among other items information regarding, Planning, Environment & Development Service, Historic Scotland, Caithness & Sutherland Local Plan, Renewable energy, Transport, Environment & Community Services and Recycling. The full report is available on request to the CC Secretary.
- (xii) **Broadband in Rosehall.** (RB) Currently in the middle of moving house, RB has indicated that he hopes to have some points for discussion next month.

Item 4. Carbisdale Castle. Nothing new has been heard.

Item 5. Beinn Tharsuinn community benefit/Rock by Sea Fund applications. Three awards were discussed with the following outcomes: Bonar Bridge OAP Fund was awarded £690 towards its Christmas Lunch expenditure; Rosehall Four Seasons Club was awarded £1408 to support the continuation of the T'ai Chi classes but with the recommendation that the weekly subscription paid by participants be slightly increased to help with ongoing/future costs. The application by the Bonar Bridge Primary School Parent Council was deferred till next month during which time the applicants were directed to seek further funding information from KOSDT as this could prove more successful with regard to the large amount required for the project 'Waste Ground to Play Ground'.

Item 6. Endowment Fund. Proposed by Russell Taylor and seconded by Russell Smith the meeting agreed to transfer the sum of £5,000 into the already ring-fenced Endowment Fund. Company Secretary Phil Tomalin will be advised. **MG Action.**

Owing to prior commitments, Pete Campbell left the meeting at 8.40pm with Russell Taylor assuming the Chair for the rest of the meeting.

Item 7. Windfarms updates. SSE update, received just before the meeting will be circulated to all members. **MG Action.**

Item 8. Community Council notice board. RT had been advised the board would be erected last week. It has not. He will chase this again tomorrow. **RT Action.**

Item 9. Correspondence. (1) **Creich & Kincardine Royal British Legion.** Invitation for the CC to lay a wreath at the war memorial on Remembrance Sunday, November 10th. In his absence Chair

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Pete Campbell was nominated to take on this task. **PC Action. (2) Saltire Challenge.** VG-ES suggests the organising of a volunteering event to help give young people an experience of volunteering while within the comfort zone of a local team. The CC would be willing to support the idea and suggested that the Bonar Bridge Youth Club should liaise with VG-ES to see if such a project could be considered. **MG Action. (3) Other incoming mail** included the Police Scotland Traffic Warden Review, Kyle of Sutherland Trust update, and information regarding the THC Highland Road Safety Group Seminar in Inverness on 22nd November.

Item 11. Membership – encouraging younger members. No discussion tonight.

Item 12. Any other competent business. Nil of note.

Item 11. Date, time and place of next meeting. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 19th November 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Achness Hotel, Rosehall. MG to book the room **MG Action.**

Meeting closed at 8.50pm.