

Minutes approved 24/11/2015



CREICH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of meeting held
on Tuesday 15th September 2015 at 7.30pm
in Rosehall Village Hall**

Present: Pete Campbell, Chair (PC), Russell Taylor, Treasurer (RT), Russell Smith (RS), Norman MacDonald (NM), John White (JW), Tommy Agnew (TA)

Also present: Marcus Munro (MM), Highland Councillor George Farlow (GF), Colin Gilmour (CG)

Police representative: None present

Apologies: Ron Boothroyd (RB), Brian Coghill (BC)

Secretary: Mary Goulder (MG)

Item 1. Welcome/Apologies (as above)/ Police report. Pete Campbell opened the meeting, welcoming all present. There was no police representative.

Item 2. Minutes of August meeting/matters arising. The minutes of the August meeting were adopted as a true and accurate record, proposed by Norman MacDonald; seconded by Russell Taylor. PV has not yet reached the Secretary of the Bonar Bridge Christmas Lights Committee to discuss maintenance issues. **PC Action.**

Item 3. Regular updates:

(i) Planning & Licensing. (RS) Nothing relevant in this area.

(ii) TEC Services. Many roads noted as in need of hole filling. GF stated that THC has a statutory requirement to cut roadside verges once a year and he will liaise with John Clark TECS Bonar Bridge on this. Many roads now have sightlines issues due to the overgrowth of the verges. Ragwort is a serious problem if not removed causing great concern to crofters and farmers with possible danger to livestock. **GF Action.** In addition to contacting John Clark, CC will also write to THC requesting a full review of the verge cutting policy for the coming year. **MG Action.**

(iii) Financial report (RT) The financial report shows the Treasurer's Account balance stands at £3,291.39; Rock by Sea account (Training & Development) £11,060.00. To date the funds for the floral tubs are underspent.

(iv) Police Matters. No report available. GF advised that the Area Committee will scrutinize a recent report from Police Scotland paying particular attention to road safety, traffic issues and alcohol and drug issues.

(v) Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust. ((PC) The background to the application by the Trust regarding the Ardgay Regeneration Project was explained. The Shin Falls project is progressing to Big Lottery Stage 2.

(vi) Rosehall. (JW) The lack of information regarding timing of road works was highlighted as causing some inconvenience to users of single track roads. MM gave update on the issue of the Tapachy link road, which FCS states is impassable. He maintains that it is easily usable by 4x4 vehicles and even 2 wheel drive vehicles with care. MM confirmed that the lock on the gate which allows access to Middlehill has been removed but the second lock remains. The road has always been in use and local residents maintained it was a 'Parish road' and therefore open to all. GF will give MM contact details for Bruce Field at THC who should be able to provide the history of this road as held by THC. **GF Action.** MM will continue to gather evidence of road usage and liaise

with MG. Once further information is received from THC regarding the legal status of this road then Tim Cockerill should be invited to CC meeting to discuss further. **MM/MG Action.**

(vii) Invershin. Cycle ramp. It is hoped that the promise of installation in this/next week will be fulfilled. CC agreed to order a plaque in commemoration of Sandy Chalmers. TA will do this through Forbes jewellers in Tain, MG to forward the wording, proposed by the Chalmers family, to TA. **MG/TA Action.**

(viii) HC Councillor's report. (GF) Winter maintenance Plan is to be discussed by THC on 16th September. CC should keep John Clark advised of the worst/dangerous spots.

(ix) Broadband in Rosehall. (RB) Nothing to report.

(x) SSE Loch Buidhe update. (RS) The road closures as part of Phase two should finish next week. Timber extraction, by eight lorries under escort, is due to start soon after and take approximately six weeks. Completion of the whole project is scheduled for October 2017. The damage to the structure of The Corner Shop has been denied by BAM Nutall as the paint marks are not compatible with their vehicles. It was suggested that a handrail could be fixed at the pavement edge which would deter parking at the road side by the Kyle Bakery. The suggestion will be passed to John Clark. **MG Action.** Lorries are no longer parking at the shop but cars still causing obstructions.

Item 4. Carbisdale Castle/Shin Falls updates. No further information available.

Item 5. Windfarm updates. Braemore. (CG) PLI is set for 28th September in Invershin Hall. It will probably last about one week with a site visit proposed for the Wednesday. Three opposition groups will be represented, THC, Kyle of Sutherland Against Braemore (KOSAB) and Carbisdale Castle Ltd. QCs have been engaged and also noise experts. Noise will be a key issue as regulation levels will undoubtedly be broken. The community has raised £7,500 to fight the proposals. The PLI is open to the public to listen but not speak and observers may come and go at will. The CC submitted a pre-cognition ahead of the enquiry.

Item 6. Beinn Tharsuinn/Rock by Sea fund applications. Application by Gledfield Primary School Parent Council for £618.87 towards a family community ceilidh. Matching the funding approved by Ardgay & District Community Council (A&DCC), an award of £462 was approved. Application by Tain Tennis Club for £2,000 towards costs of resurfacing three tennis courts was rejected on the grounds of insufficient benefit to Creich. Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust application for £2,000 towards costs incurred preparing application for the Ardgay Regeneration Project was approved. Training & Development grant of £250 was awarded to Alasdair Gilchrist to assist with training/application costs for his SCHPL (Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holders). **RT/MG Action.**

Item 7. Website. RT has discussed in principal the proposal to work with A&DCC producing one website and one newsletter combining information from both CCs. A&DCC will discuss further.

Item 8. Correspondence. CC has written to Bank of Scotland regarding the proposed cuts in service hours in the Bonar Bridge branch. The letter will be sent to MP, MSPs and the Chair of Bank of Scotland. **MG Action.**

Item 9. Any other competent business. Nomination forms for the upcoming CC elections are now available to download from THC website. Submissions can be made from 22nd September with a closing date of 6th October. Completed nomination forms should be sent to THC Ward Manager

Andy Mackay; his mailing address will be circulated to CCs. **MG Action.**

Item 10. Date, time and place of next meeting. There will be no meeting in October. The November meeting will be rescheduled to take place after the CC elections. 24th November was approved with the meeting being held in Bonar Bridge. MG to book the room.

Meeting closed at 9.35pm.