

Minutes approved 21/02/2017



CREICH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of meeting held
on Tuesday 17th January 2017 at 7.30pm
in Rosehall Village Hall**

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

Also present: Highland Councillor George Farlow (GF), Colin Gilmour (CG), Michael Baird, Jennifer Munro, Ann Malone

Police Scotland: Apologies from PC Angus Morrison

Apologies: John White (JW), Brian Coghill (BC)

Secretary: Mary Goulder (MG)

Item 1. Welcome/Apologies (as above)/Police report. Chair Pete Campbell opened the meeting at 7.30pm and with no police representative present, moved to Item 2.

Item 2. Minutes of November meeting/matters arising. The minutes of the November meeting were approved as a true and accurate record; proposed: Russell Taylor, seconded: Norman MacDonald.

Item 3. Regular updates:

- (i) Planning & licensing.** (RS) Circulated relevant applications. Four houses for Albyn Housing within Ardgay Regeneration Scheme. No issues.
- (ii) TEC Services.** (1) Creich Cemetery. Pathway in extension area needs to be surfaced; grass is often muddy/slippery depending on weather conditions. **MG Action.** (2) GF stated he is once again urging white lining to be done when gritters teams are not utilised due to weather. Lines at the war memorial at Rosehall are now non-existent and their lack is a danger to road users.
- (iii) Financial report.** (RT). The Treasurer's account balance stands at £1,238.96 with the Rock by Sea account balance being £8,566.00. Discussion covered the application by Lily Byron regarding continuing the Rosehall Taxi Scheme which the CC has been funding over the past two years. Both Ann Malone and Jennifer Munro made a good case for the need to maintain the scheme as there is still no public transport to/from Rosehall. This scheme provides an essential service to the regular users and this not abused. In fact users respect it and only make use of it for essential travel. GF offered to provide a £200 donation from THC Ward Discretionary Budget. This will be added to the scheme's remaining cash in hand, which stood at around £200 in October. As a stop-gap this will ensure the continuation of the scheme. Ann Malone was encouraged to come back to the CC in April, with rough estimates for future use over the coming two years, although it is appreciated that changes in population etc cannot be anticipated. In April the CC will reconsider providing further funding. **April agenda item.** GF will make enquiries regarding a summer bus service, operated last year from Durness, which allowed for occasional transportation via Rosehall. **GF Action.**
- (iii) Police Matters.** No report available. GF advised that the Sutherland Community Partnership is now chaired by the police with the next meeting being on 20th January in Ferrycroft. He encouraged a CC representative to attend.
- (v) Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust.** (RB) Falls of Shin development remains on schedule for a spring opening with an operator being appointed this week to run the

café and gift shop. AGM was held last week. CHESS project has received many accolades and has helped over thirty-five individuals with fuel poverty issues while more remain on a waiting list. This is an incredibly worthwhile project with disturbing degrees of poverty having been exposed. Ardgay Regeneration Project is ongoing.

- (vi) Rosehall.** (RB) The issue of the apparent ‘rolling’ planning permission for Rosehall House was highlighted although it seems little can be done to pressure the owners to begin any work on the house which is now in a very poor state of repair. GF will enquire of Historic Scotland if any action can be taken due to the Listing of the building. **GF Action.**
- (vii) Invershin.** (PC) Nothing to report.
- (viii) Highland Councillor’s report.** (GF) THC Budget is scheduled for agreement on 15th January. A significant amount is ring-fenced for education, which it is hoped will lead to provision of a wider curriculum. Major cuts will be made elsewhere. The CC must produce a Priorities List to submit via GF to the new Community Budgets scheme. White-lining could be one such priority, extended passing places to accommodate two large lorries at a time, mending potholes particularly in passing places, road surfaces throughout the area. **PC/? Action.**
- (ix) Broadband in Kyle of Sutherland area.** (RB) BT Scoping survey has finished, now being evaluated to decide which areas will see the Superfast upgrading. These will then be put out to tender. It is highly likely that exchange areas such as Rosehall and Craigs will not be included. If no tenders are received then CBS may be able to take action.
- (x) SSE Loch Buidhe update.** (RS) Next liaison meeting scheduled for 31st January.

Item 4. Windfarm updates. Braemore. Still no decision made. **Caplich.** Pre-enquiry to be held on 3rd February in Rosehall to decide timetable for PLI, procedures, etc. The CC has submitted objections and indicated the wish to speak at the PLI. No further action at this time.

Item 5 Website update. (RB) Updating ongoing. It was suggested that once the site is satisfactorily re-established the CC should look once again at employing someone to maintain it.

Item 6. Correspondence. Friends of Sutherland Veterans applied for support for the annual summer event. £50 donation approved. **RT Action.**

Item 7. Any other competent business. The ‘Santa’s Magical Forest’ event in Gearrhoille Woodland was commended as enchanting and the committees involved in the organisation are to be congratulated. **MG Action.**

Item 8. Date, time and place of next meeting. The next meeting held on Tuesday, 21st February 2017 at 7.30 pm in the Bonar Bridge Hall. MG to confirm the booking of the room. **MG Action.**

Item 9. Private session. Beinn Tharsuinn community benefit/Rock by Sea Fund applications/SSE & E.ON Community Fund. RbS. An application by Catriona Wilson to the Rock by Sea Training and Development Fund was awarded £250. **MG/RT Action.** Approval was also given to entering into agreement with Foundation Scotland for the management of the Endowment Fund set up by the CC utilising funds from the Beinn Tharsuinn Windfarm Community Benefit Fund. Documents were duly signed and submitted.

