



CREICH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held
on Tuesday 21st January 2020 at 7.30pm
in Achness Hotel, Rosehall

Present: Pete Campbell, Chair (PC), Marcus Munro, Vice Chair (MM), Mary Goulder, Treasurer/Secretary (MG), Russell Smith (RS), John White (JW), Norman MacDonald (NM), Rikki Vettors (RV)

Apologies: Highland Councillor Kirsteen Currie (KC)

Item 1. Welcome/apologies (as above)/Police report. Vice Chair Marcus Munro opened the first meeting of the new year and decade. Although PC arrived soon after he requested that MM continued to chair the meeting.

Police report received by email listed twelve incidents for the last month. PC Thomson will be asked to note that CC meetings are now every second month and it would be appreciated if reports could cover the two month periods. The incidents noted were two road traffic matters, two road traffic collisions, one disturbance, two assist members of the public, two concerns for persons, one alarm activation, one domestic and one abandoned 999 call, dialled by mistake. MM commented that the Rural Watch information is useful to crofters/farmers as are updates regarding scams, etc. CC would like more details regarding the road traffic matters, e.g. speeding, infringements, etc. **MG Action.**

Item 2. Minutes of November meeting/matters arising. The Minutes of the November meeting were adopted as a true and accurate record. Proposed: Russell Smith; seconded: John White.

- (1) Rosehall noticeboard. CC approved the spending for the noticeboard with appreciation of the £200 contribution from KOSDT. CC will fund the remaining costs of £1080. Trust will be asked to proceed. **MG Action.**
- (2) Chair requested that a copy of the Minutes be sent to Keith Williams of the Kyle of Sutherland Fisheries Trust. **MG Action.**
- (3) It was agreed that Chair will invite both The Hub and Better Bonar group to send a regular representative to CC meetings. He will also enquire in Spinningdale. **PC Action.**

Item 3. Regular updates:

- (i) **Planning & Licensing.** (RS). Nothing relevant.
- (ii) **TECS.** (1) Struie road (B9176) in very poor condition due to major potholes. The coping stones on the high bridge, opposite the accident site, are in need of attention. All bridges on the Struie suffer constant damage from the HGV traffic, as do the road surfaces and verges. CC has repeatedly called for a weight restriction to be placed on this road but THC does not listen. Although the road is not within this CC boundary it is a main access route for all traffic heading north and must be treated as an essential link. (2) Ardgay-Bonar straight. Both Creich and Ardgay CCs have been calling for some time for action to remove or reduce this speed limit. The matter is now urgent; recently there has been one fatality, action must be taken to avoid further incidents. CC will invite Head of Roads Joanna Sutherland to attend the next meeting. By the simple action of removing the speed derestriction signs at either end of the straight and on Manse Road, a 30mph zone would be created from entering Ardgay to exiting Bonar Bridge. Costs would be non-existent. The appropriate legislation must be put in place. **KC Action all points.**
- (iii) **Financial report.** (MG) Internet banking access is still not in place but is hoped for soon. The most recent paper statements on 19th December show Treasurer's account balance £3,120.06; two outgoing payments in the last month were to Faclan Word

Minutes approved 04/-08/2020

Service and Bonar Bridge Hall for room hire. No. 2 account balance £12,926.33, unchanged from last meeting. Approval given for CC to apply to BTWF for £2,000 towards its Environment Fund. **MG Action.**

(iv) **Rosehall.** (JW) Nil of note.

(v) **Invershin.** (PC) A recent theft of heating oil in Invershin. Also travelling scrap metal dealers are in the area. Public should be on alert and report any suspicious characters to the police. A road accident recently occurred at the junction of A836 and A837 but no details available. Drivers should be aware of this junction especially on approach from the west.

(vi) **Highland Councillor's report.** (KC) Nothing in KC's absence.

Item 4. Key local groups representation on CC. See Item 2 (3).

Item 5. Windfarm updates. Achany Panel. JW agreed to become the CC representative to the Panel. MM agreed to be the rep to KOSDT.

Item 6. Website. (1) Discussions ongoing with the Trust which will take on management of the site, updating accordingly. Cost will be negotiated before next meeting.

Item 7. Correspondence. (1) All relevant correspondence had been circulated by email. Kyleside path. It is understood that Matt Dent is now involved, meeting with the resident who recently raised the matter. NM stated that the bench is also in need of replacement.

Item 8. Any other competent business. (1) Cemetery path. It has been noted that no work has yet been done in spite of promises. **KC Action.** (2) Overgrown vegetation opposite Bonar Bridge Post Office. Research has confirmed the land is owned by a Trust in favour of a group of descendants of Andrew Carnegie, the senior member of which is Mr W Thompson, Creich. Skibo has offered to help with clearing - details to be arranged.

It will be contacted with regard to a clearing programme. **MG/PC Action.**

Item 9. Date, time and place of next meeting. The next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 17th March 2020 in Invershin Village Hall. MG to book. **MG Action.**

Private session. Beinn Tharsuinn Community Benefit applications. No applications. Sutherland Agricultural Society has advised it will submit its receipts by end march/early April.

Meeting closed 9.25pm.