



CREICH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held
on Tuesday 15th September 2020 at 7.30pm
on Zoom

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

Apologies: Brian Coghill (BC)

Also present: Gail Prince, Project Co-ordinator, KOSDT, Michael Baird (MB), Phil Robinson (PR)

Item 1. Welcome/apologies (as above). Police report. The meeting was hosted by Secretary Mary Goulder thanks to provision by KOSDT. Police report received by email noted five calls: one abandoned vehicle - recovered, one vehicle in ditch - recovered next day, one theft of lead/copper – under investigation, and two reports of speeding vehicles but with no specific details. Officers in Tain and Golspie were made aware. Patrols and speed checks to be carried out when duties permit. Two other thefts of lead/copper were mentioned with local knowledge indicating the possible involvement of a white Transit van accompanied by a blue BMW seen acting suspiciously. This information will be passed to the police in case of relevance. **MG Action.**

Item 2. Gail Prince, Project Co-ordinator KOSDT. Gail attended the meeting in place of Jodie Ross, Project Officer. The Adaptive & Collaborative Community Project aims to build on the work done in 2018 working on the Locality Plans, etc. This new phase will work with groups tackling local priorities. A survey is being carried out on the impact of Covid 19 in the area, e.g. how/have priorities changed, etc. Meetings are planned with locality groups, chaired by Jason Gardner. The CC is invited to help create Phase One of a Resilience Plan establishing actions for emergencies/priorities. Asked about the progress of plans for the Stonehenge project GP believed it to be good and will arrange for an update to be sent to the CC for circulation. **GP/MG Action.** Moving to live in the area and with previous CC experience Gail offered to stay for the rest of the meeting and was warmly welcomed.

Item 3. Minutes of August meeting/matters arising. The minutes of the August meeting, also held on Zoom, were approved as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Norman MacDonald, seconded by Russell Smith.

Item 4. Regular updates:

(i) **Planning & Licensing.** (RS) One application for two agricultural buildings. No issues.

(ii) **TECS.** (1) JW commended THC on recent verge cutting programme. (2) Recycling points have re-opened. (3) Fly-tipping at Strathroy is a disgrace. Highlighted to Cllr Currie at last meeting. Press for action via THC/landowner. **MG Action.** GP mentioned a website -fixmystreet.com – where locals can report concerns direct to local authority. Details to MG. The wider problem of fly-tipping, rubbish, human waste was discussed again. Covered by the Litter Act and SEPA's 1990 Environment Protection Act. (4) KW reported that KOSFT is taking legal advice regarding the condition and ownership of the Inveran bridge. MB stated that it is a listed building and the responsibility of THC, listed as owner on Landownership Scotland; KW confirmed that THC has denied ownership. MB was asked to liaise with KOSFT direct. **MB Action.** (4) Work is due to start on 5th October on the SSE upgrade at Invershin Power Station which will remove and replace three existing transformers. Residents are concerned about the impact the work will have including traffic disruption. Other such projects have seen the formation of successful

Liaison Groups which help to ensure responsible actions and good communications. PR encouraged to write to SSE, with copy to MG. **PR Action.**

(iii) Financial report. (MG) Treasurer gave current balance in No 1 account - £3,927.37 which reflects the compensation payment from the bank which has upheld the complaint over the lack of access to the No 2 account and the change of signatories – issues ongoing since August 2019. Access is still not enabled. KC indicated she could urge this through the relevant department of Scottish Government, but nothing further has been heard on that. Chair advised writing to the Chair of the Bank of Scotland with full details. The No 2 account balance was last available on the November statement which showed the amount of £12,926.33 on 30/10/2019. MG will continue to demand resolutions asap.

MG Action.

- (i) **Rosehall.** (JW) Nil of note.
- (ii) **Invershin.** See Item 1 above.
- (iii) **Highland Councillor's report.** Nothing in KC's absence.

4. Windfarm updates. (1) Meall Buidhe. RS will submit the objection from CC reflecting the views of the majority of residents in Rosehall and Altass. (2) Discussions ongoing regarding community benefit from Garvary. MB stated that the Struie Action Group has commissioned a report to counter the initial scoping report. (3) Community buy-in at Sallachy could prove almost impossible for the community to do. Discussions continue. PC requested that any other CC members interested in joining him in these discussions should get in touch.

5. Website update. KOSDT maintaining updates.

6. Correspondence. Any relevant correspondence has been forwarded. (1) The hard copy EIA for Meall Buidhe has been received. As most of the interested parties live in Rosehall and Altass, and there are no public offices available, the EIA has been placed with Mr and Mrs Smith, Invercassley Cottage, Rosehall to allow easier access for anyone wishing to examine it. (2) Letter received from Michael Baird requesting re-imburement of £46 for the fee he incurred while researching ownership of the land opposite Bonar Bridge Post Office. Re-imburement was refused as Mr Baird was not commissioned by the CC to undertake this research and cost on its behalf.

7. Any other competent business. RV advised that Bonar Bridge Football Club's clubhouse is in disrepair and the committee is seeking support towards raising the funds required to rectify the situation. It is understood there is a form for signatures in the Bonar Bridge Post Office and a Facebook page.

8. Date, time and place of next meeting. Due to the continuing restrictions it is proposed (tbc) that the next meeting will also be held using Zoom, on Tuesday 17th November at 7.30pm. This will be the AGM. Any matters raised by members of the public will be addressed on their behalf.

9. Private session. Beinn Tharsuinn/Rock by Sea funding applications. Application from Bonar Bridge Children's Christmas Party for £1,200 was discussed. There will be no party due to current Covid restrictions, but a gift bag will be presented to eighty children in the Bonar area. Important to provide similarly for the children in Rosehall and Invershin. This application approved. Organisers from the other two villages will be encouraged to apply to fund a similar plan on a pro-rata basis. Applicants and Company Secretary Phil Tomalin will be advised. **MG Action.**

Meeting closed 9pm.