COMHAIRLE CHOIMHEARSNACHD SHLEITE

SLEAT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Sleat Community Council held at Seomar Cruinneachaidh on Tuesday 2nd December 2014 at 7.30 PM

Present Roddy Murray

Flora Maclean

Margaret Colpus

Rob Ware

Pauline Lyle

Archie Maccalman

In Attendance Una Macleod, Eileen Armstrong, Janet MacDonald, Roger Cottis David Ashford, Vena Cleland, Andy Neison, Lavinia Keir

Apologies Janet Maclure

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting on 4 November 2014 were moved by Pauline Lyle and seconded by Flora Maclean.

**Matters Arising**

The SCC had been advised that there are no plans to introduce parking charges at Kinloch Forest.

**Forestry Commission Scotland-CDLT Lands Project**

Rob gave an update on the events that have taken place since the visit of the two FCS Representatives on the 4th of November, and the reasons they were asked to come speak with us. The meeting did hear statements from local individuals and as a result of this the CC felt that it was necessary for us request a meeting in the New Year with all interested parties so that perceived outstanding items could be aired around a table, to reach a mutually satisfactory agreement. An email will be sent informing of this and then a date arranged after the holiday period. It was re-iterated that the SCC entirely support the creation of the CDLT forestry project. Flora Maclean advised that in 2006 there were lesser plans for forestry on CDLT lands at which the then SCC council was invited together with other members of the Sleat community. Roddy expressed concern at the Highland Council’s negative approach to communicating with local areas in respect of projects such as this. Roger Cottis said that it was his belief that some parts of the forest had been planted too close to the burns which can affect wildlife habitats. Andy Neison expressed support for CDLT but the process had been poor.

**NHS Highland Single Site Hospital**

Roddy advised that the announcement had been made this afternoon of the expected decision to site the new hospital for Skye, Lochalsh and south west Ross in Broadford. This will go forward now to the Health Minister for ratification and Rob read out the press release from the NHS. This will be put on the website tonight and the Facebook page. Rob repeated that there are still four physical locations for the hospital which have yet to be decided on. Andy Neison congratulated NHS on the decision and encouraged the SCC to play its role in the planning of the new facilities especially in respect of transport. Roddy updated the group on the HITS scheme, that is the costs that can be claimed from NHS Highland when patients need to go to Raigmore or other Highland Hospitals. Andy Neison was pleased to hear that the Broadford and Strath CC had been reconvened and said that it was important for us to work with them during the hospital scoping stage. Lavinia Keir outlined about the PPG group in Broadford and their scheme for patient transport. Rob read out a message from the practice manager about a Sleat PPG but as there was very little interest this will not now be pursued.

**Sleat Transport Forum**

The Forum was ratified last month at the SCC meeting and a steering group is meeting tomorrow. Roddy updated on how he saw the Forum moving forward and involving all aspects of transport issues that affect Sleat. Archie suggested a review of the Sleat Community Taxi service and Roddy told of groups in Uist and Lewis that have been equipped with funds for community transport. A public meeting will be held in January 2015 to invite people to participate in the Forum and become members. Roddy also highlighted the recent closures of the Skye Bridge and how the public can be kept informed. It is Bear Scotland who are the managing authority.

**Roads and Planning Updates**

Rob gave an update on recent roads and planning issues which included (finally) the completion of the Drumfearn Bus Shelter. The white-lining will be addressed and HC are employing Robertsons to do this, these being the construction company building the ARKE. Roddy noted that there are no white lines at the A87/A851 junction. There had been 5 or so planning applications this month and Rob noted again that these are shown on the CC website. Peter Roberts asked about the speed limits along the Sleat road from Armadale but Rob said he was not aware of any changes to this but we will take this up with Donnie Macleod of HC. It is now believed that the school lights have been fully repaired and Rob gave an update on how this was achieved.

**Sleat GP’s covering the Small Isles**

Roddy gave an update on the use of the Sleat and Broadford GP’s to cover the Small Isles. A statement was read out from NHS Highland and this reassured the community that no reduction in service would result, but this was part of the re-design of health care services. Dr Venters will become the Clinical Lead on this part of the NHS strategy. Pauline Lyle felt that elderly people like to see the same doctors rather than locums. Andy Neison explained his knowledge of current NHS processes for locums etc.

**Grants and Donations**

Flora Maclean asked if the SCC were to give money to the lunch club this year. It was also debated about a general request for funds to assist the mothers and toddlers group in Ardavsar Hall. Pauline asked if the hall could be made free to a group such as this. No decisions were made and this will reviewed in the New Year.

**Correspondence**

A letter had been received back from Transport Scotland following our submission on the A87 speed limit changes, and nothing was given in that letter that we didn’t know already.

Scottish Water advise that the Teangue project will be completed by mid-February. Flooding issues around the access road were investigated and SW will carry out some remedial works there.

**AOCB**

Roddy advised that he had recently attended the monthly meeting of the HC’s Customer Services Board and descried how he was asked to leave during the meeting. Correct procedures have not been followed but despite a written protest to the Chief Executive but no reply has been received. Roddy believes this to be illegal and noted that Kyle and Broadford Community Councils be consulted.

Public Discussion

Vena Cleland asked about the effects from enclosing the CDLT forest area, as there had been a great number of deer around her area and endorsed by Ron Johnsone at Kilmore. Damage had occurred in the garden area. Rob said that this would be one of the issues to be discussed at the January CDLT meeting.

Una Macleod had attended the Community Services open meeting in Portree and reported on toilets and transport issues.

The meeting closed at 2100.

Next Meeting 6th January 2015 at Seomar Cruinneachaidh 1930