COMHAIRLE CHOIMHEARSNACHD SHLEITE

SLEAT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Sleat Community Council held at Ardvasar Hall on

Tuesday 24th October 2016

Present: Roddy Murray

Rob Ware

Tim Shone

Veana Cleland

Flora Maclean

Kirsty McGonagall

John Duncan MacInnes

Apologies: Kirsteen McGonagall

In Attendance: Una Macleod, William Swann, Donnie MacKinnon, Andrew Prendergast, Maggie Zerafa, Duncan MacInnes, Murdo Mitchell, Maggie Macdonald, Norman McPherson, Des Moore, Angus and Ishbel Macdonald, Lisa Corse, Jamie Bankhead, Geoff Stephens, Serena Smart, Senga Bell

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Roddy Murray welcomed members of the public for their attendance. He explained that the meeting had been brought forward from 1st November in order to discuss the West Highlands and Islands Local Plan. This is in respect of a new site presented to Highland Council by Fearann Eilean Iarmain.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting 4th October 2016**

The minutes of the meeting of were moved by Tim Shone and Flora Maclean

**Matters Arising**

Nothing to report from the last meeting

**Agenda**

**West Highlands and Islands Local Development Plan**

The principal item for this meeting agenda is the discussion of the West Highlands and Islands Local Development Plan in respect of the ESM 10 site at Armadale. This was an extensive discussion and rather than detail this all in these minutes the notes from that item are shown online at this link.

<http://www.sleatcommunitycouncil.org.uk/documents/notes-form-the-scc-meeting-on-24th-october-for-the-esm10-armadale-whildp-submission.docx>

and the Submission that SCC made to Highland Council as a result of tonight’s meeting:

<http://www.sleatcommunitycouncil.org.uk/documents/scc-response-to-whildp-item-esm10-november-2016.docx>

**Scottish Rural Parliament**

Rob Ware a brief update on the visit to the Rural Parliament in Brechin early in October. This is held every two years and the last was held in Oban. It was three days of workshops all pertaining to rural issues with the keynote speech on the opening day by Fergus Ewing MSP, Secretary for Rural Economy and Connectivity. Sleat Community Council collected the Rural Innovators Award and overall it was a useful session workshops and presentations with the major areas being mobile connectivity, housing, jobs and transport. You can read more about the SRP at this link.

<http://scottishruralparliament.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=f0d6cea1b22fc4edc4d31a6fa&id=79e0d0f961&e=5a8b9b31e5>

**CalMac Update**

No news to report on the CalMac issue and the Forum will continue to challenge to get information on next year’s service. Rob updated on the season end figures which showed a reduction in passengers, coaches and CV’s and only a nominal increase in cars. Roddy emphasised the issue of the CV’s being down and this is crucial for local businesses. The Forum is expected to be asked for its views on the winter service 2017/2018. Rob outlined the submission that was made for the Winter 16/17 which was ignored by Transport Scotland. Roddy added that he remains totally disappointed at the lack of interest by the four Elected Members on all issues related to Sleat. Roddy suggested that we need to have the MSP raise a Question at Holyrood regarding this year’s service as well as perhaps raising a petition for the Scottish Parliament on the issue. William Swann said that the loss of confidence this year will show its true effect next year. CalMac need to reassure their customers for next year. Tim Shone said already coaches are being cancelled already. The issue was raised at a recent HIE Board Meeting.

**Roads and Planning**

Many of the HC roads staff have been on leave in October and so work will start again in November and this will include the Ord culvert. No major issues for planning applications.

**Public Discussion**

Steve Heap asked about broadband developments. Rob had had a conversation with HIE’s digital team. The SG target is 2021 for all Scottish locations to have fast broadband. We will get a further update early in 2017. William Swann updated from HIE on the cost spend. Cabinets should be allowed to connect with local schemes, but funding is still tight. Rob said that mobile phone coverage is the biggest issue as is broadband.

Una asked if the Stagecoach Manager will attend a meeting and the new timetable is effective today but the Sleat timetables were all wrong and new papers have to be sent.

Lisa Corse said all the bus services are being retendered but this is not likely to change.

Duncan MacInnes asked the SCC to note that Skye Forest Garden is believed to have ownership and that, as a result, a local couple have been ‘evicted’ from their accommodation and the newly opened Pier Stores is to be closed. This may lead to further planning issues. Roddy Murray said that the SCC would minute this item.

Norma McPherson asked if there were plans to improve signage to direct people to the ferry, as the increase in traffic this year had resulted in car and campervans using Alt T’uath. Safety is of main concern. We had been asked to assist CalMac in how they good put road signage further up. This was now with Catherine Young, Port Manager. Rob updated on the Discussion Paper that had been submitted to all the key parties. We will try and arrange a meeting as soon as possible.

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**The meeting closed at 2110 with the next meeting on 6th December at 1930 at Seomar Cruinneachaidh, Sabhal Mor Ostaig**

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