COMHAIRLE CHOIMHEARSNACHD SHLEITE

SLEAT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Sleat Community Council held at An Crubh on

Tuesday 5th September2017

Present: Roddy Murray

Rob Ware

Tim Shone

Veana Cleland

Kirsty McGonagall

Apologies: John Duncan MacInnes, Flora Maclean

In Attendance: Mike Shucksmith, Calum Macleod, Lysana Robinson, Roger Cottis, Sherri Palmer, Pat Cottis, Una Macleod, David Ashford

Roddy Murray welcomed everybody to the meeting and to Mike Shucksmith and Councillor Calum Macleod.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting 27th June (WHILDP topic)**

The minutes of the meeting of were moved by Tim Shone.

**Matters Arising**

None, any items are on tonight’s agenda.

**Agenda**

**Redesign of Health and Social Care. Skye, Lochalsh and SW Ross**

Rob updated on the redesign of the Health and Social care, following the meeting held in Kyle on 3rd April. Further meetings took place in parts of the island during the summer some of which were attended by Cllr. Macleod who is present tonight. SCC had written following the April meeting to the SG confirming the support for the Broadford hospital from the six CCs that were present at that session. A special motion was passed at the HC Meeting calling for 12 CCs to be represented at a meeting with NHSH, which resulted in a closed meeting at Kilmuir on 9th August. The outcome was that a letter was sent to the Cabinet Secretary asking for the location of the new hospital to be in Portree. Calum Macleod outlined concerns of the north of Skye including A and E, ambulance cover, and a lack of services in the north end. Cllr. Macleod confirmed that all recognised that Broadford MUST be the location with Roddy Murray adding that the SCC recognises there are concerns for various aspects of the plan in the north end but we would accept that the whole of three years consultations should be wholly revisited. It was announced last week that contractors have been appointed for the two new hospital sites in Broadford and Aviemore. NHSH were going to respond to the letter in the WHFP from Cllr. Macleod and Rob reiterated that there was no challenge from the south end to the aspirations of the north. Rob advised the meeting that he and Roddy Murray were refused attendance at the Kilmuir meeting in the north end by Stephen Varwell, Chair of Kilmuir CC, as it would not be appropriate for us to attend. We have not followed this up and do not intend to do so. The meeting with the Cabinet Secretary is to be held in September attended by all Skye members, and now it is Ronald Macdonald and Margaret Davidson. Roddy was concerned at this due to the rhetoric from Councillor Macdonald who should also be representing all the island. Cllr. MacLeod that the Cab Sec is not shakeable from siting the hospital in Broadford. Endoscopy services will not be provided at the new hospital. Rob reminded that the levels of service care in each of the areas are on the NHSH website. Roddy looked forward to seeing progress on the hospital development. Una Macleod said that she regularly speaks to Maimie Thompson of NHSH and so supported the SCC’s stance on this topic.

**Public Transport**

Rob gave an update on bus services for Sleat following a meeting held with Stagecoach that day. The Company is keen to re-engage with communities following the difficulties experienced earlier this summer after the contract tendering process. Stagecoach were assessing options for providing a limited winter service on the Sleat/Broadford/Portree route following the decision not to renew the service 601 previously operated by Maclean’s Coaches. Any new service would be required to be approved by the Transport Commissioners which have a 42-day lead time before a service commences. It was agreed that Stagecoach managers would work on a once-a-day service that would allow locals and visitors to spend a day in Portree and return via the 152-school bus service. We had committed to heavily promoting this service if it could be approved and which would begin on 23rd October. A future meeting involving all parties for community transport will be held in due course and this will be managed via the Sleat Community Trust.

Councillor MacLeod asked if CalMac had offered any form of support for transport issues for Sleat but Rob said that due to state aid rules the company cannot contribute to local issues such as this.

**Roads, Planning and Tourism**

Roddy thanked Calum Macleod for attending a site meeting at Armadale concerning footpaths from Ardvasar now that the new Armadale Stores has opened. Options were assessed on site and a programme of works would be considered as required.

Rob referred to a Planning Application for an agricultural shed at Teangue and this has led to some local difficulties, which were resolved soon thereafter. The two new houses at Kilbeg are now ready for occupation by two local families.

Tourism, Rob referred to the recent media frenzy in respect of Skye tourism. He then gave an update on recent events and what is being done to address the issues of both infrastructure and other important items such toilets, car parking, housing and roads.

Roddy read out an email from the Ward Manager outlining the importance of tourism to Skye and that each of the new Councillors will be allied to CCs to ensure there is a good exchange of information on tourism related issues.

Rob also updated on the recent arrival of a supposed project ‘Isle of Skye 200’ which sought to emulate NC500. As it stands this lasted just around 10 days. Calum Macleod suggested that one company could not be discriminated against and homelessness in Skye is at record levels.

**CalMac Update**

Not much has happened since the June meeting other than the forthcoming Ferry Summit that takes place on Thursday 7th September. There have now been 120 service cancellations due to weather on the Mallaig route this summer, most of which have been attributed to the LOTI. These items will be discussed at the meeting this week. Items will include future vessels, refurbishing the Loch Fyne and providing new engines. The long-term aspiration is to have a year-round vessel with sufficient capacity to meet growing demand.

**West Highlands and Islands Local Dev Plan**

Rob outlined the status of the WHILDP following the closure of the final consultation on 21st July. All the comments on locations such as Sleat have now been published on the website portal and that any later submissions may not be accepted. It will be eventually discussed at the Skye and Raasay Committee. The adoption of the plan may be delayed because of changes in the Fort William in respect of the new ownership of the Smelter and Estate and new housing requirements.

**Sleat War Memorial**

Rob has done an update for the SWM working group, but as this has only gone to the group it would be inappropriate to update to this meeting.

**HC Finance**

Calum MacLeod updated on the current finances of Highland Council and that substantial savings are required to be made and that he committed to preserve as many services in Skye and Raasay as possible. There was a brief discussion about the Inverness Highland City Region Deal. Calum had agreed to update the next meeting.

**AOCB**

Tim Shone raised issues in respect of the housing estate next to the garage. Ferry traffic is still for some reason going down that road and there are some concerns about future developments. A local traffic only sign might be considered. An incident occurred at Kilmore Church with parkingalong the road. Roddy says that land may be acquired for additional parking but it is early stages.

Tim Shone added the Deer Management Group AGM will be taking place on 21st September and it was his view that the DMG was working better without FEI involvement who chose to leave that group.

Veana asked if verges are to be cut before the end of the winter.

Mike Shucksmith introduced himself as the newly appointed Business Development Manager for Sleat Community Trust and briefed the meeting for his aspirations and past experience in Yorkshire. Roddy thanked Mike for his presentation and wished him well in his new post.

Ron had updates from Scottish Water on the Teangue chloramination project. They are not aware of any issues.

**Public Discussion**

None

The meeting concluded at 2130 with the next meeting to be held on Tuesday 3rd October at Tarskavaig Hall