COMHAIRLE CHOIMHEARSNACHD SHLEITE

SLEAT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

Tuesday 7th March 2017

Present: Roddy Murray

Rob Ware

Tim Shone

Veana Cleland

Flora Maclean

Kirsty McGonagall

John Duncan MacInnes

In Attendance:

Roger Cottis, David Ashford, Charles and Veronica Barrington, Una Macleod, Janet Macdonald, Val and Peter Piddock

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting 7th February 2017**

The minutes of the meeting of were moved by Flora Maclean and Kirsty McGonagall

**Matters Arising**

Roddy reported that he had attended the Ward Forum on 6th March and that due to the re-tendering of the bus contracts it was possible that there may not be any commercial services on the Armadale Portree route this year. Discussions were ongoing but it is known that the 601 service with Macleans Coaches for the winter run is not be re-tendered and the service will cease from October. Rob gave an update the overall re-tendering process which was agreed on the basis of the lowest bids from different operators. There are around 5 companies who have bid for the contracts. Veana asked about Sleat running its own services using a mini-bus service. Roddy expanded on what had happened in the Uists with community buy-outs.

**Agenda**

**Housing Presentation**

Rob Ware gave an update on the Housing sessions on 23rd Feb at SMO. The first drop-in session was with the Highland Small Communities Housing Trust and in the evening Prof Robertson hosted presentations from SMO, SCT, FEI and the Student Union. It was hoped that CDLT would also attend to present on the housing aspirations from the organisation but due to unforeseen circumstances this has had to be postponed. Details of the new gym facilities at the College which were opened today.Rob talked about the housing sites that have been included for consideration in the new West Highlands and Islands Local Plan. Jan Clarke will come to the April meeting to update on the Clan’s summer plans are as well as the housing aspirations.

**Skye Hospital Re-design**

Flora updated on the meeting of community council reps on 3rd April to be held in Kyle with reps of NHS Highland on the topic of the re-design of the health care. Roddy went on to update on the current process for the hospital and that of the public petition that is currently going through the Scottish Government. The meeting has been circulated to all CC’s south of Sconser, and included Lochalsh and SW Ross

**Commission for Parliamentary Reform**

The public meeting will take place on 9th March with an outreach session by the Commission on the make-up of the work of the group. This is simply a consultation on how better the Scottish Government can serve the people.

**Roads Planning**

No major issues other than that some surface treatment is being done and resurfacing will take place on part of the loop road. Rob and Eileen will be meeting the Leader of the Council at EI on Saturday. We will also discuss the Inverness City-Highland Deal.

Janet Macdonald asked if repairs could be done to the damaged bridge in Tokavaig. Rob will take this up with Donnie Macleod. Rob said that visitor numbers are expected to exceed last year’s numbers. Rob added that the tourism and food/drink sectors are the biggest drivers for the Scottish Government.

Val asked if there was any figures for road works in Sleat and why some sections have been left.

Tim Shone asked if we knew of any bin collection changes are proposed for Skye.

Rob outlined several local planning applications and like all applications are shown on the SCC website.

**CalMac Update**

Rob spoke of his meeting with the Minister in February in Edinburgh and was accompanied by Prof Robertson and colleagues from Mallaig. The meeting went as expected but with some full and frank discussion which included officials from Transport Scotland. The Minister accepted that this year’s deployment was not ideal but asked that communities support CalMac’s operation. Much was spoken about the impact of a poor service on the Mallaig-Armadale route and of the proposal to hold a ‘ferry summit’ in May to consider all options for the future. The new timetable starts on 31st March with the two vessels. A mini timetable is being produced for Mallaig-Armadale route which will be available for local distribution for reference. This was then followed by a general discussion with the group about history and politics behind the ferry service.

**AOCB**

Rob has received a thank you letter from Dr Gasson from our gifts on her retirement.

DMG AMG is to be held on 17th March. There are deer issues in Stonefield.

**Public Discussion**

David Ashford mentioned that new An Crubh staff needed accommodation.

Roger Cottis reminded about the otter mitigation issues at the Sleat road. Rob will photograph and contact Donnie Macleod.

Val asked about skips for beach cleans and Flora will contact the HC.

Val asked about Scottish Water and Rob will write for an update.

The meeting ended at 2045 and the next meeting will be held on 4th April at 1930 in the An Crubh Hub which opens on 1st April.