COMHAIRLE CHOIMHEARSNACHD SHLEITE

SLEAT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Sleat Community Council held at Ardvasar Hall

Tuesday 1st May 2018

Present: Roddy Murray

Rob Ware

Tim Shone

Veana Cleland

Flora Maclean

John Duncan MacInnes

Kirsty McGonagall

Apologies

In Attendance:

Joyce Smith, Lysana Robinson, Alistair MacLeod (BBC Scotland)

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting 3RD April 2018**

The minutes of the meeting of were moved by Flora Maclean and John Duncan MacInnes

**Matters Arising:**

Roddy Murray advised that drawings for the proposed Armadale redevelopment by Sleat Community Trust are displayed at tonight’s meeting. John Duncan MacInnes and Roddy Murray are SCT Trustees and declare an interest.

An invoice for £1,000 for the footpath has been received from HC when the figure should be £500.00 Flora will resolve this with Donald Kennedy.

**Agenda**

**Armadale Site Development**

The SCC has been asked if it would provide a letter of support to the SCT in its plans to develop the Armadale site. Roddy and John declared an interest and would not take part in the discussion. Tim Shone had said that all the remaining CCs had said yes and that they would like to see the drawings. Flora Maclean asked about funding and this would be down to the Trust to secure funding for the project. Rob Ware fully supported the development simply because it is providing extending local services and is revenue generating for the Trust. Rob further outlined the benefits to local people as well as visitors that travel to and from the ferry and those who are holidaying in Sleat. The project has been scaled back, in light of funding that had been earlier provided for the An Crubh hub. All discussing this agreed that it was the right way forward and much improvement is needed anywhere at the site. Veana Cleland felt that some projects may overstretch themselves and these must be sustainable in years to come. Rob said that he would be happy to support this initiative and would willingly write a letter on behalf of the SCC. It was unanimously agreed that the letter would be sent.

**Healthcare Redesign Update**

Roddy updated on the latest round of meetings with NHS Highland and that Sir Lewis Ritchie’s report would be due out shortly. He again supported improvements for the north end and for additional patient transport. Housing for NHS workers is paramount to maintain and improve the service. Roddy said clearly that the hospital will be built in Broadford. The issues at Glenelg are of concern to all with the loss of GP coverage. Veana advised that there is a summing up meeting in Portree next week to reveal the results of the report and a Press Release would follow. Rob gave a brief history of the SCC position over the past few years, this being for information for Alistair Macleod, BBC Reporter.

**Sleat War Memorial**

Rob Ware outlined that there was no further news of the SWM project other than a meeting had taken place between the Highland Council and the tenant at 6 Kilmore. CDLT as land-owner were also discussing as required. It is expected that information will be available soon. Roddy and Rob had been asked to go to CDLT for a meeting on 2nd May to discuss ‘items of mutual interest’ including the SWM and Aird car park.

**Roads/Planning/Tourism**

Roddy and Rob had met with Donnie Macleod HC’s Community Roads Officer and raised several items. These will be addressed as and when resources are available. Some works have been done in the north where the roads are very poor. Roddy was disappointed that we had not seen the local councillor who has ‘responsibility’ for the SCC. No major issues in planning except for an application by FEI for the Ardvasar Hotel where it is proposed that six camping pods be sited for guest and staff use. Rob Ware outlined the key points of this application.

Rob outlined that four projects from Skye have been put forward to the Rural Tourism Fund next stage and one of these is camper van service points in Sleat. Rob updated on more general issues on Skye tourism and how Sleat is faring at this time. Roddy reminded of the work that we did in providing a paper on the major issues at the Armadale pier and marshalling area. This is the third year where a tidal timetable has been in use on the Mallaig-Armadale and this is now affecting local businesses. Veana Cleland reminded of the good editorial on the ferry in the West Highland Free Press recently.

To follow on from the pier area Rob invited local resident Joyce Smith to outline her concerns about the speed limits from the Clan down to the pier and the issue of overgrown vegetation at the junction of Pier Road and the main road. She was involved in a close call at the junction because of the gorse and is worried that children are playing around the road area. Rob said he will address the gorse issue and will speak to LSHA and FEI land, but the bigger picture is the concern about speeding vehicles along the whole length of the road. The SCC will contact the Council, the Police and others including the Sleat Community Trust, and this will ask for a site meeting to explore all of the options.

**Budget**

Flora said that this year’s budget will be around £500 for the coming year which also requires the SCC to pay its £80 insurance fees. It was asked why CCs must pay this insurance and what we are covered for. Similar views seem to be held across most of Skye Community Councils.

**Ward Forum proposed changes**

Roddy read out an email from the Ward Manager from 8th March which said:

***“As discussed at the Ward Forum on the 18th December, Members have proposed cutting the forums from 4 down to 2, provisional dates set as 14th May and 19th November 2018. In addition to the two Forums, the Members have proposed that they give Community Councils the chance to attend a Ward Business Meeting with the 4 Elected Members, providing the opportunity for Community Councils to raise specific issues for their Community, if your Community Council would be interested in taking up this offer please let me know by Friday 27th April. Following this date I will issue an invite to one of the scheduled Ward Business Meetings between the end of April and December 2018, these meetings will be strategically placed across the Ward  to potentially accommodate slots for more than one Community Council to attend, meetings are held during the day.”***

Roddy asked for views on these changes including the Ward Business Meetings. The CCs and members of the public were unsure of this really means and are confusing. Roddy will write back and ask for clarification and further information.

AOCB

Rob said that initial works have commenced ahead of harvesting the Brae Ord forest later in the year.

Tim advised that the Deer Management Group had been renamed South Skye Deer Management Group. FEI have now issued a 17-page document for their deer plan which was generally regarded by the Councillors as being of limited use and too superficial.

Roddy said he had a card from Carol Currie thanking the Community Council for their generous gift on her ‘retirement’.

The meeting closed at 2030, next session is the AGM on 26th June at Seomar Cruinneachaidh at 1930.