COMHAIRLE CHOIMHEARSNACHD SHLEITE

SLEAT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

Tuesday 1st September 2015

Present Roddy Murray

Flora Maclean

Rob Ware

Pauline Lyle

Margaret Colpus

In Attendance: Una Macleod, David Ashford, Roger Cottis, Veana Cleland, Val and Peter Piddock , Donald Mackenzie, Jonathan MacDonald, Kevin Donnelly

Apologies: , Archie Maccalman

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting and AGM on the 30th June were moved by Flora and seconded by Pauline Lyle.

**Matters Arising**

Rob Ware welcomed the new Museum Manager Jonathan MacDonald to the meeting and explained the role of the Community Council.

Rob Ware gave an update on the AGM and the visit by Police Scotland.

Roddy Murray was still waiting for an update from the Forestry Commission re the CDLT forest project and had passed the relevant document and emails to Jan Clarke but so far no progress from FCS has been secured.

Rob advised that Highland Council will remain with their teacher policy for the Primary School.

Roddy has attended a Highland Leader session and we are waiting for the responses.

Flora confirmed that the Highland Council have paid the grant 2015-2016 grant of £1086.97.

**Agenda:**

**Police Scotland**

PC Chris Tait attended for PS and introduced himself as a new constable having transferred from Aberdeen and will be based at Kyle of Lochalsh. He replaces Cameron Macrae who retires in September. Rob updated on the key points from PC Macrae’s attendance at the AGM in June including doorstep and telephone crime. PC Tait updated on the issue raised in June of an individual driving at excessive speeds on local roads. As a result some static checks were carried out but at the time of these no issues were found and the situation will remain on file. No major roads incidents have taken place on local roads this summer, but there have been several issues of driver behaviour and additional patrols will be added as required. PC Tait reminded that with the shorter days residents should be vigilant with locking sheds etc. Pauline Lyle raised the item of the 40 mph zone at Toravaig and Rob added a quick history of the creation of the new farm agricultural shed which included the initial response from Highland Council. We will arrange a site meeting with all interested parties in September or October and this will be done as soon as possible. PC Tait will have a look at the area and Police Scotland will be invited to attend as well. Peter Piddock said that it was important to highlight that it should not be an accident happening before work may be done at the location. The underpass created when the A851 was developed can now not effectively be used. Val Piddock asked if a legal instrument be necessary if a speed zone change is necessary. Rob will send next year’s SCC meeting dates to Police Scotland.

**Scottish Water**

Scottish Water have launched a new project at the Teangue Works which is for a chloramination building. This is a new concept designed to reduce the effects of chlorine in the public water supply and permission has been applied for this work together with a permanent generator for the plant. Roddy asked that we ask SW for a generator at the Tarskavaig plant. Low pressures can be reported to the new SW Customer Helpline and Rob updated on the few folks that do get pressure issues, those being higher up. Val Piddock asked about the process and had some concerns. Rob Ware suggested that she adds her views to the HC Planning Permission file for the project online. SCC will write to SW about the generator.

**Roads and Planning**

An issue has occurred at Aird and the bridge at Tokavaig and Rob will photograph the sites and add these to the list of items to Andrew Hunter, the HC roads team supervisor. David Ashford reminded of the online HC pot-hole reporting on the main website. Roger Cottis reported that the issues at Camuscross near Tawny Croft have been satisfactorily resolved. No Planning applications of note have been submitted this month. Rob will ask for information on the gritting for the winter and this will be made available from the Council. (No changes are to take place this year, and the gritting schedule will remain as it has done for nearly 10 years). Roddy said that we will need to monitor this winter’s activity.

**Community Council Elections**

Rob updated on the process to re-form the Community Councils in Scotland and there is a timetable now published. SCC has an allocation of 8 and it is hoped that new candidates will stand this year. A quorum would be 4 for the SCC.

**Sleat War Memorial**

We are continuing to pursue the Highland Council regarding the war memorial and a meeting has now been set up for 18th September on site with the key players. We will report back on progress at the October meeting.

**Deer Management Plan**

Rob updated on a meeting that took place on 31st July with key players to consider forming a deer management group for Sleat. This follows on from the increase in enclosures in the area over many years. Rob went on to read the key points from the minutes and we would report back when further discussions take place and a public meeting will be held for all interested parties later in the year. There followed a discussion about the current issues and SCC agreed that we will keep the community informed of developments and that meeting. Roddy said there are two issues, one of road safety and the other is public health that is the diseases caused by the presence of ticks in deer in the area.

**Clan Donald Skye**

Rob updated the group on some of the proposals that CDS have for the future which were outlined by Jan Clarke at both the recent coffee morning held on 21st August and the Friends of Clan Donald AGM in June. Plans include the consideration of restoring the castle ruins, expansion of the library, and much more. A further coffee morning will be held in the Somerled Room on Friday 25th September at 1000 where all are welcome. Weekly history talks will take place until the end of the season at the Museum on Wednesday’s at 1100. Jonathan MacDonald then expanded on these at the meeting. Rob mentioned too that two full-time gardener’s vacancies are still available at CDLT.

**Community Council Meetings 2016**

Rob has now published the dates for all the SCC meetings in 2016 including the AGM, and the dates are now on the website and booked with the venues.

**Correspondence**

Rob mentioned that there was a workshop on 2nd September in Inverness re the Community Empowerment Bill and on Monday 7th September the Scottish Governments Rural Affairs, Environment and Climate Change committee were meeting at the Aros Centre consulting on Land Reform.

Rob gave a brief update on the two fish farm applications in Loch Eishort. New underwater surveys have been carried out and these have now been uploaded on to the Highland Council website. A period of 28 days has been allowed for further consultation with the public.

Rob updated on the evening on the 8th October with Finlay Calder Project Manager of the Torabhaig Distillery, more information to follow. The distillery is planned to open at Easter 2017.

Flora had had a thank you letter from the Sleat Lunch Club and there was also a card from the Community Nurses thanking the SCC for the donation.

**Public Discussion**

Kevin Connolly referred to items published in the West Highland Local Development Plan and expressed concern at the some of the sites mentioned in the Call for Sites and Ideas from earlier in the year. Light pollution is an issue for any development. There was a general discussion about planning and development with historical views.

Una Macleod asked about the footpath from CDS to Ardvasar which was overgrown and asked who was responsible for cutting it. Rob said it is the landowner’s responsibility to do this work which would be CDLT.

Roddy talked about a community resilience meeting that he attended in Broadford which was to be followed by a workshop but this was later cancelled and the workshop held in Portree. The issue of emergency plans is vital to rural communities but needs effective co-ordination and this is on-going.

-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**The meeting closed at 2115 with the next meeting on 20th October at Ardvasar Hall.**

\*\*\*Note this is a change from the original date of Tuesday 6th October