COMHAIRLE CHOIMHEARSNACHD SHLEITE

SLEAT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

Tuesday 2nd February 2016

Present: Roddy Murray

Rob Ware

Kirsty McGonagall

Tim Shone

John-Duncan MacInnes

Flora Maclean

In Attendance: David Ashford, Roger Cottis, Andy Neison, Angus MacDonald, Mrs MacDonad

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Roddy Murray r welcomed members of the public for their attendance

**Minutes of the (two) Previous Meetings 12th January 2016**

The minutes of the meeting of were moved by John Duncan MacInnes and seconded by Tim Shone

**Matters Arising**

It was agreed unanimously that Flora Maclean would be appointed Treasurer to the SCC.

Rob Ware advised that the CalMac update was now on the SCC website under the Sleat Transport Forum. Roddy added that we ‘lost’ the cause but meetings will be taking place over the next few weeks with Marketing and Ops people from the Company. Rob added that it is essential for customers to book as far in advance as possible.

Roddy Murray added there is no date yet for Leader Applications and will report back at the next meeting.

Scottish Water Communities Manager will attend the SCC on 1st March.

John Duncan MacInnes advised that the new fuel pumps will be installed w/c 22nd February and these will not be 24 hour automatic facilities. There are a pair of White-Tailed Eagles and nest platforms have been installed which has rescheduled the timber harvesting. A path has been built from the fank to the forest school area, an outdoor learning area.

**Agenda**

**Community Council Training**

Training dates are available for new Community Councillors which will be held in Kyleakin on 24th February. Rob encouraged the new councillors to attend as it is a useful insight of how CC’s work and particularly for planning and licensing issues.

**Roads and Planning**

Roddy advised that we had had a meeting with Andrew Hunter of the Highland Council roads team in January. There are a fair number of items that are in need of attention including culverts and land slips. He reported that HC had been cutting vegetation along the side of the roads. It was agreed how badly this had been handled, with debris being left on the roads and in the ditches. There have been a number of public complaints and these have been reported through the social media outlets. It was further agreed that SCC will write to the Roads Manager with a firm letter of complaint from the community. We have been advised that a new spreadsheet has been introduced to track all items and the progress for attention. We are hoping to have that sheet soon. The Council has just taken delivery of a new four-wheel-drive gritting truck which has already proved very effective. White lining will be given attention this summer which has been left to deteriorate over many years. We will ask about litter policy on the roads for Sleat.

**Planning**

Rob Ware advised that Planning Permission had been applied for on land next to the Duisdale Hotel with the project including a service building and composting toilets. There is also now a new period public consultation for the West Highlands and Islands Local Development Plan, this will be raised at the March meeting.

**Sleat War Memorial**

Roddy gave an update on the War Memorial issues following the meeting with the Council in September. Very little progress has been made but the WM is in need of attention. Rob Ware gave an update of the paper that he wrote as a discussion document which will be used as a basis for a public meeting that will be held in March. There are several key issues and this is a very sensitive issue for local people. The site is also a working croft and Rob invited Angus MacDonald to give his thoughts on this. Because of ownership issues there is some degree of thought that either the site will be retained with the works carried out or to potentially to consider a relocation to another site, such as within the Kilmore churchyard, which is also a Commonwealth War Graves site. Mr MacDonald outlined his views on the issues at the existing site, especially access issues, livestock, development plans and potential disease. A government poster has been produced warning of issues of dogs leaving excrement in areas where livestock roam.

Rob advised that to do nothing is not an option but any decisions must be made by the community as a whole and not from the Community Council. The way forward will be to hold an open and transparent public meeting where all opinions, views and suggestions could be made and then to move forward with a focus group formed within the community and working with the public agencies such as the War Memorials Trust and Highland Council. Roddy updated again on the workshop that he attended in November 2015. Angus MacDonald added there was not another suitable site on the existing croft at Kilmore. John Duncan MacInnes felt that it was not consecrated ground and Veana Cleland echoed that to do nothing is not an option. Tim Shone agreed with the other councillors. A date will be confirmed as soon as possible.

Rob concluded that it should be recognised that no decisions in any way have been made and an open and public debate will provide a fair forum to hear the varying views.

**CalMac Final Update**

Rob Ware gave an update for the CalMac summer timetable for Mallaig-Armadale which has now been ratified and published on-line. A number of meetings will be taking place over the next few days. Once the season has begun there will be a regular dialogue with the company.

**Welcome Sign at Armadale**

Rob gave a brief overview of the new sign that is to be introduced at the pier which replaced a sign that was there until last year when it was blown down in the storm. The order has now been placed and it is expected that this will be in place by Easter. Visit Sleat is also hoping to manage the ‘Made in Sleat’ exhibition in July.

**AOCB**

Tim Shone gave an update on the latest on the Deer Management Plan and will report back in full at the March SCC meeting.

Kirsty McGonagall asked about speed limits across the 30 and 40 mph zones. We will pass this to Police Scotland as they had already said they will assign resources for checks where possible.

Roger Cottis asked about the otter mitigation issues at the Sleat road near Kinloch. Roger will send the updated papers and Rob will pass this on to the Roads Clerk of Works Andrew Hunter. On the Planning matter of the yurts at Duisdale there are otters present in the area.

Rob advised that job vacancies are now being advertised at the ‘Torabhaig Distillery’ as the company would like to offer Sleat residents first option.

**Correspondence**

None

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**The meeting closed at 2045 with the next meeting on 1st March at 1930 at Tarskavaig Communities Hall**