COMHAIRLE CHOIMHEARSNACHD SHLEITE

SLEAT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Sleat Community Council held at Sabhal Mor Ostaig on

Tuesday 3rd May 2016

Present: Roddy Murray

Rob Ware

Tim Shone

Veana Cleland

John Duncan MacInnes

Kirsty McGonagall

Apologies: Flora Maclean

In Attendance: Una Macleod, Kevin Donnolly, David Ashford, Peter Roberts, Phil Taylor, Donnie McKinnon, Heather Dodgson, Charles Barrington, Veronica Barrington, Duncan Macdonald, Oleana and Ken Beal, Angus Macdonald, Ishbel Macdonald

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Roddy Murray welcomed members of the public for their attendance.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting 5th April 2016**

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

**Matters Arising**

Rob Ware outlined a message from the Scottish Water about the start of the chloramination project and the plans for the construction traffic and effect on roads.

Roddy will chase up roads issues again with the new manager.

Roddy again voiced concerns over the Ward Forum Process and talked of the proposed creation of an association of Skye community councils.

**Agenda**

Police Scotland’s representative was unable to attend tonight’s meeting.

**West Highland and Islands Local Development Plan**

There will be an open day on 11TH May at Ardvasar Hall held by the HC to discuss the new West Highlands and Islands Local Dev Plan. Roddy Murray felt that Sleat should be classed as a growing community and the villages in Sleat should be included in the wider transport system. It should also include an item on the sustainability of the current water supply. Representation will be made to the Council and housing is the principle issue of the WHILDP. Rob Ware read out a letter from Kevin Donnolly that he has sent to the HC abut some concerns on the Sleat Main Issues Report. Rob also went through the key aspects of the MIR for Sleat which includes housing and recreational issues. The letter from Kevin outlined the item ESH1 and ESH2 which are parcels of land at Teangue used for agriculture are designed respectively as preferred and non-preferred which have been amended from the original Call for Sites and Ideas. This will be sent to the Council and will be raised at the drop-in session. Rob advised that around 65% of land in Sleat is under crofting tenure. Light pollution is also one that has been raised for the area. Rob encouraged as many people as possible to attend the session. There will also be a round-table discussion in Broadford on the 11th. Duncan Macdonald outlined his concerns about the potential loss of prime agricultural land and the Grazings Committees will be making appropriate representations to HC so as to find land for housing in Sleat but not on valuable agricultural land.

**Sleat War Memorial update**

Rob gave an update on the issues in respect of the Sleat War Memorial following the public meeting held on 16th March and the first ‘focus group’ meeting held on 29th April. Rob apologised that inadvertently had omitted Fiona Smith from the invitation to the group and that she will be included in the next meeting. This is a sensitive issue and there were a number of options which were outlined at the 29th meeting. The land on which the WM stands is a working croft and it had been confirmed that it is Angus Macdonald’s intention to purchase the land and to build a house for himself and family in due course. The next meeting will be held around mid-June.

**Roads and Planning**

Roddy advised that there has been recent media coverage about the cuts in resources in the Highland Council where there have been nearly 300 voluntary redundancies which includes reductions in highway operatives and other technical posts. We will continue to chase up with the TECS team and try to address the outstanding issues, and that will include white-lining and surface dressings on some sections, and that will include the Drumfearn junction road north. Donnie Macleod has now become the Clerk of Works for the whole island and is known to be very supportive and pro-active.

No planning issues of note are currently on the books. The project for Yurts at Duisdale has been approved.

**CalMac Operational Update**

Rob outlined that a Public Meeting will be held tomorrow 4th May which will be chaired by Ian Blackford. Ian has agreed to take the issues up because the Scottish Government did not have any local representation due to the purdah period. Rob gave an update on the process to date and updated on the operational fiasco that has been seen on the route this season so far. The meeting will hear views from the public but CalMac have now confirmed that they will not send any representatives as they ‘having to add’ and that a new timetable is being produced to amend services due to low tidal conditions. Rob went on to say that this was still very much an ongoing situation and he believed that even with a revised tidal timetable there would be more disruption leading to confidence issues on the route, and that local businesses are and will continue to be severely affected by this flawed summer service.

Roddy said that he felt that the whole issue of Summer 2016 has been a total deception, and that Transport Scotland as well as CalMac have much to account for. Tim Shone said that the crews on the two smaller vessels are doing a great job to try to provide a service and Roddy added that tributes should be due to the Mallaig and Armadale port staff who are doing a great job considering the disruption that has, and will continue to take place.

**Skye Community Council Association**

Work is in progress with Portree CC taking the lead.

**Deer Management Group**

Duncan Macdonald updated the meeting on the Deer Management Plan and recent events including the survey held on 25th March and that a full Plan is scheduled for delivery by year-end. Tim Shone is the SCC representative on the group.

**AOCB:**

John Duncan MacInnes updated on one or two SCT issues including plant at the wood shed and various job issues.

Highland Leader to be launched 9th May for funding applications.

Veronica Barrington said that she thought the ferry issues on the Sound of Sleat does have a wider effect on the Skye and Lochaber communities. Donnie McKinnon said that the 12 years of the Coruisk was the longest period of stability on the route for generations.

**Correspondence-None**

**Public Discussion-None**

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**The meeting closed at 2050 with the next meeting on 6th September at 1930 at Duisdale Hall**

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**The AGM is to be held on Tuesday 28th June at 1930 at Seomar Cruinneachaidh, SMO**