**COMHAIRLE CHOIMHEARSNACHD SHLEITE**

**SLEAT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Meeting of Sleat Community Council AGM and Ordinary Meeting held at Ardvasar Hall 25th June 2024

Members Present:

Rob Ware (RW)

Tim Shone (TS)

Andy Williamson (AW)

Mairead MacDougall (MM)

Hans Petri (HP)

Duncan MacInnes (DM)

Kate Duffus (KD)

Janet MacDonald (JM)

**Welcome:** The chair, Andy Williamson welcomed residents to the meeting, advised that the proceedings would be recorded for the purpose of the minutes. No one wished to record the meeting and there were no declarations of interest. Andy reminded that he is a director of Sleat Community Trust. The chair introduced members of the council.

**In Attendance:** 10 Members of the public

**Apologies:** None

**AGM**

Andy Williamson confirmed that a community council AGM is required to be held by the end of June to qualify for the annual grant from Highland Council and for the accounts to be verified by an independent examiner.

Andy Williamson presented the chair’s report for the year June 2023-June 2024. There was a short discussion among members about holding planning meetings informally to discuss topical issues in advance of regular community council meetings held in public, this could also be of use to new members who have recently joined. There was not a consensus on this issue and Mairead MacDougall said that informal meetings should not be held ‘in private’. Andy Williamson stressed that such sessions would not be deemed as private but merely planning meetings. Advice had been sought from Highland Council on this item, both by the chair and Mairead MacDougall, and as a community council is autonomous and a statutory body there is no reason why such meetings or email discussions cannot take place, but no decisions by members can be made outside of an ordinary meeting. Whilst no formal vote has been held Ms MacDougall’s views had been noted. Furthermore, Ms MacDougall expressed her disappointment that members had not been replying to her emails. Andy Williamson asked that members be courteous going forward and respond to emails between members.

In addition, whilst it is procedure to re-elect office-bearers at an AGM, it was agreed as this was undertaken at the inaugural meeting in April it was not necessary now. All officer-bearers will continue in their roles.

The chair’s report can be found at this link.

<https://web-cdn.org/s/1219/file/meetings/minutes/2024/AGM.ChairsReport.202406.docx>

Duncan MacInnes presented the Treasurer’s report for the financial year ended 31st March 2024

This can be found at this link.

<https://web-cdn.org/s/1219/file/meetings/minutes/2024/240907-SCC-Signed-Accounts.png>

Members agreed that the Community Council will ask representatives of the Broadford Youth Club to come and speak about their football tour to Spain in autumn 2023 following a donation from SCC. We will be in touch with the BYC. There was a short discussion on whether the current balance of £411.29 was available for use now. Polly MacInnes suggested that in future the girls club may benefit from a donation. Duncan MacInnes suggested that money for LPP work needs to be retained and that no further donations should be considered at this time.

There were no other matters arising from the chair and treasurer’s reports.

**Matters arising from the meeting on 7th May**

Rob Ware gave a verbal overview of the May meeting and reminded that a new [Community News](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/cofs82rxkbjb1fajdob9s/Community-News-Update-from-Sleat-Community-Council-Final-25062024.docx?rlkey=3696lunfjn97hzzf8pc78sb75&st=zcgzndar&dl=0) roundup was published 25th June on Facebook and the website. There was further discussion about potentially replacing the community notice boards and Janet MacDonald suggested the Tarskavaig community could purchase the phone box for £1 for potential use as a sheltered notice board. Duncan MacInnes reiterated the importance of notice boards for both local people and visitors and other channels. Rob reminded that local people should continue to report potholes, roads and other issues. This is the link.

<https://www.highland.gov.uk/report>

**Adoption of Minutes of Meeting on 7th May 2024**

The minutes of the 7th May meeting were accepted, proposed by Duncan MacInnes, seconded by Tim Shone and carried with no issues. The minutes can be found at this link.

<https://web-cdn.org/s/1219/file/meetings/minutes/2024/Approved-Mins-SCC-070524.docx>

**1 Local Place Plans**

Andy Williamson outlined the key facets of a Local Place Plan for Sleat which will be the community’s vision and aspiration for the future looking forward 5, 10, 20 and 30 years. Tim Shone has met with representatives from FEI about the proposed LPP and engagement with the community. It was a productive meeting and included wildlife management and control of predators. FEI are keen to contribute to the Plan which is community led. Andy said that it was hoped that other local organisations and landowners would collaborate. One engagement has taken place at the English Medium and Gaelic P1-4 at the school and Kate Duffus updated on what the pupils would like to include and responses such as slides in a swimming pool and ‘bring your dog to school days’ were tabled. Tim also said that our young people are the future. There would be a short session for those attending tonight at the end of the meeting to fill in post it notes on aspirations for Sleat. We are being vague with categories to allow as to have our residents tell us. There will be sessions at An Crubh and Armadale Stores during July and August. Veronica Barrington added that Broadford and Strath are well advanced with their LPP planning and Norma Morrison had said ‘do not reinvent the wheel’ and come to us for any help if required. Members of the council will host the sessions but need to ensure other groups such as CDI and SCT are similarly involved. Andy said that although there is a published deadline of 24th September there is no reason why this cannot be completed by the end of the year. LPP’s apparently work on an 8-year cycle.

The overview of an LPP produced by the chair can be found here.

<https://web-cdn.org/s/1219/file/Local-Place-Plan-2024/SleatLPP.Overview.pdf>

**2 Collaboration with nearby community councils and update on the Ardvasar Play Park project**

Hans Petri has been in touch with the two nearest community councils of Broadford & Strath and Kyleakin & Kylerhea. Both have held their own meetings to discuss and agree collaboration and so an informal meeting with Ian MacKinnon from K&K is taking place next week at Armadale. LPPs will be on that agenda.

Funds have been secured for the refurbishment of the Ardvasar play area to the value of £80k. Several quotes have been received via Highland Council and a draft plan is being formalised running alongside community engagement to ensure all ages of young people can be accommodated. The equipment if purchased by HC would be exempt of VAT and they would be responsible for maintenance although ‘ownership’ and management would be with the community.

**3 AOCB**

Duncan MacInnes advised that the Royal Mail post box at Ostaig is in use again.

Tim mentioned that the DMG group remains defunct and that previously contributed funds (£2K) held in abeyance can be distributed to a community cause. It was suggested it could be the primary school. One further former member of the DCG has not responded to agree release of so this will be pursued by Tim Shone.

Polly MacInnes said that there are major problems with deer at Tormore Forest. The south Skye plan is still ‘live’ but Tim added that a Deer Control Group is reformed perhaps as part of the LPP.

**4 Public Discussion**

There were no issues.

**5 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be the Ordinary Meeting which will be held in Tarskavaig Hall on 3rd September at 1930.

**ACTION ITEMS FROM MEETING 25/06/24**

1. Kate Duffus to arrange Doodle Poll for LPP community engagement sessions
2. Hans Petri to finalise a date for meeting with nearby community council representatives
3. SCC to ask Broadford YC to speak about their football tour in 2023 RW/TS
4. Community notice boards renewal-ongoing subject to funding. RW/DM suggest possible crowdfunding.
5. All-dates to be booked for sessions at An Crubh and Armadale Stores-DM.
6. Tim to pursue agreement from last member to gain approval to release DCG funds