

Minutes for Stromeferry and Achmore CC Meeting – 28th June 2023 @ 7.30pm

1 Formal opening of meeting at 7.40 pm – Chair

Present: Gill Harrington (Chair), Mary MacBeth, Ann Gillespie, Kath Smith

Members of other organisations: Biz Campbell HC

Members of Public: No one

Apologies: Mhairi Macrae, Dawn Lupton, Neil MacRae

2 Approve and adopt previous Minutes

The minutes from the 31st May 2023 meeting were approved by Kath and seconded by Gill.

3 Matters arising.

It was brought to the attention of the CC that visitors staying in the area had an 'encounter' with an oncoming vehicle as they turned into the Fernaig Road as the line of sight was obstructed by a parked vehicle.

Action: Mary to relay to concerned parties.

4 Treasurers Report

Opening Balance	£1,882.96
Expenditure	
ICO	£ 35.00
Hall hire	£ 170.00
Zurich Insurance	£ 84.00
Spanglefish Domain Name	£ 24.00
Spanglefish Annual Subscription	£ 29.95
Lucy2Bhere, Defib pads	£ 55.00
	£ 397.95
Income	
	£
Interest	4.10
Closing Balance	£ 1,489.11
Unrepresented Cheques	
	£ -

5 Local Items – Update and progress

5.1 Defibrillators

5.1.1 Defibrillator Strome ferry

Mary has spoken to the local manager for Bakkafrost and he has forwarded the Bakkafrost Company funding application form to apply for funding for the Strome ferry defibrillator. We are in the process of completing the form.

Action: All involved to get form completed and submitted.

We discussed the funding page option a bit more and decided to complete this task by email. Mary will confirm with our Ward Manager that the CC can solicit funds or donations, confirming our organisational structure and if the monies can be paid directly into the cc bank account to pay for the upkeep of the defibrillators.

Action: Kath, Dawn and Mary will complete this as soon as possible..

5.1.2 Monthly checks and seals on Achmore Defibrillator box

The monthly checks are ongoing. Kath got the new pads which cost £55 by donation to Lucky2BeHere. Kath installed them in the defibrillator, so all is now up to date.

Action: Ongoing checks using the monthly rota.

5.1.3 Defibrillator Training.

The defibrillator training is now being delivered by Lucky2BeHere, Skye team. There are a few groups in the queue as mentioned in the email exchange with Lucky2beHere dated 13 April 2023. We are in the queue awaiting the training.

Action: Mary to find out evenings that hall is pre-booked for meetings etc. and assist with setting up training sessions. Mary & Kath will keep in touch with Lucky2BeHere.

5.2 Infrastructure - roads, verges and Ardnarff blocks.

5.2.1 Cattle grid side gates at Achmore end of Braeintra road

The left hand side bars on the A890/Achmore cattle grid have been severely bashed resulting in the top bar being twisted inwards and it now tilts into the driving space of the grid. The oil delivery lorry reported difficulty getting past it. The metal gate adjoining the cattle grid has been bashed and twisted so that the gate doesn't reach the post which holds the gate fixing. The strainer at the hinge side of the gate has had the top half of it smashed. Biz said that she would raise this with senior management

Action: Mary to pass damage description and Photos to Biz.

5.2.2 Path by the A890 between Strome ferry and Achmore

A Google group has been set up so that all who are interested in assisting with the development of a path between Strome ferry and Achmore can liaise easily. Mary to contact all the responders to the 'level of interest' survey conducted by the CC to find out if they wish to have their survey feedback passed to the path sub group. Their names and email addresses will be held by the CC.

Action: Mary to contact the interested parties and pass on the 'redacted' information from the survey.

5.3 Community Benches – Achmore and Strome ferry

5.3.1 Strome bench

The Strome bench has been rescued and put back in situ – thanks to Neil Connolly. At the meeting Neil volunteered to fix the bench down and Mary will look for some appropriate stuff for the fixing.

Action: Neil & Mary to anchor bench to prevent it being blown away.

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5.3.2 Achmore bench by cattle grid

Bill's bench has been located by the Achmore cattle grid.

Complete.

5.3.3 Request to place a plaque on CC seats in public places.

The Stromeferry and Achmore CC decided to create a policy on this topic. The CC have decided that for all their seats located in public places that plaques for only past and current residents of the Stromeferry and Achmore area may be attached to them in consultation with the CC. Any request for seating and plaque placements on private land is between the requestors and land owners.

Complete

5.4 Storing Community Council documents

Lizzie Bird has located a 4 drawer filing cabinet; Jackie Parson Hall Chair has allocated a slot for the cabinet in one of the storage areas in the hall. Lizzie is getting the locking mechanism of the cabinet sorted and she will organise the move of the drawer unit to the hall. This activity is ongoing.

Action: Mary to continue to organise with all concerned.

5.5 Stromeferry and Achmore Website.

All four groups – Community Village Hall, Fernaig Community Trust, Community Council, CMNet broadband have agreed to upgrade the level of software from V2 to V3 level of software for an annual cost of £78. Plus there is a £24 domain name charge. The four groups have agreed to split this annual cost four ways, with each group paying $\frac{£102}{4} = £24.50$ per year. The CC will invoice the other three groups and collect $3 \times £24.50$. Spanglefish have been contacted and asked to make the upgrade.

Action: Mary to complete the software transition to V3 and ask the Group Chair's who their administrators will be.

5.6 Planning

No planning applications for our area.

5.7 Lochalsh Collaboration Group

The Lochalsh Collaboration held a Zoom meeting on the 19th June. Susan Walker our development officer is being retained on a 2 day week till later this year. A sub group of the Collaboration will meet in early July to update the Collaboration Working Agreement which was created and signed by all participating groups on the 9th/10th/11th June 2019.

More information about the workings/projects undertaken by the Kyle and Lochalsh Trust and the Lochalsh Collaboration which is a sub project can be found at <https://www.lochalsh.uk/>

Action: Mary will continue for time being to keep up with happenings with the Lochalsh Collaboration.

6 Updates from Regional & National Organisations (As and when issues arise)

6.1 Highland Council

6.1.1 Invite to pay for parking

Plockton and Kyle car parks are equipped with 'Invite to pay' parking meters. Biz told us that the proceeds are split 50/50 with the communities which host the meters and the Highland Council, so Kyle and Plockton are getting some funding but no other community.

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6.1.2 Highland Council Committee meetings

Biz suggested that we check the Highland Council website to get access to the minutes and reports from all the Committee meetings.

This is the link to access this information: <https://www.highland.gov.uk/meetings>

6.1.3 Budget

Biz informed us that ongoing discussions are taking place to get maximum value from the allocated budgets and ward discretionary fund which is £16,000 for all of Ward 5. More information can be found at: https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/695/council_information_performance_and_statistics/510/budgets_and_accounting

6.2 Funding Opportunities

Monthly lists have been distributed.

6.3 Forestry & Land Scotland

The CC got the following update from FLS:-

- We are still moving forward with the recruitment paperwork for a seasonal ranger but it may still take a few weeks.

6.4 NHS & Campaign for a CT scanner for Broadford hospital

6.4.1 NHS services in Lochalsh

Our initial request for an update on dentistry services for Lochalsh was replied to by Pamela Cremin on 19th April. Since then our CC has requested an update on the 23rd May for our 31st May Meeting – no response, and again asked for an update on the 20th June for our meeting on the 28th June – no response.

Action: Mary to continue trying to get updates.

6.4.2 Health national day 1st August

The CC received the following communication:-

‘As you may know the Scottish Government are introducing a new National Care Service. SLCVO have been helping the National Care Service Division to arrange a series of events where people from Skye and Lochalsh can take part in the conversations that will help shape the new service.

The sessions are in person at An Crùbh Duisdale Beag, Sleat Isle of Skye IV43 8QU on the **1st August**.

There are 3 sessions:

- Skye, Realising rights and responsibilities 10.30-12.30
- Skye, Keeping care support local 14.00-16.00
- Skye, Valuing the workforce 16.30-18.30

As the local representatives of your area it would be good to have your insights into what is happening now and how it could be improved.’

Action: CC to decide who will represent us.

6.5 Utilities - Scottish Water & SEPA

Some of the households in Stromeferry have experienced more water outages which can last for up to a day. If householders want/need the CC to get involved the CC will communicate with Gavin Steel once more on their behalf.

Action: Mary to keep in touch with households who are experiencing outages.

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7 Update from our Councillor

Included in Highland Council section 6.1.

8 AOB

Community Council elections.

This is the year for the full election when all 156 Highland Community Councils are up for re-election. The process will begin in early September, concluding in November. HC will be promoting the elections widely (starting in a few weeks). All agreed that the CC would benefit from new members of the Community joining the new CC in the autumn.

Secretary Fees for 2023

The members present at the meeting agreed to pay the secretary a fee of £20 per meeting for the 5 meetings held so far + the proposed August meeting so 6 in total; making a payment of £120 to the secretary.

9 Calendar - reminders and topics to C/F.

Monthly Check Path Access at Stromeferry

Defibrillator Checks using rota - Achmore

Culvert Stromeferry – between Meallan and Lochview

CC funds received from HC

10 Next Meeting

Next meeting will be 28th August 2023 at 7.30pm in Achmore Hall. **This will be the last meeting of this CC.**

Close of Meeting

Meeting formally closed at 9.10pm

Communication Received from 1st June to 27th June 2023.

On Agenda – these items will be discussed in the meeting not in this section. NNTD – no need to discuss

Email - Weekly - Maureen MacKenzie - Planning Information – checked - NNTD.

Email – Ad Hoc – K MacLean – CC minutes from other Ward 5 Councils - NNTD

Email – Ad Hoc – Emails between CC members on agenda items, verifying minutes etc. -NNTD

Email – Weekly – Policy HC - Community Resilience Group Update - distributed –NNTD

Email – Julie Wileman – Policy and funding January 2023 – distributed

Email- SpangleFish – Price upgrade for SpangleFish Gold - on agenda

Email – many exchanges between CC, FCT, Hall, CMNet, Stromeferry and Achmore website software upgrade – on agenda

Emails – Lizzie & Mary - Hall cabinet for documentation for FCT and CC – on agenda

Email – Policy - Port of Nigg Open Day - Saturday 24th June 2023

Email - Plaque for Fernaig Shore bench – on agenda

Email - P Manley – Pot holes, redundant road signs – on agenda

Email - Policy HC - SLWR Drug and Alcohol Forum - Review of issues and support in Skye and Lochalsh 18th July Kyleakin Village Hall – distributed

Email – Spanglefish - Stromeferry and Achmore CC : How to up grade to V3 – on agenda

Email: J Wileman - Invitation to help shape the new National Care Service - Skye and Lochalsh Sessions 1st August at An Crùbh

Duisdale Beag, Sleat Isle of Skye – on agenda

Email - Julie Wileman - Julie invites you to complete: Hybrid Working with in Community Councils – completed

Email - Colin Parson - More on the path group – on agenda