

# Stromeferry and Achmore Community Council

## Minutes of Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2012 @ 7:30 p.m. Achmore Hall

**Present:** Audrey Sinclair, Kate Bulloch, Ellanne Fraser, Martin Fraser, Phil Game, Dawn Lupton Mary MacBeth, Wilfar Matheson

**1) Apologies:** Jann MacRae

**2) March's minutes.**

These were accepted, proposed by Wilfar seconded by Ellanne.

Copies of approved minutes are on our website at :-

[www.stromeferry-and-achmore.co.uk/index.asp?pageid=220934](http://www.stromeferry-and-achmore.co.uk/index.asp?pageid=220934)

Email [phil.game1@btinternet.com](mailto:phil.game1@btinternet.com) if you would like to be put on the circulation list for the draft minutes.

**3) Secretary's report**

### Communications received

Data Protection Act Certification, completed forms and cheque are to be returned.

**Action: Mary**

Weekly Planning Lists, distributed as received. Nothing directly related to our area.

**Action: All**

Recycling response from Colin Clark, see item 15.

Email from National Network of CCs, distributed to all members.

Local emails regarding the water outage, see item 10

**4) Treasurer's report**

Wilfar informed the meeting that he was still waiting for confirmation of this year's grant from Robbie Bain. We will chase Robbie.

**Action: Wilfar, Audrey**

This month we have purchased two notice boards and two A4 document holders (for minutes).

Opening balance	- £3,682.15
Expenditure	- £ 444.00
Closing Balance	- £3,238.15

New spending plans

£35 Data protection act

£36 Stamps

£15 SLVCO subscription

## 5) Distribution of minutes to those not currently on our email circulation list

A questionnaire is now ready to distribute but there are still a few email ids, names and addresses to resolve. We went through the outstanding list and filled in some of the blanks. Various members of the CC volunteered to forward details to Phil.

**Action: Martin, Dawn, Wilfar & Phil**

## 6) Notice boards

Wilfar informed the meeting that two boards and two stands to hold bundles of minutes had arrived. There was a brief discussion about how to install the boards.

**Action: Wilfar, Martin & Phil**

## 7) Re-siting of the re-cycling bins from the Square

It was agreed access to the bins had been improved and they would remain in their new location.

## 8) TEC Services – Spreadsheet

No change from last month. This has been put on the website at [www.stromeferry-and-achmore.co.uk/index.asp?pageid=220934](http://www.stromeferry-and-achmore.co.uk/index.asp?pageid=220934). Details will be checked, photographs uploaded and the details forwarded to TEC services.

**Action: Phil**

All new road faults should be reported by individuals to the Council via the normal route and then details of the faults should be sent to [mary.macbeth1@btinternet.com](mailto:mary.macbeth1@btinternet.com) as shown on the web page. We will then provide as much documentation as possible to TEC services to help them identify and prioritise the faults and fix them.

## 9) TEC Services – A890

The road is now open 24 hours a day but still subject to intermittent delays whilst the last few cleanup operations take place. These should all be completed by Friday the 4<sup>th</sup> May. Please note the best place for the latest information is the Highland Council website [www.highland.gov.uk](http://www.highland.gov.uk) and [www.highland.gov.uk/yourenvironment/roadsandtransport/roads/stromeferry.htm](http://www.highland.gov.uk/yourenvironment/roadsandtransport/roads/stromeferry.htm)

Wilfar informed the meeting that the letter we received from Neil Gillies at the Highland Council had stated that the HC were due to give an update on proposals for a long term solution to the landslip risk in May or June. He therefore thought it best to give the Highland Council a chance to put their case before we started our longer term action plan. All agreed.

In the meantime Wilfar suggested we get a copy of the previous proposal on alternative routes. Phil said he had a copy & would circulate it to other members of the CC.

**Action: Phil**

It was agreed we would still proceed and contact the Highland Council to ask for copies of recent slope inspection reports.

**Action: Wilfar**

## 10) Scottish Water

### Work on Plockton road

The work site has not yet been cleared; we will ask SW for a completion date.

**Action: Mary**

### Automating the pump to cater for power cuts

The generator is expected to be upgraded by August.

### Mains low pressure

A gauge to measure low pressure will be set up.

**Action: Martin**

Two people reported problems with low pressure / no water this month, details have been forwarded to SW. We will chase SW for an explanation.

**Action: Mary**

To get the problem of low pressure resolved with Scottish Water residents should call 0845 601 8855 **every time** that they experience low pressure. These calls are logged by the customer service centre at SW. The number of calls is accumulated for each area and this is used to prioritise investigating and fixing the problem. Therefore it is essential that all low pressure events are logged every time they occur so that the problems feature on the priority list for fixing.

In addition would you please email [mary.macbeth1@btinternet.com](mailto:mary.macbeth1@btinternet.com) or telephone 01599 577 296, please leave a message if there is no answer. Please supply the following details; name, location, date and time low pressure was experienced. This information will be collated by the CC and forwarded directly to Joanna Peebles, Scottish Water Customer Representative. The more incidents we report the more likely it will be fixed.

### Damage to surfaces in the Square and Achbeg Crescent

Wilfar suggested we contact SW and ask them to repair the damage done when new pipes were laid.

**Action: Mary**

## 11) Tilhill and Braeintra / Fernaig Woodland

No progress this month due to other commitments, Mary to contact those who have registered an interest in this topic. Dawn informed the meeting that some work had already started at the site to create an access road.

**Action: Mary**

## 12) Broadband

Phil circulated the originals plus a synopsis of the two documents received last month:-  
The Connectivity Roadmap, which resulted from discussions with communities and business groups.  
The Contract Notice for the next generation broadband project.

Wilfar had not received a response from John Watt the Community Group representative and it was felt that we were being presented with a “brick wall” by the Project Board for NGB rollout. It was decided to try to make a contact through Vicki Nairn, from the Highland Council who is the Local Authorities representative.

**Action: Audrey**

Wilfar suggested we encourage broadband users to complain to BT and ask for a reduction in charges.

**Action: Phil**

## 13) Defibrillator for local emergencies?

Mary informed the meeting of the arrangements from Lucky2Bhere. Lucky2Bhere is a registered charity established in 2007 to raise funds to provide emergency lifesaving equipment such as defibrillators in rural areas. They aim to reduce response times by having equipment widely available and give the opportunity to help save lives. Training in the use of the equipment is provided to the communities involved through the Heartstart Team and is **free of charge** to L2BH and to the participants. L2BH are keen to empower communities and encourage them to raise funds for equipment in their area as well as taking responsibility for the ongoing training of people to use it. L2BH also work with High Schools, agencies and other organisations. It is the responsibility of the community to manage the equipment and decide where it is sited, Lucky2be here will advise and install. It needs to be located where it is easy to access L2BH recommend that it is outside and operated by key pad. The number is made know to all in the community. Lucky2behere will provide refresher courses, parts and batteries. Lucky2behere do not charge for the equipment and training but expect the community to raise some cash and make a donation. The rural communities who already have a defibrillator have located them in a well lit central spot. The equipment is mostly in an outside location in a special cabinet as the device is temperature sensitive and needs a power supply. Lucky2behere supply everything and provide the training. There is no limit to the number of people they will train. We need two volunteers who are willing to check the equipment on a weekly basis. I.e. check it is charged and ready for use and a further two volunteers who will act as a focal point for the community and interface to Lucky2behere, Northern Constabulary and other services.

**If you would like to volunteer for either of these roles or if you are interested in training in use of the defibrillator (which takes less than a day) please email Mary at [mary.macbeth1@btinternet.com](mailto:mary.macbeth1@btinternet.com)**

**Action: Mary**

## 14) Fernaig Trust

Kate informed the meeting that the Hydro feasibility study has been delayed waiting on SEPA.  
The Terms of Reference for the Hydro feasibility study on the website are current.

In her role as Trustee of the Fernaig Trust and member of the CC, Kate had recently been to a meeting run by the Highland Council regarding Community benefit scheme for renewable energy projects. The details were of relevance to the CC and so Kate has passed on the information pack from the meeting to be circulated to all members of the CC.

**Action: All**

## **15) Provision of a recycling centre at the Auchtertyre Business Park.**

Mary sent a letter to the Highland Council formally requesting the provision of a local recycling centre and received a response from Colin Clark stating there was little chance of a local recycling centre. It was decided this topic should not be dropped and we would contact all the CCs in the area to see if we could put more pressure on the HC.

**Action: Mary**

## **16) Skip**

Wilfar contacted the HC to see if it was possible to get a skip, he was told that a skip could be provided free of charge for a beach cleanup and on that basis he requested it be delivered.

The skip duly arrived, but within a few hours, before details could be circulated, it was **full**.

The Highland Council does not provide skips for free and we will now not be able to get another skip for less than £350 - £400.

**In future, would people please check with a member of the CC before filling skips as they will now only be available under certain terms and conditions.**

## **17) Constitution.**

We completed and signed one copy of the constitution which was sent to the Highland Council, Mary raised the question as to whether the CC need a signed copy for our own records, we will consult Robbie Bain.

**Action: Mary**

## **18) Issues raised at CC training session.**

### **Public liability insurance.**

We are not sure whether we received the certificate from the HC.

**Action: Wilfar**

### **Formal list of assets & who is liable.**

It was decided this should be maintained by the treasurer

**Action: Wilfar**

### **Insurance for assets**

Our only assets are the notice boards so it was decided we do not need insurance at the moment.

### **How to deal with planning issues, 5 working day rule.**

Mary to circulate the planning lists to all members of the CC. Individuals to be responsible for raising notifications of interest with Mary, who will contact the HC.

**Action: All**

**How to deal with licensing issues.**

This was deferred to be put on the agenda for a later meeting,

**Action: Mary**

**Distribution of agendas, best practise is to circulate these to everyone in the area one week before the CC meeting.**

This was deferred to be put on the agenda for a later meeting,

**Action: Mary**

**Written treasurers report for each meeting.**

Mary informed the meeting that the HC were now quite strict on financial procedures and wanted treasurers reports produced on Excel. We will do this in future.

**Action: Wilfar**

**Election of a vice chair**

This was deferred to be put on the agenda for a later meeting,

**Action: Mary**

**New Items**

**19) Annual General Meeting**

Under HC rules the AGM of the CC must be held by the end of June, we will seek clarification of the exact procedure from Robbie Bain. If possible we will hold the AGM on the last Tuesday of May.

**20) AOB.**

Dawn informed the meeting that Auchtertyre and Loch Duich schools were organizing a mini Olympics and were looking for donations to help fund medals. It was agreed we should get more details of what was required.

**Action: Dawn**

**21) Next meeting.**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May at 7:30 p.m. Achmore Hall

The meeting closed at 8:45 pm.