

Minutes for Stromeferry and Achmore CC Meeting – 28th April 2021 @ 7.30pm

1 Present. Microsoft Teams Meeting all connected at 7.32pm

Present: Mary MacBeth, Dawn Lupton, Helen Robertson, Gill Harrington, Biz Campbell HC Councillor
Members of the public: Mhairi MacRae, Stromeferry
Apologies: Ann Gillespie, Neil MacRae, Kath Smith

2 Approve and adopt previous Minutes

The minutes from the 31st March 2021 meeting were approved by Dawn and seconded by Helen.

3 Matters Arising

Our Community Council was informed by our Ward Manager that the Highland Council has set up a book of condolences for The Death of the Duke of Edinburgh. We concluded that we would leave it up to individual members to choose what they wanted to do.

Mackenzie Sutherland was invited to our meeting but was unable to attend. Biz informed us that the roads department are in the process of allocating budget monies to all the various road works that need to be undertaken in Ward 5 and the monies are allocated according to Capital versus Revenue expenditure, so the team are extremely busy this month. More details of which roads are due for a fix will be forthcoming via our Ward Manager.

4 Communications received

If anyone would like a to receive a copy of any correspondence then please contact the secretary @ mary.macbeth1@btinternet.com

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

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 April 2021- distributed -NNTD

Post – 10 Apr - RBLI – VE Day 8th May celebrations and offer to buy a Tommy produced by veterans. Discuss @ 10.6

Email – A Jack Dornie CC – Poster o Health Walks – distributed & on notice boards - complete

Email – L Bird – Invoice for Domain name from Calico UK for website – see 6.5 - complete

Emails – Various – Broadford Hospital Food & CT Scanner - Discuss @ 9.1

Emails – Secretary – Info Kishorn Port; A890 Closure starting 7th May – distributed to all

Emails- Secretary - Condolences Death Duke of Edinburgh – distributed to CC members

Email – Royal British Legion – VE Day 8th May – Village Tommy signs – distributed to CC members

Email – Dot Ferguson – Community Council Year end instructions – Discuss @ 5

5 Treasurer's Report

The Balance at the bank at 28/04/2021 is £3,555.33. Two items of expenditure were recorded this month 1) DD to Information Commissioner for £35, 2) Cheque for £29.95 to pay for Spanglefish upgrade to Gold. An invoice has been received from Calico for £24.00 to pay for Stromeferry and Achmore domain name.

Dawn will get the accounts up to 31st March 2021 audited and submitted to our Ward Manger so that Stromeferry and Achmore CC will receive our grant from the Highland Council for the year 2021/2022. Mary will make all the minutes for 2020/201 available.

Action: Dawn to get accounts audited and sent to D Ferguson and Mary to send March approved minutes.

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6 Ongoing Local Items and Progress update

6.1 Defibrillator

Martin Irving has put the new pads in the defibrillator. Mary now has the old pads, defibrillator box and batteries to return to Lucky2BHere.

Action: Post COVID Mary to return old equipment to Lucky2BeHere

A potential home for a Stromeferry Defibrillator is the phone box. Gill had an interesting call from a pleasant man from BT who will confirm whether BT wants to continue to use this phone box or whether the CC can have it.

Action: Gill is still waiting for BT phone box person to tell her what their plan for the box is.

Another major fund raiser is underway by Kaya Bone who is running a half marathon for Lucky2BHere because it is a vital local charity and provided the village with its defibrillator. So far Kaya has raised £355.00 and you can donate to her Lucky2BeHere JustGiving page by clicking here: https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/kaya-bone?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=kaya-bone&utm_campaign=pfp-email&utm_term=7c6d0c2cdc1544ca9c63b2843e130efe.

Donating through JustGiving is simple, fast and totally secure. Once you donate, they'll send your money directly to Lucky2BHere, so it's the most efficient way to give - saving time and cutting costs for the charity.

Action: Dawn will put a post on the Community Support WhatsApp group to broadcast Kaya's fund raising efforts for our defibrillator.

Action: All to contribute to the funding of the defibrillator located at Achmore Hall.

We discussed Defibrillator training and Gill will ask Alan Massie, Ambulance service for online recommended courses.

Action: Gill to get online training details from Alan.

6.2 Planning

- Nothing to report

6.3 Lochalsh Collaboration Group

The survey is closed and Susan Walker told us that 580 survey forms (online + paper) were completed. 35% of the under 50s completed the survey, so the majority (65%) of returns were from the over 50s. To put the survey responses into context - Lochalsh has 1400 households and a population of approx. 2600.

Susan has passed the numerical aspects of quantifying the survey results to one of the Scottish government's statistics to turn the numbers into contextual information. A discussion about how to get more input from the younger members of Lochalsh followed so Mary asked Dawn to chat to her peer group and find out what the young folk in Lochalsh want from the area in which they live.

More information on the completed survey will be forthcoming in future Newsletters.

On behalf of our CC Mary said that we would look after the A frame on the understanding that it belongs to the Kyle and Lochalsh Trust. Our Community can use it for our events whilst we are the custodians. Currently Mary has the frame but believes that it would better be located in the hall; so it is available for all to use.

Dawn suggested that we use the frame to promote the polling station on the 6th May.

Action: Mary to discuss with the Hall committee if room can be found in one of the hall cupboards to store the Poster Board. Mary will drop off the A frame for Dawn to decorate with polling information before 6th May.

6.4 The Safety concrete block fence at Ardnarff. Ref Number FS130640243

Biz told our meeting that the blocks will be removed as soon as.

6.5 Action: Biz and CC to monitor progress and to keep focusing on this issue till it is resolved.

6.6 Stromeferry and Achmore Community website.

Mary was established as a level 1 administrator to upgrade Spangelfish to Gold and Phil for CMNet Broadband has now been set up as a Level 1 administrator. Kath Smith has been set up as a level 2 administrator and Mary will pass Kath her

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info; so she can log in. The Community Council minutes for 2020 have been loaded onto the Website, and the 2021 minutes will be loaded next. The question and answer documents which we exchanged with the Kyle Surgery in early 2020 will be loaded into the 'Other' section on the website plus the COVID update that we produced for April 2020 instead of meeting minutes. There has been a request for a local business and accommodation to be added.

Action: Mary to get more feedback and ideas from other CC members before publishing and in the meantime the CC minutes will be loaded. This item will be on our agenda for one of our meetings.

Action: Mary to contact chair of Hall and Fernaig Trust to ask who will administer their section of the website. Phil administers the CMNet Broadband section.

6.7 Bench

The 'already bought' bench has been sited on the Achmore – Braeintra path about a third of the way in from the Achmore entrance.

We all agreed to Dawn obtaining a table and bench set made from recycled weatherproof materials to replace the wooden bench located at Fernaig Shore.

Action: Dawn to obtain a bench and table set and locate on the Fernaig Shore.

The bench that was located by the cattle grid on the road into Achmore was moved to the bus shelter in Feb 2020 so we agreed to replace the bench by the cattle grid. And we agreed that we should get a bench for Stromeferry.

Action: Mary to obtain another two benches and site one by cattle grid and one at a yet to be determined location in Stromeferry.

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

7.1 NHS

Biz has contacted the seven Lochalsh, Lochcarron, Applecross and Shildaig CCs, and asked if they will support the campaign to obtain a CT scanner for the new Broadford Hospital and email their support to Hamish Fraser, Chair of Broadford Community Council plus member of another Broadford hospital committee. Mhairi has had an email of support to obtain a CT Scanner from Portree & Braes Community Trust. For the moment we agreed with Biz to use the support of all the interested Community Councils to persuade NHS Highland to provide a CT scanner for Broadford Hospital. And if necessary Biz can contact all other Community groups at a later date if their support is needed.

Actions: Biz will contact Hamish to find out how many CCs have provided their written support.

The feedback received about the food could be best described as 'it may contain the necessary nutrients, but it is mostly inedible'. Biz will convey this response to Louise Bussell and ask what she is going to do about improving the food.

Action: Mary to pass this feedback to Biz to forward to Louise.

7.2 Tilhill

- Nothing further to report

7.3 Highland Council

Within the weekly circulated Resilience documents from Highland Council this week's contained a record of property owned by the Highland Council and for our domain the Highland Council have indicated that they own the Stromeferry Jetty, the land between the old School and 1 Strath Ascraig plus the recycle bins.

7.4 Police & Fire

- Nothing to report

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7.5 Utilities - Scottish Water

- Nothing to report

7.6 Others

The Community Council received marketing material from the Royal British Legion Industries who have been able to keep veterans employed at their UK Tommy factory making Tommy town/village signs. The cost of a Tommy is in the region of £200.00; so we decided that if we were to support the RBLI that we would want to donate to the local Branch.

Action: Gill will contact the local branch and find out if they have specific projects for which they are seeking funds and report back to the next CC meeting

8 Update from our Councillor

- Update on the security barriers discussed earlier in meeting plus other road issues completed under matters arising.

9 Updates from Local Groups

9.1 CMNet CIC Broadband

COVID 19 - The latest information from the government is that more restrictions will be lifted in May which should allow us to continue with new installations.

After the problems in early April one of the units on Creag Mhaol was again reset to it's default configuration. All Strome side subscribers were automatically routed through Lochcarron as the fallback gateway. After several days effort all attempts to reconfigure this unit remotely failed. It looks like there is more wrong with the unit than a simple reset and we will have to visit the relay and replace the unit. Once it was clear that the unit could not be recovered remotely the corresponding unit on the Achmore side was reconfigured and the backup unit on Strome side was activated to restore the link. All Strome side subscribers are now again routed through Plockton.

We are now gathering and automatically tabulating false RADAR events however the problems with the Creag Mhaol links meant we lost several days data this month.

The Achmore gateway is still showing erratic performance. Since the last report, at the request of Plusnet, we have run a test replacing **every** piece of equipment in the hall; even so the results still showed erratic performance. In the face of all this evidence Plusnet's response is still to suggest an engineer is sent out. Plusnet have informed us that they cannot monitor or test their "own" network as it belongs to BT. We are considering what to do next.

We are still working on options to reduce the budgeted surplus for the current financial year.

Phil Game, CMNet CIC, Achmore & Strome Ferry Community Broadband System

9.2 Fernaig Trust

Colin MacAndrew

9.3 Stromeferry and Achmore Hall

The hall will be the polling station on Thursday 6th May so we can all vote.

Martin Irving

10 AOB

- Nothing to report

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11 Calendar

- 11.1 Monthly Gate Check - The gate to the beach is open at Stromeferry
- 11.2 Weekly defibrillator rota – All in order
- 11.3 Post COVID – Relationship building with the Scottish Salmon Fish farm.

12 Next Meetings

By Microsoft Teams – AGM 26th May, 2021 @ 7.30pm with the normal CC meeting following on from the AGM.

- 13 Formal close of meeting @ 8.30pm

Approved