

ARISAIG AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Arisaig District and Community Council

Monday November 20th 2023

7.30pm

Held as a Zoom meeting

1. **Present:** I Macniven, S Kingswood, H Waterston, V Stuart-Orchard, M Milligan
Apologies: G MacDonald

2. **Minutes** of meeting held on 16th of October were approved

3. **New Board Members**

Megan Milligan has joined the board.

4. **Matters Arising from Last Minutes:**

- Burial arrangements – The hope is still to get a meeting set up at Arisaig Cemetery with a Councillor/members of the Community Council and Hugh Gardener (HC representative). **IM to follow up.**

5. **Fireworks:** Megan did a fantastic job of rallying the community and putting on a great event. The fireworks licence is valid for one more year but will need renewed in 2025.

6. **Christmas Lights:** Christmas lights were checked. There are six in total, two of which are broken, three of which light up partly and one which works completely. A Highland Council Electrician will be required to bring these up to code before they can be put up.

7. **Macintosh Centre:** The Depute post has been offered to a candidate. Three Care Assistants have been offered posts and have accepted. The Social Care Assistant posts have been readvertised and at present there are 5 applicants. Current staff have all completed their training and it has been reported that they have gained considerably in confidence having been working at Invernevis House and experiencing, with support, the increased demands incurred when working in a much larger Care Home. All new appointees will begin their time working at Invernevis. Current staff - it was confirmed that their travelling time is included in their working day and they are being paid an enhanced salary but not being asked to work night shifts. In the light of possible progress with staff recruitment it was agreed to postpone the proposed meeting on 29 November until the New Year.

8. **Reports:**

Treasurer: A £600 deposit has been received for the maintenance of the defibrillator in and around Arisaig

Police: No report

Gower Trust Approvals: Money for the Christmas lunch requested by Arisaig Community Council was been approved.

9. **Planning Applications:** nothing of concern.

10. **Heritage Trail Project**

A project officer within the Centre of Recreation and Tourism at UHI has reached out about Arisaig being included as part of a heritage trail. **IM to follow up.**

11. Local Heat & Energy Strategy

The council has been approached by a Climate Change Coordinator working on the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) regarding a contact to discuss LHEES outputs with and seek input / feedback from the local community. **IM to follow up.**

12. National Park

Those putting together an application for Lochaber to be a National Park have reached out to us for questions/concerns of the local CCs. There will be a presentation and discussion in the Astley Hall on Sunday 10th of December 5-7pm for anyone who is interested.

13. AOCB:

Swing park: Arisaig swing park is looking a little tired and MM would like to look into doing up the park including how to procure / raise funds for its redevelopment. **IM to follow up.**

Network Rail Lochailort: There has been disruption caused by the ongoing Network Rail work and a local resident is on a prolonged hunger strike.

Bill's Shed: ADCC was interested to know what is happening with Bill's Shed. **IM to follow-up.**

14. Date of Next Meeting: 15th of January 2024 in the Astley Hall at 7.30pm

All meetings are open to local residents to attend. The meetings can be joined on Zoom or in person. Please contact the Secretary for joining details at info@arisaigcc.org.uk