**Minutes (draft) of Shieldaig Community Council (SCC)**

**Meeting Tuesday 7th November 2017 7.30pm. Church Hall.**

Members present: Kalie Wilkinson (Chair), Claire Munday (Secretary), Duncan Carmichael, Tom Tindale, Viv MacLennan, Cllr. Kate Stephen.

Apologies: Lisa Fraser (Treasurer), Susan Holmes.

Approval of Minutes of previous meeting on 3rd October Tuesday.

Matters arising.

Protecting sea eagles on Shieldaig Island.

In addition to the actions recorded in October’s CC meeting, it was suggested that in any reprint of the Shieldaig sea eagle leaflet it would be good to emphasize that camping and walking on the island is discouraged. This voluntary code also could be promoted in the Shieldaig Booklet 2018. Claire will contact Lucy.

Circulation of CC minutes.

Claire routinely sends copies of the draft CC minutes to Cllr. Kate Stephen, PC Allan, Robbie Bain, Kenny Maclean, An Carrannach, and to Ann Barton who manages [www.shieldaig.info](http://www.shieldaig.info)

Police matters.

PC Allan has reported back the results from the speed monitoring carried out in October. Based on this information, he says no action is warranted. Kate Stephen has asked that the monitoring be repeated during next year’s busy period. We would like to have more detail on how and where the monitoring was carried out. We will ask PC Allan to attend our next meeting in February.

Road matters/ Village upkeep.

Street lighting.

A resident has suggested that the lights might be turned off for part of the night as a way of reducing HC costs. Kate reported that street light brightness has already been partially reduced by HC as a savings, without undue repercussions. LED street lights are being installed over Highland as a way to reduce environmental impact & costs. Kate will find out when these might be installed in Shieldaig.

Grass cutting.

As requested, Kate has provided a detailed map of where grass cutting should be carried out around Nanny’s. This has been passed on to Nomie & Lynn.

Drains at Temperance Brae have been cleared.

Cattle grids.

Apart from the 2 cattle grids in the village which have been reported as defective, the cattle grid going south a mile outside the village is flooded. Kalie will report.

Viv has reported a hole on the roadside caused by the roots of a fallen tree just south of the flooded cattle grid. Heavy rainfall could cause erosion to the edge of the road leading to its’ potential collapse.

Kalie will put information on the village noticeboard about how people can report road issues. This was part of a general discussion we had about local CC’s sharing information about similar road issues.

High speed fibreoptic cabling along coastroad.

We are no clearer as to whether the coast road residents can benefit from the cable in the future. Kalie has not had a reply to her letter to Ian Blackford, MP.

HSCHT open meeting 10th November

Plans were made for this event. A steering group has been set up and will have their first meeting with a representative from HIE on 15th November 7pm in the Hall.

Community Resilience Plan. Debrillator. Survey.

Viv has found out that a donation of £1500 is expected if we wish to purchase a defibrillator. It was agreed to fund the defibrillator, training and installation costs from the ring-fenced resilience monies the CC has. Viv will arrange training on a Saturday. (Post-meeting: arranged for 9th December in Shieldaig Hall).

Kalie will finalise the household emergency plan survey and this will be distributed house-to-house soon.

Correspondence.

Kate said that the Ward 5 Councillors want to set up a new Area Committee for Wester Ross, Strathpeffer & Lochalsh rather than being “swamped” in a much bigger area committee that didn’t represent the west coast’s different interests; also to give a fairer share of expenditure. Shieldaig CC thought this sounded an excellent idea.

Kate is arranging for the Director of Community Service, William Gilfillan, to visit this area in December and asked if we would like to meet him. He wants to understand how to support communities who want to do more for themselves. We said we would be happy to meet up.

Kate explained that there is a review of business rates being made by the Scottish Government. It is a concern that organisations, such as Highlife Highland which provide services on behalf of HC, may not be exempt from these rates and therefore penalized.

Planning matters.

Duncan reported: 17/05076/FUL - Tree Tops, Shieldaig, Strathcarron. Erection of log cabin in garden ground”.

Finances.

No change from previous month.

AOB

It has been brought to the Council’s attention that a caravan has been parked near Ob Mheallaidh for some time.

Tom is meeting up with Douglas Gibson, who liases with NC500, and will be raising environmental concerns e.g. prevalence of convoys, motorhome chemical toilets.

Fish farms. It looks unlikely that there will be an opportunity to bring interested parties together as was suggested in June’s CC minutes. There is a possibility that Richard Greene may investigate the wider environmental impact. Claire will contact Wester Ross Biosphere since they have a marine, as well as, a land remit.

Claire will look into updating Shieldaig Community Council webpage, and Tom will help advise.

**Date of next meeting: 6th February 2018 Tuesday 7.30pm. All welcome. Shieldaig CC meets on the first Tuesday at 7.30pm in the months of September, October & November, and from February, March, April, June(AGM).** Anyone wishing to contact Kalie Wilkinson: email address: kareliawilkinson@btinternet.com Tel:01520 755 291 or Claire Munday

Tel:015250 755206 By post: Kinloch, Shieldaig, Strathcarron IV54 8XJ