**Minutes (Draft) of Shieldaig Community Council**

**Tuesday 2nd October 2018 Shieldaig Village Hall 7 pm**

**Members Present:** Kalie Wilkinson (Chair), Susan Holmes, Claire Munday (Secretary), Duncan Carmichael. **Applecross CC member:** Alasdair Brown. **Torridon & Kinlochewe CC member:** Anne Macrae. **Ward 5 Manager:** Robbie Bain. **PC** Craig Allan. Robert Gordon. **Apologies:** Lisa Fraser, Viv Maclennan, Gordon Drysdale. Cllr. Kate Stephens has stood down as Highland Councillor on 1st October; there will be a by-election on 6th December.

**Joint Community Council Meeting (Shieldaig, Applecross, Torridon & Kinlochewe).** This was an opportunity, with Robbie Bain & PC Craig Allan present, to discuss shared issues. Kalie asked Alasdair & Anne and then ourselves to raise matters of concern. **State of the roads & poor driving standards.** Robert Gordon asked what had happened to the money Cllr. Kate Stephen said had been promised by the Scottish Government for Highland road repairs. **Signage** at Tornapress & Applecross coastroad junction were discussed. There are motorhomes towing cars driving over the Bealach and causing holdups; however if signage limits the length of vehicle then commercial vehicles will be excluded. Craig distributed a leaflet from Transport Scotland, “Driving in Scotland”, giving advice to visitors about driving on single track roads. Blue passing place signs have been requested on the Applecross coastroad for 2 years; currently there are none. **Chemical toilets**: there appears to be no provision for its’ disposal outwith official campsites. Robbie had requested HC a couple of years ago to raise with the Scottish government the possibility of Scottish Water taking on the responsibility of chemical waste disposal. Nothing has come of this. **Fires:** visitors should be informed about the risks of lighting fires. **Lack of public toilets & subsequent use by visitors of road verges:** it is a public health issue that people are increasingly using the road verges as a public toilet. Robbie explained the complexity of the different contracts communities have with HC regarding their public toilets. **Community Council Review 2018:** Robbie reassured us that HC has no hidden agenda about amalgamating CCs. The review is an opportunity for CCs to raise any boundary issues, provide suggestions & raise concerns regarding their experience of representing their communities.  **Possibility of public meeting with NC500:** Kalie asked if it would be a good idea to arrange a meeting with Tom Campbell & David Whiteford from NC500, MSPs, Community Councils from SW Ross, Highland Councillors in this Ward, visitscotland to discuss the issues which have changed residents’ day-to-day way of life. Anne Macrae said there is a North Highland Initiative meeting on 23rd October.

**Approval of Shieldaig CC Minutes Tuesday 4th September 2018 Matters arising**. Meeting is arranged for a return visit by Iain Moncrieff for 4th October to discuss road issues raised at the previous visit earlier in the year. This includes blue passing place signs, cattlegrids, rumble strips, double yellow lines at Nanny’s corner, road verges/ potholes, public toilets. Alasdair and Anne are interested in joining this meeting. (Post- CC meeting: Iain Moncrieff had to cancel Thursday’s meeting and will send us alternative dates). Kalie is distributing “40mph stickers” which our CC ordered at a cost of £95. This is for use on the village top road and coast road and can be stuck to the sides of wheelie bins. Robbie Bain said that the signs could not be dug into road verges, as previously minuted, or applied to HC property. Community Council Review 2018: Kalie and Claire filled this in on line. Speed monitoring on Shieldaig top road: PC Allan has not heard back from Greg Otreba regarding moving the 40mph sign down to the junction entering the village from the south; since this is a recommendation by HC, Craig and Robbie Bain felt that Shieldaig CC should accept this as the best outcome, even if the speed monitoring was compromised by roadwork traffic lights in July.

**Police matters:** No crime has been reported in our area.

**Community Resilience:** we hope that HC Resilience Officer, Steve Mardon,will attend our next meeting. Kalie will send Steve a summary of our Community Emergency work so far, and Duncan will liaise with Steve about arrangements for 6th November. Viv has arranged defibrillator training with Philip Maclachlan for 25th October Thursday 7-9pm in Shieldaig Hall.

**Finance** Lisa confirmed that our annual HC grant has been paid - £336.14 on 13/8/18 (gross: £422 minus £86 for public liability insurance).

**Planning matters:** Planning application summary 18/04031/S42 Ste NW of Sgeir Dughall, Loch Torridon, Diabaig. Changes to conditions has already been permitted by HC with some detailed comments relating to the environmental management plan for this site.

**Correspondence:** **Highland Small Communities Housing Trust:** we are renewing our membership. **Hands on Events:** Linda and Alasdair Lawson have been in touch with Shieldaig, Applecross, & Torridon & Kinlochewe CCs about forward planning for 2019 events. The suggested dates are Bealach Beag 11th May & Bealach Mor 31st August. The suggestion that the events are started an hour earlier was considered not acceptable to local communities. A general discussion followed about pedal bikes highlighting the change in behaviour over recent years. For example, some cyclists are running competitive times over the Bealach and are not prepared to pull over into passing places to allow motor cars to pass.

**AOB: Broadband:** Robbie suggested contacting Stewart Robertson, Director of Digital Highlands & Islands, to find out the possibilities of rolling-out broadband connections to households on the coastroad. Kalie will contact him.

**Development officers:** Kalie explained the benefits that Applecross had gained from having a paid development office, and suggested that Shieldaig could apply for one through the Community Development group.

**Date of next meeting: 6th November Tuesday 7.30 pm .**

Thereafter CC dates in 2019 are 5th February, 5th March, 2nd April, 7th May. 4th June AGM, 3rd September, 1st October.