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

**Tuesday 5th March 2019 Shieldaig Village Hall 7.30 pm**

**Apologies: Viv Maclennan, Gordon Drysdale, Susan Holmes, Lisa Fraser.**

**Present: Kalie Wilkinson, Duncan Carmichael, Tom Tindale, Claire Munday, Cllr. Alex MacInnes.**

**Minutes 5th February 2019. Approved. Matters arising.** **Roads.** Alex reported HC budget had recently approved £1.5m for roads throughout Highland with £365,400 allocated to Ross & Cromarty. The intention is to put this towards local infrastructure which has for so long been neglected. ACTION. Claire to give Alex a list of road repairs SCC have raised over the last 2 years, and specifically issues discussed with Ian Moncrieff and Gary Urquhart on their visit to Shieldaig in February 2018. Alex confirmed that there is a growing will amongst Ward 5 councillors to set up a separate west coast area committee to deal with many diverse needs which largely differ from the other wards which make up the Ross & Cromarty area committee. Kalie asked when the new Bealach sign at Tournapress was due to be installed? **Playpark.** Douglas Miles has sent Claire a map of the area so HC & Church boundaries are clear when we come to reinstate the fence. LOCAL APPEAL. We need an experienced person to put up the fence with assistance from volunteers and using any spare local fencing materials. The fence is urgently required as parts of the play area boundaries are not safe. Joe Duffy from Sutcliffe Play (Scotland) Ltd. in Dundee has been in touch with Claire explaining that they work with local authorities designing, supplying and installing children’s play parks. He has offered to visit in a few weeks time. He has also supplied us with a list of “funding tips” to help us enhance the fund-raising that is already happening. The school gardening project is coming on thanks to hard work by Gerry and Ms. Bӧgers’ planning. **Public toilets.** Alex was concerned that HC haven’t sorted out the roof yet and will email Robbie Bain.

**Police matters.** PC Allan not present and no report sent. SCC received a consultation from Police Scotland via HC on 1st March looking for our opinions by 18th March on the services they provide. PS were presenting their Annual Police Plan to the Scottish Parliament at the end of March; we felt this didn’t leave much time for any comments we might make to influence the Plan they presented.

**Community Resilience planning.** Claire has sent a letter to Scott Fraser asking him to install at changeover switch on the village hall wall. ACTION. Duncan and Tom are meeting tomorrow to order emergency equipment agreed on. A draft Shieldaig emergency plan was circulated with a telephone tree. We need to use grid references on the plan when referring to all emergency locations, as post codes cover too large a geographical area. To find a grid reference use “gridreferencefinder.com”. ACTION. Kalie is purchasing a noticeboard to put up in front of the hall wall underneath a street light where we can display the plan and other SCC business. Tom was helpful in our discussion on how to progress with radio/ VHF matters; we need to work out on a practical basis how different local radio uses can communicate with each other on different frequencies. The new Torridon Mountain Rescue facility and its’ radios would be available in an emergency.

**Invitation to Scottish Salmon Company & MOWI (formerly Marine Harvest):** Kalie has sent a letter to Marc Browne at SSC & Hugh MacKinnon at MOWI inviting them to attend a CC meeting together to discuss the possibility of recommencing the Loch Torridon Area Management Group. Previously this group met regularly to discuss ongoing issues and promote synchronised management of the salmon rearing cycles/ fall ow periods, and to improve communication between fish farms, government bodies, local residents and riparian river owners. Hugh MacKinnon is happy to attend. ACTION. Kalie to contact Marc Browne again.

**Finance.** Lisa had asked whether to bank the money we had raised for the defibrillator. We decided it would be better to send it to Lucky2b Alive. Viv has contact details.

**Insurance.** SCC have been notified that its’ our responsibility from 1st April 2019 to pay our insurance directly to Zurich. The cost will still be covered by our HC grant. We spent some time during the meeting looking at our policy schedule which may not meet our needs. It covers for example employer’s liability which we do not require. There may be some duplication of insurance with Shieldaig Community Association. ACTION: Kalie will meet with Janene, secretary of SCA. (Post meeting: Richard Munday has pointed out that the Church of Scotland as the owner also insure the fabric of the Hall).

**Planning matters. Scottish Salmon Company (SSC) planned expansion at Aird.** SCC sent a letter of objection to SEPA & the Scottish Ministers on 18th February. They have 63 days in which to reply. We object as a community to SEPA granting consent to the expansion until SEPA can demonstrate Loch Torridon can sustain further biomass expansion. We are pressing for stricter environmental controls especially regarding emmacetin benzoate, effect on crustaceans, and faecal output below the cages. A copy of our letter was also sent to Alex MacInnes, MSPs, MP, HC, Wester Ross Fisheries Board, Scottish Natural Heritage, & Marine Scotland Science. We received some responses which we discussed. Anyone wishing to know specific replies please contact Claire Munday. **Other planning applications:** 19/00442/PIP . Erect dwelling on land 25m east of Treetops. 19/00359/FUL Erect staff accommodation block at Tigh An Eilean.

**Correspondence: HC CC scheme review.**  The draft proposals include formalising youth membership and a maximum of 4 co-opted members (currently one third of total membership). **Woodland Trust:** Carol Evans from WT has been in touch about a venue for 43 of their members on 23rd September for lunch and afternoon meeting. We have suggested Shieldaig Hall (provided it’s free) and nearer the time can we ask for volunteers to help us provide soup & sandwiches. **Rural Planning Policy:** if anyone would like to fill in a survey by 20th March about research to inform National Planning Framework 4 (NPF 4).

**AOB:** Caravan parked in the car park by the public toilets has been reported to CC but we gather this is a temporary solution.

**Ward 5 Joint Community Council meeting:** on 24th April Wednesday 6.30pm in Lochcarron small Hall. Agenda items include talk by Rory Dutton from Development Trust Assoc. Scotland, Wester Ross Biosphere update, Stromeferry Bypass update, 2019 Community Council elections, & a possible HC representative on housing allocation.

**Date of next meeting: 2nd April 7pm.** This will start at the earlier time to allow a discussion on Kinloch Woodlands SCIO with Richard Munday and other local trustees. Thereafter dates of CC meetings are 7th May. 4th June AGM, 3rd September, 1st October. Then elections held for new Community Council.