**Shieldaig Community Council**

**Comhairle Choimhearsnachd Sildeag**

 Tuesday 1st June 2021

7.30 pm by Zoom

**Draft Minutes**

**Present**: Ann Barton (Chair) Karen Starr (Treasurer) Kalie Wilkinson, Becky Cameron,

Viv Maclennan, Alex MacInnes (Councillor)

**Apologies** - Hugh Gosling (Secretary)

**Minutes of last meeting 4/5/2021-** Approved

**Matters Arising:**

 *Sea Defences*

HC will continue to monitor the condition of the sea defences between Stovold’s and Rivendell. Ross Stovold reported the additional positioning by HC of no parking cones over the pegs was impacting on his business. AB to advise Andrea Bone that during business hours some of the cones are removed and replaced at the end of the working day. Sarah Almond has also also reported how the no parking zone has impacted on her residential parking, cones are being used to help alleviate this situation.

*Planters*

The planters have now been placed in the village, 2 have gone to the school, 6 are placed in the area of the village hall, 1 by the cattle grid, 2 by the post box and 2 by the village noticeboard. None have been placed along the Main St at the request of local residents. Sarah Almond asked that a planter was put at the Corran end of the village. Soil, compost and manure is on order from Jewson’s and Highland Liliums and delivery imminent. Plants to be donated by local residents and bulbs planted in the Autumn. KW and VM agreed to plant up and maintain over the summer. Old planters to be removed from the sea front.

*Disruption Payment Coast Rd.*

KW updated the CC on the current position of the £5k disruption award from construction company using the Coast Road during the building of the new Hydro Scheme near Lonbain. The money has been allocated to Applecross despite the fact that only 4 affected houses lie in the Applecross CC catchment area and the Shieldaig end of the road has been much more severely impacted over the past 17 months. At the height of the construction there were 48 lorries a day using the road and passing through the north end villages. This has generated excess noise, traffic, road damage etc In agreement with the CC KW is to pursue this matter with Applecross Trust for a fair reparation of the funding.

*Finances*

Cash at bank was £17 030.09 at 31st May 2021. Unprocessed payments amount to £1265.66. Coronavirus payments have now stopped. Balance of the various coronavirus funds stands at £6693.49 at 31st May 2021.

*Police Matters*

Nothing to report.

*Planning*

Nothing to report.

BC to take over role of reporting on planning applications from KW.

***Correspondence****:*

*Request for Outward Bound Support from Shieldaig PS*

A request from Tom O’ Halloran HT to help fund a 6 week block of outward bound type activities for the school children from the Covid Recovery Funds was agreed by email between meetings. £570 is to be donated in order to help fill gaps in the children’s education and social development as a result of Covid impacting school experiences.

*Fly Tipping on Coast Road near Kenmore Junction*

AM reported that Katrina Taylor HC was dealing with this ongoing matter and carrying out a risk assessment re removal of the waste which is significant and includes white goods, furniture, fencing wire and dead sheep. Due to the difficult access and nature of the waste materials it will require a specialist team to clear.

*Opening of Village Hall for meetings*

An email has been circulated by Janene Waudby (SCIO) to say in agreement with the Church of Scotland, and provided all Covid regulations were adhered to, meetings could soon recommence in person in the village hall. Details to be finalised very shortly.

***AOB****:*

*Road Tarring*

AM reported that progress is being made with the road tarring programme largely due to funding from the Ward 5 budget and the efforts of Mackenzie Sutherland - Roads Dept and additional staffing levels. A “hot box” is being used to tackle prioritised areas and should be more efficient and long lasting than “cold tar” methods previously used. Work is currently being carried out in Lochcarron and the machinery is heading towards Shieldaig. Verging is to be addressed too. The CC highlighted once again specific areas needing attention, namely the junction at the Coast Road, a hatched turning area at the south entrance to the village, Balgy and West Lodge Potholes and the surface by the The Torridon in Annat. AM assured the meeting these areas had been noted.

*Grass Cutting*

A member of the community had complained about the poor state of grass cutting in the village. It was agreed to monitor in case this was a one off due to machinery malfunction.

*Pier Bins*

The harbourmaster has purchased a new lockable bin for the pier area. Technically this is not a public bin but for pier users only. The CC to request a new public bin to be placed there too.

***The Future of Shieldaig Community Council***

The CC is facing a crucial time and uncertain future. Following on from what has been a challenging year for everyone, KS and VM wish to follow KW and step down from their roles in September and AB in November. This will put the Community Council into abeyance unless more people volunteer to step forward and fulfil their roles, including those of office bearers. KS has kindly agreed to support any future treasure with the handover. If anyone is interested in joining the CC please contact AB to express your interest. Adverts to be placed on noticeboards, Facebook etc to encourage recruitment.

Some members of the community have expressed an opinion that the SCIO and CC should merge to create one village committee. Whilst this would seem a sensible idea at face value, especially in terms of recruitment, it is constitutionally not possible. The CC being under the jurisdiction of the Highland Council with a different remit.

*As the CC is required to only hold 10 meetings a year there will be a summer break with the next meeting scheduled for* ***Tuesday 7th September.***

***Details of venue or zoom codes to be clarified nearer the time.***

If you have any comments about anything on the agenda or in the minutes, or have anything you would like discussed under AOB please contact the secretary Hugh Gosling hughgosling@gmail.com or phone 755780 or attend our meetings.