

Contin Community Council Meeting

Contin Hall

7.30 pm on Tuesday 26th February 2019

Minutes

Present:

Norma Ross (NR), Selina Rennie (SR), Lisa Daines (LD), Pam Courcha (PC), Laurence Gunner (LG), Ian Cockburn, Councillor (IC).

No members of the public observed the meeting.

Apologies: Sid Fraser (SF).

1. Welcome

NR welcomed everyone.

2. Expressions of Interest

No expressions of interest were reported.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

There was one matter arising which is noted at agenda point 6.

SR proposed the previous minutes and PC seconded.

4. Treasurer's Report

SR reported that the bank balance as at 20 February 2019 is £9079.98 with around £4000 of that unrestricted. The Community Council had been able to give a micro-grant at short notice to the Trust for traffic cones for the Strathpuffer event.

5. Community Police Report

NR read out PC Peter Holling's report. Between 1st December 2018 and 31 January 2019 there were 5 motorists charged with speeding, 1 charged with no MOT, one fail to stop at a collision and 1 concern for person. No anti-social behaviour reported. Regular speed checks are to continue when circumstances permit.

6. Action Plan

An action plan (see annexe to minutes) has been created from public comments at our open morning in October 2018 and prioritised by Councillors at an informal meeting on 21st January 2019. Many of the points raised by the public are now large cost items such as the creation of new paths or improvement of existing paths. We are currently working on the 'A' list.

Improve the path past the Mackenzie burial ground - NR contacted Phil Waite after the last meeting and he confirmed that the path to Preas Mairi is not a core path but a right of way and is owned by the nearby farm. Iain Macdonald is to speak to Libby at the farm regarding

permission to fix the wee plank bridge and will put a quote in for the work. LG suggested a sign post at the horse field end. Phil Baarda is struggling to get permission to tidy up Preas Mairi. LG suggested he try the New York Villa Trust and to contact George Tait in Strathpeffer, Secretary of the Trust. **Action NR** to pass this information to Phil.

History Project and Village Trail - a visit to the Archive Centre has been organised for Wednesday 20th March at 10.30am. All welcome. The seat by the Church is to be installed shortly (update – installed 1/3/19).

Clear paths behind church - **Action NR** to speak to the Church regarding assistance with maintenance. On the right hand side of the footbridge IC suggested putting inexpensive foam pipe insulation on any barbed wire where someone may need to put their hand.

7. Village Forum

This falls under the 'improved communications' part of the action plan. The Community Council would like to propose a Village Forum twice yearly, around the end of January and the end of August to assist with diary and event planning amongst local groups. SR reported that the Trust have an events group and are organising a meeting shortly. **Action SR** to contact them and propose to be the link between CCC and CCT. NR noted that she would like to arrange a further First Aid Training event. **Action SR** to speak to Trish at Strathpeffer Community Centre regarding holding a diary for all large local events.

Village Spring Clean – Nigel Shaw approached NR regarding free equipment for such an event if held during March and April. Thanks to Nigel. NR proposed liaising with the Trust and encouraging other groups such as the Football Club to be involved. A further meeting would be required once a date had been set to organise and deal with matters such as safety i.e. parents being responsible for their children, areas to be covered etc. IC thought that Highland Council would send a skip. **Action SR** to liaise with CCT for a date.

8. Absent Councillors Policy

SF had asked for this to be raised. Point 11.2 of the Highland Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils states:

'If any Community Councillor fails throughout a period of six consecutive months to attend a meeting, he or she will, unless the failure is due to some reason approved by the Community Council, cease to be a member of the Community Council.'

NR noted that this would mean three consecutive meetings.

9. Strathpuffer

NR noted thanks to the Police for putting cones out along the A835 between the forest and the village. This dramatically improved pedestrian safety this year. A micro-grant allowed the CCT to purchase cones for use at such events.

10. Contin Community Trust Update

NR read out an update from Ross Maxwell of the CCT. Planning permission is pending; access to the site seems to be the hold up. The building warrant can't be applied for until

permission is received. The architect is preparing the tender documents. The Trust are investigating building a website so that documents and other information can be placed there.

11. Correspondence

NR noted that the Garve minutes informed that Eneco, who own the Loochluichart Wind Farm, may be sold. This may impact locally.

There is one planning application in for a house at Craigdarroch.

LD explained that a Police Scotland electronic survey had arrived just before the meeting. **Action LD** to forward to all to consider responding.

There has been a change to the way that our public liability insurance is to be paid. We are now to pay it directly. **Action SR.**

12. Comments from Members of the Public

N/A

13. AOCB

An application has been submitted to the Bord na Gaidhlig called Gaelic in the Contin Landscape as part of the History Project. It was submitted under the Community Council as a registered group. This will deliver a one day workshop, open to all, about Gaelic place names in the area and a booklet of the linguistic heritage of the area. NR explained that there are now several projects using the CC as their registered group and, should the CCC not re-form after the elections, this money may be frozen.

The EDF-ER Corriemoillie Education and Training Fund is now open for applications with a deadline of 11 March 2019. This is the deadline for applications in time for the next academic year. NR outlined the sorts of applications that had been previously approved e.g. funding for courses, laptops, tools and equipment for apprenticeships.

PC asked IC whether HC were handing out ice grips for shoes. IC said no but that maybe an old box had been found in a store and handed out to another CC.

14. Next Meeting Date

23 April 2019 at 7.30pm.

15. Proposed future dates

11 June 2019 – AGM and ordinary meeting