

## Contin Community Council Meeting

7.30pm, Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2020, by Video Conference

**Present:** Norma Ross (NR), Selina Rennie (SR), Lisa Daines (LD), Phil Baarda (PB), Cllr Ian Cockburn (IC).

**Apologies:** Laurence Gunner, Frances Welton, Gerry Lowe.

No members of the public joined the meeting.

### Minutes

#### 1. Welcome and Apologies

NR welcomed everyone to this meeting held by video conference.

#### 2. Expressions of Interest

None reported.

#### 3. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

There were no matters arising. PB proposed the previous meeting minutes and NR seconded.

#### 4. Treasurer's Report

SR reported that the year end accounts have been signed off by the Accountant, there was one small amendment. **Action SR** to send a copy to all Councillors. The latest bank statement shows £16,779.54. There remains £395 in the History Project pot. PB thought that £160 is still to come out for printing. There is still some money in the Bord na Gàidhlig pot. **Action SR** to send a breakdown to PB. A launch for the Gaelic in the Landscape is planned when it is safe to do so.

SR noted that she had made a start on looking into online banking and will continue to do so, agreeing that it will save time.

#### 5. Community Police Report

PC Peter Hollins reported that between 14 June and 26 August there have been 15 motorists charged with speeding offences and 5 motorists charged with other

offences including using a motorbike on Forestry Commission land in the CCT area. There have also been two reports of vandalism.

Councillors have perceived an increase in speeding through the village and it was **agreed** that further action should be taken via our action plan.

## 6. Transport Feasibility Study

Councillors had a long discussion about the transport feasibility study report received, with thanks to Derek Halden, on 20 August 2020. The report suggested two main routes forward in the first instance. Firstly, a scheduled community bus service to provide between 2 and 3 buses per day to cover the main times that the Stagecoach bus misses. Secondly, demand-responsive transport such as community car/taxi/minibus which can provide greater flexibility across the spatially-scattered population. This would be bookable by phone, website or app.

The main points of discussion were:

- i. The challenging timing for starting a community bus service due to COVID-19.
- ii. The shift in the community having to run its own transport service rather than having an external body (i.e. Stagecoach) providing it.
- iii. Funding of the bus service – would sufficient people pledge a monthly sum, in return for bus tickets, to make the bus service viable?
- iv. Related to iii), as not all in the community currently use, nor need to use, a bus service, would people contributing to a wider ‘community-benefits’ fund be more viable and inclusive (which would back bus tickets or money off at the various local businesses)?

It was **agreed** that we should move forward slowly and mindfully, taking time to digest the report and talk to stakeholders, even using the RVA car scheme (if operational) to plug gaps until the spring when the new hall is open and, hopefully, the pandemic has abated somewhat. This would enable us to run some public meetings.

Councillors **agreed** that the report should be sent to Garve and Strathpeffer Community Councils and then released to the whole community.

## 7. Plan of Action

To be put on the next agenda.

## 8. H&I Voices on Twitter

LD explained that she had been in discussion with PB and Sherry Morris about taking over the H&I Voices Twitter feed for one week. This is a place on Twitter widely followed locally where people talk about their experience of living and working in H&I. Contin Community Council has a lot of exciting projects ongoing and coming up which would be interesting to talk about on Twitter. It would take a lot of work and a good plan. Councillors **agreed** that this is worth doing at the appropriate moment.

## 9. Correspondence

NR reported that all correspondence had been forwarded to Councillors.

## 10. Comments from Members of the Public

N/A

## 11. AOCB

It was **agreed** that SR should set up a Zoom Pro account using the COVID-19 funding. This could also be used as a community service. **Action SR.**

LD suggested a community fridge could be a longer term idea to take pressure off the foodbank staff. These have been successfully installed in Muir of Ord and Dingwall. It is a fridge in a shed with a lock which is open from 8am to 8pm into which spare food is placed and can be used by anyone in the community, preventing wastage.

PB suggested placing community resources such as PCs in the new hall. It was **agreed** that the CCT are extremely focused on getting the building finished at the moment and this was a good idea to raise at a later stage.

## 12. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2020, 7.30pm by video conference.