**Dornie & District Community Council**

**minutes 27/9/21 7pm via zoom**

**Present**: Alison MacRae (Vice Chair) , Donald MacRae, Janice Nixon, Alison Jack (Secretary), Biz Campbell (Highland Councillor), Saara Viitanen (Wester Ross Biosphere), Roz Birch (Countryside Access Ranger), Mack Mackenzie & Andrew Bone (Roads , Highland Council), Karen MacRae (member of the public)

**Apologies**: Fay Mackenzie (Chair), Isabelle Mackenzie (Treasurer)

* Previous minutes from 30th August 2021 were approved with amendment that the “ Think Health, Think Nature walks meet on the first and third Mondays each month, at the top car park in the Plock, the community park area in Kyle ”.
* Treasurers Report to follow
* Roads update. MM said that the remaining jobs on the Bundaloch road were to be completed - this was due to a lack of manpower but will happen. He stressed caution that when the path is completed it should not be used as a road again. The flooding at Dornie Lodges will be sorted on a warm/dry spell of weather. BC asked about the Sallachy/Killilan road as a member of the public had complained to her. MM said he was still waiting on a hot box from HC but he had hired one meantime. JN reported that there were two new flooding areas at Bunda/Lochside **- ACTION MM&AB** to look at it 28/9/21. JN asked about the wall at Lagg, MM said that it was checked every month and that MM had asked DN Munro to do the work – **ACTION MM & AB** to check the wall again 28/9/21. JN asked if the road would be sprayed & tarred. MM said that surface dressing would be done as part of planned program and only only on the parts that have been done. MM said that AB was now in caretaking role as Roads Manager until the position is filled as he is moving on to be the Business Ward Manager (ward 2 & 3). The CC thanked Mack for his help and assistance and wished him well in his new post. MM and AB left the meeting at 1935hrs.
* Wester Ross Biosphere. SV introduced herself to the CC and that her remit covers from Applecross to Glenelg including Dornie and Lochalsh. The Wester Ross partnership are looking for community representatives for tourism solutions and projects. Last year the destination management plan was to improve Wester Ross as a destination. SV asked the CC of the main issues affecting our area. AM said that the Dornie Hall toilets were under significant pressure. AJ said that Eilean Donan castle visitors had an impact on the community (toileting and parking). RB suggested a meeting with her colleague Gregor and SV**. ACTION RB & SV.** KM said the map of disposal points the KLCT had was not comprehensive. **ACTION** **KM** to send current map of disposal points to SV. RB said that she gives up to date maps of disposal points to tourists. SV said that could provide an electronic version to share on social media. Lastly SV that all were welcome to join the next Tourism Partnership meeting.
* Countryside Access Ranger update. RB reported that her updates are sent to HC and that the CC could access these from Dot Ferguson; toileting along all of A87 was a significant issue particularly from Glengarry to Lochcarron; there were now many more signposting to toileting sites than previously but that she recognised there were very few from Invergarry to Kyle; most motorhome owners were happy to listen to Outdoor Access Advice; RB will share concerns of the CC in her report to HC; BC asked about the issue in tourists parking in cemetery car parks, RB replied that these required parking enforcement and that official signage was needed first.
* Sepa reply: AJ reported that Margaret Conaghan (Environment Protection Officer) had replied “ I have been in touch with Scottish water and have the following response:

If there are any identified issues with SW assets you should call in to the Customer Contact Centre 0800 0778 778. That way they will have a record of complaints and they can create a job for someone to attend.

Apparently about 20 years ago there was talk about a village sewerage scheme but it never made the investment programme at the time as it was in competition with other projects in Tayside and Grampian for first time sewage provision. My contact has said that to the best of his knowledge there is no plan to resurrect this proposal.” General discussion followed, ALL AGREED that members of the public should report complaints directly to Scottish Water as above.

* Kate Forbes (MSP). Re Community Buy Out. Following the last meeting BC had found out at Bombadil Publishing is still owned Graham House and the CC should email Kate Forbes MSP that the Community of Dornie was interested in a community buy out. AJ reported that she had received an email back from Ms Forbes office detailing types of applications to register an interest under Community Right to Buy and that the community must form a compliant community body. Her office had also contacted Highlands and Islands Enterprise who may be able to advise on some of the specifics of our case. AJ that John Macdonald (HIE Development Manager/Scottish Land Fund Adviser/Community Assets Team) had emailed the CC offering his assistance. General discussion followed. AM said that Dornie Stores were closing at the end of the year. KM suggested there should be a feasibility study of acquisition of Graham House or Dornie Stores building. AJ said that FM had proposed a questionnaire for the CC area. BC suggested we contact the Dornie Projects Group in the first instance as they are legally constituted . **ACTION AJ** to write to DPJ to ask if they are willing to take on the Community Buy Out.
* Dornie Hall Toilets: FM asked(ahead of the meeting) if representatives for Dornie CC wanted to be invited to a meeting with highland council and hall committee to discuss the plans regarding Dornie hall toilets. General discussion followed for the benefit of SV. RB suggested she attend the meeting (and report back to CC) as her duties as Countryside Access Ranger overlap some of the pressures discussed. **ACTION RB.**
* Aird Ferry: AJ reported there had been no reply from Kate Earnshaw re last email sent 6th September 2021
* Auchtertyre Nursery had emailed the CC (9th Sept 2021) seeking financial help to replace the childrens’ outdoor clothing. BC said that there would be a grant available from Highland Council. RB said asked if there was any known fundraising on social media or in the community (no-one in CC aware of any) **ACTION AJ** to write to Dot Ferguson (Ward Manager) to ask which grant may be applicable and to forward Auchtertyre nursery email address to RB who has offered help with fundraising.
* AOCB. No other current business.
* Date of next meeting: Monday 25th October 2021 at 7pm via zoom

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