

## DORES & ESSICH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2011 in Dores Parish Hall 7.30pm

**1. Members Present:** Ella MacRae (Chair)(EMacR)  
John Martin (Vice Chair) (JM)  
Steve Feltham (SF)  
Roslyn MacKay (RMackK)  
Angus MacLaren (AMaCL)  
Annette Munro (AM)

**In Attendance:** Sarah Hartley (SH)  
Clare Cuthbertson (Minute Secretary)

**2. Apologies:** Ruairidh MacLennan; John Hedger; Duncan Manson  
Cllr Margaret Davidson; Cllr Hamish Wood; Cllr Fraser Parr;  
Cllr Drew Hendry; Cllr Norrie Donald  
Colin Ross (Highland Council); Ronnie Macrae (SCHT)

**3. Adoption of Previous Minute:**  
Proposed: Angus MacLaren      Seconded: Annette Munro

**4. Matters Arising from Previous Minute/AGM minute:**

Scottish Water – ongoing

Affordable Homes Site (Housing Needs Survey) – Ronnie MacRae unable to attend. Iain Cameron requesting a commitment to project by SCHT with a financial contribution to Feasibility Survey. Needs another £2000 to complete survey. IC funded project to date. Committee agreed to approach Cllr Margaret Davidson (as housing convener of Housing for Highlands) in first instance and Dores Community Trust as second option.

**Action: EMacR**

Aldourie Castle - Access - ongoing

**Action: RMaCL**

Ness Castle Lodges entrance – see under Planning

Litter at Midtown – ongoing. Check-may be resolved

**Action: AMaCL**

Cycle signs – ongoing. Cllr Hamish Wood to update

Roads - Colin Ross unable to attend – will attend next meeting. CR supplied new layouts

-committee would like to see larger, more detailed plans including those for proposed chicanes and three village entrances.

**Action: EMacR**

Speeding – ongoing. Request feedback from Cllr Margaret Davidson

**Action: EMacR**

Constitution – complete. Code of Conduct important and must be read by all Committee.

Fish Farm – ongoing. Concern expressed over extension of farm plus addition of orange buoys contrary to previous agreement.

**Action: EMacR**

Gavin Finlay (GF) joined meeting

Water, Sewage, Roads - ongoing re sewer problems and excessive charges? **Action: Cllr MD**

Planning – Ness Castle – offering one way system, but bin lorries still enter via main gate so will either back out onto road or travel round against flow of traffic. New entrance would need to be 15m set back from road – not feasible. Further clarification required

**Action: JM**

RockNess – JM attended Council debrief. 3 items raised:-a)noise b)B&B residents had to walk to Aldourie School to gain entrance to site c)Foyers Stores complained of lack of business due to sign at Fort Augustus stating road was closed. Latter achieved redress by being offered a supply contract for future events in preference to compensation.

Note made that skip of rubbish was still on Castle land – but has now been removed.

Dores Inn – SF declared an interest and will not take part in discussions or decision making. Minute of specific meeting with Dores Inn to go onto website. Council to remain open minded and to represent views of community. JM raised item of loss of sports field and established that Applicant has a legal Obligation to find a replacement area. Obligation will then apply to new area. The outer alignment of plan should not include the beach – i.e. beach front not to be owned by Dores Inn to prevent future access difficulties.

Knocknagael – Answers received so far not acceptable. Further clarification needed **Action: JM**

Millcroft Flooding – follow up

**Action: EMacR**

Monster Swim - complete

Beach –Charles Stephen (Ward Manager), Cllr Margaret Davidson, EMacR, SF and possibly SH to meet and discuss swimming/jet skis/speedboats etc

## 5. Treasurer's Report

Iain Cameron has resigned. A letter of thanks to go to Iain with thanks for all his work over the past few years. Iain will continue to do accounts until after election – in meantime EMacR and RMacL are signatories. New treasurer to be elected from new members of community council. Current report distributed to members present. No significant movements.

## 6. Correspondence

- Alan Findlay querying - grey paint on speed signs into village – has since been cleaned off.
  - noticeboard too high – this will be moved into cycle shelter
- NHS Evaluation of Health Check Paper
- Community Councillor Magazine
- Highland Council Floodrisk Assessment

## 7. LEADER

Torr Gardens Play Area – EMacR and SH to meet Ian Reid (Highland Council) on site. Ian Reid has submitted suggested equipment for site – all residents of Torr Gardens to be invited to comment on plans available at Hall 6-7pm each night 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> October.

Benches – are on order. One to replace at triangle, one in front of Torr Gardens and one in 'new' play area. Ordered through Council and to be fitted by supplier.

Signs – 2 of 3 stonemasons supplied quotes for entrance and shoreline photo-opportunity sign. Community to prepare sites. SH will prepare brief of where and what is required in way of clearing and concrete bases. More information on 'Beach Rules' sign after beach meeting. Interpretative Board – in discussions with SF and Helen Stirling (designer)

## 8. Water Sewage and Roads

Millcroft - concern about speeding both up and down to Loch Ness View by contractors. Residents recommended to speak to contractors in first instance.

## 9. Planning

New house (no 7) at Millcroft is an adaptation of original application.

## 10. AOCB

- Loch Ness Marathon - Concerns that map showing road priorities/closure was difficult to understand. Race started late but road was re-opened at original planned time – very difficult driving between runners Traffic uphill out of village was too fast and dangerous. Tourist bus arrived in village mid race. Was signage adequate? Letter to Organisers **Action: R MacL**
- Postal problems has caused one member's application not to be received in time. Dores had 10 nominations for 8 places so a vote will be needed. Possibly have Associate Members - this role to be clarified.

Meeting closed at 9.45pm

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**Council dissolves on 15<sup>th</sup> November**  
**First meeting of new Council Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2011 at 7.30pm in Dores Parish Hall**