

## DORES & ESSICH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2011 in Dores Parish Hall 7.30pm

**1.Members Present:** Ella MacRae , Chair (EMacR)  
 Gavin Finlay, Vice Chair (GF)  
 Ruairidh MacLennan Secretary, (RMacL)  
 John Hedger, Treasurer (JH)  
 Steve Feltham (SF)  
 Roslyn MacKay (RMack)  
 Duncan Manson (DM)  
 Graham Scott (GS)

**In Attendance:** Cllr Drew Hendry  
 Clare Cuthbertson (Minute Secretary)  
 Three members of public

**2. Apologies:** Cllr John Finnie, Cllr Margaret Davidson, Cllr Helen Carmichael,  
 Cllr Hamish Wood

### **3. Matters Arising from Previous Minute/AGM minute:**

Scottish Water – ongoing. Full review and update at next meeting **Action:EMacR**

Affordable Homes Site (Housing Needs Survey) – project needs an additional feasibility study -engineers report etc. Iain Cameron will pay the bulk of this but is looking for local commitment to project. Community Council agreed to fund £500 and will request £1500 from the Dores Community Development Trust. Some concern about spending on a feasibility study with no result. Cllr DH offered to assist in obtaining a binding contract on any monies spent. If Development Trust do not agree to funding other sources might include the Ward Discretionary Budget. However local community support is needed this project.

Aldourie Castle - Access - ongoing. Full update at next meeting **Action: RMacL**

Litter at Midtown – Check if resolved. Raises wider point that some issue raised with Community Council are more personal than community issues and should be referred to appropriate Highland Council department

Cycle signs – ongoing. Cllr Hamish Wood to update

Roads – Cllr DH will send copy of detailed proposed plans for chicanes and three village entrances. To be put on display in Hall. Also request a visit from Colin Ross. **Action: EMacR**

Speeding – ongoing. Request feedback from Cllr Margaret Davidson **Action: EMacR**

Constitution – Hard copies of Constitution and Code of Conduct to be given to each committee member. **Action : RMacL**

Fish Farm – John Macleod intimated that they will be installing a new staff car park so that cars will no longer be on/near main road. To be west of farm and will not be visible from road.

Cages - letter from John Macleod justifying new positions of cages unclear. Council to write to Planning Department stating we are unhappy with current position of cages and seek clarification of planning ruling with Nicola Drummond (Planning Department). **Action: RMacL**

Water, Sewage, Roads - ongoing (sewer problems & high charges) **Action: RMacL/Cllr MD**

Ness Castle Planning – Further clarification & update for next meeting required **Action: EMacR**

RockNess – Awaiting debrief meeting in village. Possibility that Olympic Torch will come to Dores – write to suggest local carry torch to RockNess stage **Action: SF**

Dores Inn – New plans not yet submitted to Highland Council

Knocknagael –. Further clarification and update at next meeting **Action: EMacR**

Millcroft Flooding – follow up **Action: EMacR**

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

Leader - After consultation with Torr Gardens residents about new play equipment there has been further correspondence from some residents who still wish to retain old swings. Community Council felt that project had got to the stage where we had to continue with plans – Highland Council will be asked to donate old swings to residents to upgrade as they see fit. Benches and signs are on order

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**

#### **4. Treasurer's Report - None**

**5. Correspondence** - John Martin congratulated members voted in and will be happy to continue to assist in any way required. Turnout at 60% was very good. Bus shelter at Castle Street to be reinstated before Christmas.

Council to write to John Martin and Annette Munro to thank them for their contributions and to welcome their continued input to proceedings. Letter of thanks to go to Iain Cameron, and also to Ruth Porteous, Angus MacLaren and Anna Williams.

Also : NHS Highland newsletter - Planning permission for Tysers at Torbreck - Homecoming Parade of Highlanders 02.12.11 - Inverness & Nairn Biodiversity Event - Community Councillor newsletter

#### **6. Constitution and Code of Conduct**

In order to assist speedier meetings Chair requested that all matters (wherever possible) be notified ten days before meeting so that they can go on the agenda. This will also enable our Councillors to bring appropriate information.

**7. LEADER** - Community Council meeting with Sarah Hartley on 15<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm

#### **8. Water, Sewage, Roads**

Aldourie Brae - edges are still not repaired. Highland Council awaiting funds from Rockness. If these are not forthcoming by next year community to request Highland Council repair before problem worsens (reclaim costs at a later date). General - outlets need to be cleared of leaves  
Dores Inn pavement – needs urgent attention

Dores Parish Hall road – drain at bottom needs to be cleared

Essich Road – new laybys now added – residents very happy with result

Balaggan corkscrew road - needs attention. Ask Highland Council where in maintenance plan this features (if at all) **Action: Cllr DH** will take these points to Roads Department

**9. Planning** - New windows in Manse

#### **10. AOCB**

Please pass any new email addresses to secretary

Request from public for more notification of meetings and minutes. A full community email circulation was deemed unnecessary and difficult to maintain, there would always be errors and omissions. All community council information is on website. Meeting dates will also be available on noticeboards at bus stop, Inn, school, post office.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm

**Next meeting Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2012 at 7.30pm in Dores Parish Hall**