

DORES & ESSICH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on 27th February 2012 in Dores Parish Hall 7.30pm

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

In Attendance: Cllr Drew Hendry
 Cllr Hamish Wood
 Sarah Hartley (LEADER Development Officer)
 Clare Cuthbertson (Minute Secretary)
 11 members of the public

2. Apologies: Graham Scott (GS)
 Cllr John Finnie, Cllr Helen Carmichael, Cllr Margaret Davidson
 John Martin, Heidi & Tim Seaton

3. Adoption of Previous Minute:

Amendment : Item 10....Donella Ross requested a list of Community Council dates **on behalf of the Youth Club.**

Proposed: Steve Feltham Seconded: Ruairidh MacLennan with above amendment

4. Matters Arising from Previous Minute/AGM minute:

Affordable Homes Site (Housing Needs Survey) – Dores Trust gave £1500 and Community Council gave £500 to enable feasibility study to be completed. RMacRae (SCHT) will attend a meeting once this study is completed.

Aldourie Castle - Access - ongoing

Action: RMacL

Cycle signs – ongoing. EMacR to liaise with Cllr HW

Action: EMacR

Speeding – ongoing

Action: EMacR

Fish Farm – ongoing

Action: RMacL

Ness Castle Planning – Concerns being considered by roads department.

Action: EMacR

Dores Inn – ongoing No plans submitted to date

Knocknagael – Now resolved. Local residents happy with new road etc.

Beach –Ward Manager to arrange meeting re public use of beach/bay.

Action: EMacR

Beach currently filthy – SF to speak to beach cleaner (who has been away)

5. Treasurer's Report

RockNess funds - expecting approx £17,000 from ticket sales.

LEADER funds - expecting £1704 back; have £11724 to claim and £674 due from Highland Council (contribution towards fencing). Next loan from Dores Trust to meet LEADER bills will be for £60,000 (for play equipment, benches etc)

Invoice from Hall Committee for meetings £280

Proposed: Duncan Manson Seconded: Ruairidh MacLennan

6. Correspondence

HC - Community Council training on 27th March; Connecting Users & Carers Event- details to be passed to Jesse Jappy for Over 60s group; Guide Dogs for Blind Book Appeal - details to be posted on website; Great Glen Business Workshop for service providers 29th Feb - details to be posted on website; NHS Highland briefing notes; HC - Doortsep Crime information; HC- Managing Floodrisk.

7. LEADER report by SH

Stonework started on entrance signs - will be made using rounded field stones. Draft of script (Welcome to Dores) on slate inset will be supplied – colour/style will require to be finalised before next meeting.

Shoreline sign – on left of slipway. Will be built on metal frame. Suggest asking school/nursery if they would like to add a time capsule to be placed inside sign. Same designer as DLN sign.

Need to now clarify content - some photos still need copyright established. Content to be complete by end March and mount it soon after.

Play equipment, seating and bins now complete

Bus shelter – obtaining quote to tidy up and bring all elements together – possibly add planter.

Use of Beach ‘rules’ sign – aim to keep positive. Liaise with Dores Inn.

Logos on signs – use Dores Community Development Trust wording in full with RockNess as well?

8. Water, Sewage, Roads

Roads – Plans for development at triangle in village. Community Council have been looking at plans to traffic calm for whole village. Plans for triangle are part of this broader picture along with some form of system at each end of village to encourage traffic to slow down. Idea was also to refurbish signs at triangle. Community Council have been hoping for larger scale plans to present to community before now but time has gone on and we have now been presented with plans as recently distributed to houses immediately affected by any development at triangle. Roads Department now keen to progress development with funds available this financial year.

Public concerns about plans put forward:

*Speed of traffic (and bikes) coming down hill into village, especially in mornings and suddenly coming across -

*Long wood/fish/gritting lorries negotiating, with difficulty, the proposed new junction (corner will cause them to cross over other side of road during turn) and

*Noise of revving engines at junction (there are many in early mornings)

*Lights of vehicles shining into bungalows (again a problem in early mornings)

* Signage is proposed on play area side of road creating an eyesore and obstructing sightline from bungalows to loch.

*Proposal is creating an ‘accident waiting to happen’

*Cycle lane unclear

Cllr DH will take above concerns of meeting back to Roads Department and request an urgent public meeting so that HC can hear these concerns (Thursday 8th March proposed)

Other options discussed – speed bumps – raised tables – 20mph – road ‘pinching’

EMacR stressed that if HC have funds for triangle we could request these funds to be diverted to work on traffic calming at either end of village instead while informed decisions are made re triangle. Council only need to **commit** (not spend) budget by 31st March. However any decision needs to be made soon while funding is available. Recognition of tight timescale.

Water & Sewerage – problems still ongoing. Cllr DH will assist RMacL in getting this addressed. To arrange a site meeting with GF, A Findlay, RMacL

9. Planning

Torbreck –still to consider John Martin’s plan for house with possible inclusion of new road. Council noted that new on line system is still not proving very efficient and to request HC for speedier information.

11. AOCB

DCDT – funding a Community First Aid Course on 9th April

Litter Pick up – Sunday 25th March. SLNTG will do along road from Whitebridge – Inverfarigaig - Dores as usual; JH will liaise with GF to get together a local group to litter collect in Dores. All volunteers welcome –please contact GF. Details will be on website

Dores Inn will supply soup & sandwiches. HC will remove rubbish

Newsletter – SF praised efforts of Lochardil newsletter and will produce on for Dores

RockNess – still awaiting debrief date. 2012 event will be smaller in area size (but hopefully not in numbers). VIP camping and Bestival areas will be village side of trees but Big Top will be smaller and further from village. VIP train express coming to Inverness on Thursday and they will be taken by bus to site, will not be in village.

Noticeboard – needs more regular updating to remove out of date items. Request to alter background from glaring blue to for subdued colour (brown/green) more in keeping with surroundings.

Wave Energy – testing platform will be returning to the loch in April/May

Bus Service – Ward Forum about new local bus service at Brockies Lodge, Kiltarlity on Thursday 1st March

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

Next meeting Monday 16th April 2012 at 7.30pm in Dores Parish Hall