

DORES & ESSICH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on 21st October 2013 in Dores Parish Hall 7.30pm

- 1. Members Present:** Ella MacRae, Chair (EMacR) Gavin Finlay, Vice-Chair (GF)
Steve Feltham, Interim Secretary (SF) Duncan Manson (DM)
- In Attendance:** Cllr Drew Hendry (Cllr DH), Cllr Margaret Davidson (Cllr MD)
Clare Cuthbertson (minutes), Sarah Hartley (LEADER),
Susan Hunter (Highland Small Communities Housing Trust, HSCHT),
Lisa Marchi & Andy McLaren (SSE), Sgt Andrew Blakley
- 1 member of the public
- 2. Apologies:** John Hedger, Treasurer (JH)

Report from Susan Hunter of HSCHT

Scottish Water Report commissioned was 'inconclusive' over the number of houses the ground being considered could support. As financial contributors to it both the Community Council and the Dores Community Development Trust are requesting a copy of this report.

Scottish Water now state that a further Water Impact Assessment costing approx £12,000 would be required to get the answers required. Also unclear about current water infrastructure - Community stated that with a new system only installed 5 years ago Scottish Water **should** be able to state how many more houses current system could support. Deep concerns in the community over this.

Action: Cllrs MD and DH and DM

Housing project also affected by downturn in financial support for mortgages although new schemes are being considered re rent-to-buy etc.

Need to look again at Inner Moray Firth Development Plan with possibility of extending area under consideration. See www.highland.gov.uk/imfldp and note that comments are required by Friday 13th December.

Susan Hunter left meeting
Drew Hendry left meeting

Report from SSE re Beaully to Tomatin Overhead Line Plans

A presentation of proposals to replace Beaully to Tomatin Overhead Line. SSE are looking ahead and planning to cope with likely new wind farms. Construction would start in 2016 – would involve a new substation at Tomatin and this will be discussed there on Oct 29th. Concerns over visual impact of the 275kw station and, here in Dores especially, concerns over effect on traffic management. More details required over plans for route for construction works traffic. Community would like a 'drop in' - information session here perhaps at end of November?

3. Adoption of Previous Minute (19th August 2013):

Proposed: Steve Feltham Seconded: Duncan Manson
And notes from 2nd September also read through for reference

4. Matters Arising from Previous Minute:

Fish Farm – Enforcement notice has been sent as cages are not within planning consent. John Mcleod will move cages north in spring. Requires more follow up with Nicola Drummond.

Winter Resilience - follow up with application?

Action: R MacK

Church of Scotland – Ongoing

Action: EMacR

Roads and Signs – Richard Evans will come to meeting. Old signs will be taken down, cleaned and duplicates removed where applicable. Toilet sign will be replaced with smaller version.

Traffic calming being considered but there is no budget for this at present.

Monster Swim – liaised with Dores Inn in the past – SH to make contact for future events

Rockness – Band on the Thursday night at Dores Inn was Ok but perhaps a little loud.

Comments to be forwarded to Dores Inn

Action : GF

Throw in buoys - Possibility of obtaining these.

Action: SF

Safety Signs – should be being replaced this week.

LEADER – ongoing problems with claiming ‘in kind’ portion.

Will liaise with Ian Reid (HC) over repainting play equipment in existing playpark

Action: SH

Secretary - Feedback to those contacted about secretarial position

Action: SH

Bus shelter – cleared by 2nd November (Village Bonfire)

For Sale Sign at north end of village – should be on their land only

Aldourie Castle – ongoing

IRA New School Buildings – suggest floodlit pitches be positioned further away from houses.

Grass & verge cutting – some now done, but school route still to do

Telescope – unclear if it is working. Liaise with GF as a college project to fix it

Action: GF

Bonar 20mph – Sgt Blakeley will go and discuss options with residents

5. Correspondence

- Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan. See above

- letter from Ross Nixon who has organised a cross country race on 18th January around Rock Ness field / Aldourie Castle. Landowners informed. Village hall booked. Parking agreed at church and hall.

- Police Scotland with update on proposed alteration to counterservice provision and also about a traffic warden review. Proposed cutback of wardens in Inverness a cause for concern and Community Council to write.

Action: SH

- Highland Road Safety Seminar on Friday 22nd November

- Careers Network Bulletin

- Sight Action at Merkinch Community Centre on 30th October

- Crown Estate Bulletin

- Staying Special Conference re Scottish Heritage

- Inverness Areas Community Council Forum Tuesday 19th November 6.30pm

- Offer from Drew Hendry to have separate meeting with Community Council as he cannot always get to scheduled meetings.

6. Treasurer’s Report - None

7. Water, Sewage, Roads

No response from caravan park.

Note that potholes on road to Foyers are very bad.

8. Planning

As above –please look at Inner Moray Forth Development Plan for full discussion at next meeting on 2nd December. See www.highland.gov.uk/imfldp

11. AOCB

- Village fireworks and bonfire at 7pm on Saturday 2nd November

- Sgt Andrew Blakeley informed council that there had been approx 7 fires of concern in the area between end of August and beginning of September. A reminder that fixed penalty tickets are now £100 and a reminder that there are only two members of staff at Fort Augustus.

Meeting closed at 9.40pm

Next meeting - Monday 2nd December at 7.30pm in Dores Parish Hall