

## DORES & ESSICH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2014 in Dores Parish Hall 7.30pm

- 1. Members Present:** Ella MacRae, Chair (EMacR); Sarah Hartley (SH); John Hedger (JH)  
**MEETING is NON-QUORATE so will need to be ratified at next full meeting**

**In Attendance:** Clare Cuthbertson, Minute Secretary; 7 public members plus 9 guests

#### **2. Presentations**

##### **2.1. Trucknessie – by Jackie McIntosh, Manager MS Therapy Centre.**

Family event on Sat 28<sup>th</sup> June on RockNess field 10am – 10.30pm.

Organised by Inverness MS Centre to raise funds. Second year (at Bogbain Farm in 2013).

Lots of trucks – vintage and classic; funfair; food stalls; crafts; live music (3 -10.30pm).

£5 entry, free for under 16s.

Have organised traffic management; dedicated parking area; 1<sup>st</sup> aid; litter; police liaison.

NO camping - truck owners will stay with their cabs.

Site cleared on Sat night except some trucks which will stay till Monday am.

*Jackie McIntosh plus 2 colleagues left meeting*

##### **2.2. Etape Loch Ness – by Malcolm Sutherland, Caledonian Concepts Ltd.**

A first time event held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2014. Malcolm spoke of many comments thanking local communities who gave excellent roadside support. Introduced many participants to the area.

Fantastically scenic and enjoyed the 'closed road' scheme. Recognised this may have caused some local problems and hope to tighten up on length or road closures for 2015 event.

There were 1080 participants and event raised approx £50K for MacMillan Cancer Support and a further £20K for other charities. Local charities such as Dores Senior Citizens also benefitted.

Some local concern that road closures started earlier than advertised and cones placed made driving to Inverness along B862 very difficult. These points to be addressed for 2015

*Malcolm Sutherland plus 1 colleague left meeting*

##### **2.3. Community Turbines – by Carolyn Bell, Community Liasion of Greener Leith.**

A community led renewable energy project organised by Greener Leith and PEDAL – two

Edinburgh based charities - in conjunction with Scene Consulting.

Proposal is to build two 80m (max) tall turbines on land SW of Daviot.

Planning phase complete by summer 2014. Monitoring with a 'met mast' currently taking place (checking wind strength and effect on wildlife etc) with construction planned for summer 2015.

The land borders with Dores and Essich Community Council and so Community Turbines is offering the community part-ownership of the project with the potential of financial benefit from this investment.

Agreed to pass information to full Dores Development Trust for more detailed consideration.

*Carolyn Bell plus 2 colleagues left meeting*

##### **2.4. Beast Race – by Paul Corrigan, Fundraising Manager, Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland**

A charity 10km obstacle race event on Sat 6<sup>th</sup> September on Aldourie Estate. Organised by FireTrail Events with a sister event at Banchory of Sat 27<sup>th</sup> September. 2013 event in Banchory had 700 participants and raised approx £10K. Open to 'athletes' and 'fun runners' alike. Phased departures. Fully marshalled, signed and licensed (litter, parking plans, risk assessments etc) with designated spectator areas.

Week to erect obstacles - these will be monitored and removed completely at end of event with natural terrain restored (and expect to be fully recovered in 6 months).

Concern about closure of woods and beach to locals, access for dog walkers and permission not yet sought from Clune Farms. To be addressed by Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland.

*Paul Corrigan left meeting*

**3. Apologies:** Gavin Finlay, Duncan Manson, Roslyn Mackay, Steve Feltham, Graeme Scott

**4. Adoption of Previous Minute (14<sup>th</sup> April 2014):**

Minutes approved Proposed: Ella MacRae Seconded: John Hedger

**5. Matters Arising from Previous Minute:**

Fish Farm – ongoing

Church of Scotland – Ward manager to speak to Church Clerk

Throw in buoys – with donation from Loch Ness Rotary Club.

**Action: SF/EMacR**

Bus shelter clearance – Huge amount of work now completed. Next stage is to ensure maintained well. Bus shelter (and rail at Torr Gardens) to be painted green.

Dores Road drainage – scheduled by Highland Council for completion end June.

Japanese Knotweed – weedkilling done - will be monitored by landowners.

Signs – Good progress made with replacement signs now up. To be reviewed.

Loch Tarff Road – closure delayed due to public pressure. But still problem with logistics of upgrading one 300m stretch to twin track. To be advised of future public meetings.

Broadband – Joint meeting still aiming for better broadband coverage in area – would include Dores hopefully by 2015. Will require localised solutions for poor reception spots.

**6. Correspondence**

Highland Council Budget Consultation 2014

**7. Treasurer's Report**

Paid for internet domain and Use of Hall. Refunded Development Trust £44K, leaving £16k due.

**8. LEADER**

Has been a very complicated administrative process but should be finalised in next few weeks. Didn't use total grant awarded.

**9. Signage**

New signs are an improvement. May get school to do a temporary sign warning that ducks are crossing!

**10. Parking**

Council have received several voices of concern about illegal and dangerous parking in the village especially on 'good weather' weekends. Occasions when bus has been unable to access the village and cars parked dangerously close to (even on) junction.

Agreed to report to Police and TEC services for advice.

**Action: SH**

Possibly have more yellow lines and police enforcement.

Public are recommended to ring 101 and report anything seen as dangerous – will strengthen case for action.

Future – village needs to identify possible area for 'overflow' parking

**11. Planning & Development/ Forestry**

Felling license obtained for School Wood – was thinned 18 months ago. Above power line - will be visible on drive into village. Intention is to leave a section near school for childrens use.

**12. Water, Sewage, Roads**

Road to Foyers - potholes are getting much worse (deeper) and could result in accident as cyclists etc cannot safely leave road to allow overtaking. Consider use of white lines to mark road edge - proven as effective in lessening damage to sides of road.

Report to Roads and Housing Dept.

**Action: SH**

**13. Membership**

Graeme Scott and Roslyn MacKay have resigned from Community Council. As Committee already has one co-opted member only one more person can be co-opted to committee for this year. (as per new Highland Council rules).

Notice advertising appointment to go onto website.

**Action: JH**

**14. AOCB**

AGM – Postponed from tonight as too much business to discuss.

Re-scheduled for **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June 7.30pm**. There will be no meeting in July.

Jet Skis – many complaints about excessive noise. Sign is too small and unobtrusive.

There is no access for jet skis at Dores (slipway is privately owned)

Loch - recent yellow skim on loch was pollen not pollution

Bus shelter flowers – thanks to Graeme, Doris and Alastair for continued excellent maintenance.

Post Office – Lily King unwell –John Hedger standing in but only Mons and Thurs mornings.

Aldourie School – celebrating 140 years with events all week from 23rd June (see noticeboard) with Ceilidh on Sat 28<sup>th</sup> June– all welcome

Rockness – There has been facebook activity with a potential ‘party’ on site next weekend.

Police have been requested to keep a watch and ensure this does not happen.

Meeting closed at 10.00pm

**Next meeting****AGM on Monday 30th June 2014****7.30pm in Dores Parish Hall**