

Dores & Essich Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting

Monday 13th May 2019

Dores Parish Hall at 1945 hrs

1.Members Present: Ella MacRae (Chair), Angus MacLaren (Vice-Chair), Iain Cameron (Treasurer), Simon Pillatt (Secretary), John Martin, David Mason (Associate Member), Colin MacPherson, Duncan Manson, Anne MacLaren (Minutes Secretary) and Jeanette Murray (Associate Member)

Plus 3 members of the public and Morag Fraser, Caledonian Concepts

Apologies: Cllr Margaret Davidson, Derek MacRae, Izilda Whittingham

2.1 Affordable Housing - there was nothing to report.

2.2 Traffic Calming - Iain MacGillivray has done some work on this. However, there is still no funding. A more detailed survey including drone survey is to be done and he will get proper maps. A meeting is to be arranged for 3 or 4 weeks' time with members of the CC.

2.3 Etape - Morag Fraser from Caledonian Concepts attended meeting and stated there were some 5,650 cyclists in the event this year. £280,000 has been raised from this year's event and the main charity to benefit is MacMillan Cancer Support. A cheque for £1,000 is to be given to CC. Next year's event is on 26/4/20.

3. Minutes from last CC meeting on 18/3/19 - they were proposed by Duncan and seconded by Colin.

4. Police Report - the report included 3 people being spoken to regarding minor speeding issues, 2 reports regarding public protection matters, a report of malicious fire on hillside and a report of underage drinking.

5. Matters Arising:

5.1 Scottish Water - EM stated there was no word from Scottish Water. However, IC received an email saying there was to be a site visit with Cllr Margaret Davidson later in May.

5.2 Cemetery Extension - The Church of Scotland have agreed to sell the land and this should be sorted out before the end of the year. The land will be for the cemetery extension and affordable housing. There will be appropriate access for both.

5.3 ILI Pump Storage - to be discussed at end of Agenda

5.4 Groove Ness Festival - EM has been in touch with Caroline and has not received an acknowledgement. It was suggested an envelope be sent to Caroline addressed to IC so the cheque can be forwarded to him. The festival is not going ahead this year.

5.5 Dores and Holm Community Council Boundaries - JM hasn't spoken to Murray yet about this but hopefully will in the next few days and also the planning application to the entrance at bridge at Drumdevan.

5.6 Community Council Review 2018/2019 - EM commented that a response had to be sent to the Highland Council by 31st May. It was agreed that she and JM would get together and fill in the form. The items to be commented on are 1) Declaration of Interest 2) Boundaries at North end of DECC and 3) Funding for Community Councils.

5.7 Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan - an email was received asking for meeting in June with the CC.

5.8 Cycle Path Maintenance - CM has written a letter to HC with copy (email) to Sustrans Scotland. He had a reply from Sustrans to say the HC are responsible for the maintenance. No maintenance has been done yet but CM suggests monitoring for a month or two. He realises the Council's lack of funds. EM feels the CC should write to the Scottish Government for money to be given to the HC for the maintenance of the cycle path. CM is to copy in with SP any further correspondence. CM is to write to HC to press for some action. Gavin Finlay suggests clearing paths close to the school with a few folk. Pressure should be applied to clear the paths for children to get to school. It was agreed to write to the HC first before Gavin suggests folk do work on this.

6. Planning - A planning application for work to Aldourie Castle alternations has been made. JM has expressed concern regarding Magnus Grant's application which has been granted. He is not entirely convinced it's a safe junction as visibility is not satisfactory.

It was suggested getting in touch with the South Loch Ness Access Group to improve footpaths at the back of Clune Farm to Millcroft. A letter to be sent to Candy Cameron regarding this.

JM commented that a full planning application is to be lodged regarding the fish farm cages being moved but according to the plans they are only rough measurements. Comments on this application are to be made and a letter to be sent. The agents are AECOM.

7. Treasurer's Report - IC handed out his bank report and commented the HC grant had fallen drastically and expressed concern. The bank balance at 31st March was at £7,148.20.

8. Correspondence -

8.1 - Correspondence was received to attend a free event on Community Rights to Buy in Inverness at the Inverness College UHI on 15th October 2019 if anyone wants to go.

8.2 - Correspondence was received regarding a conference on the future for planning policy in Scotland on the morning of 9th October 2019.

8.3 - Correspondence from Rachael Hatfield who is one of two members of the Scottish Youth Parliament for Inverness and Nairn constituency. She is happy to meet with CC to discuss her role and if she can be of any help on behalf of 11 - 25 year olds living within the area.

8.4 - Correspondence from Claire, Treasurer of Dores Parish Hall, stating that the Hall has conducted a questionnaire about the use of the Hall and on the suggestions was offering bunkhouse accommodation in school holidays. Showers need to be installed to provide this type of accommodation and a grant application has been made to apply for a grant from the Calor Rural Community Fund. There has to be a demonstration of community support. It was discussed that the Dores community website requires online voting to support the grant application and Gavin Finlay, Hall Committee commented that notification be given at maybe Dores Inn too to encourage the community to vote online.

8.5 - Correspondence from Lorna, Chair of the Gala Committee, requesting a donation to support them like last year. It was agreed to give £500. It was suggested by David that the Development Trust are also considering the request.

AOCB - A complaint has been received from a resident about the tannoy noise from Jacobite Cruises on the loch. A letter is to be sent to Freda Newton about reducing the volume.

David and Colin attended the CHERES conference at Perth on 8th/9th May. This was organised by Local Energy Scotland and was attended by communities from across Scotland. It is evident that community benefit is already generating significant funds for community prospects. Colin confirmed that preparation of the Community Action Plan is on hold at the request for LES pending clarity on the planning application for Red John Pump Storage Scheme.

5.3 ILI Pump Storage - The hard copy of The Further Environmental Information that was available had not been looked at or requested. JM commented on the motion proposed and the CC concerns haven't been addressed. The Road Traffic Plan has not been finalised. It was noted 11th June is the planning committee date. It was agreed our response to the HC Planning and the ECU stands and any further comments to be agreed by the CC.

After thanking everybody for attending EM closed the meeting at 2100 hrs.

Date of next meeting 1st July 2019 at 1930 hrs