



MINUTES

Ness Community Council

Date: 12 November 2024 | **Online**

In Attendance

David Green Muriel MacLeod Cairstiona Macleod Annie MacSween

Alison MacDonald Mary Duff Donna MacIver Cllr Donald MacSween Cllr Kenneth MacLeod
Alice Murray

Apologies

Chair: David Green

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Minutes of meeting of 10th September 2024
3. Matters Arising
4. Finance Report
5. Recent correspondence
6. Community survey – actions that can be taken forward by NCC
7. Crown Estate (CERF) funding 2025 – proposed Forum meeting
8. Emergency preparedness/resilience – proposed meeting
9. Draft schedule of meetings for 2025
10. Any Other Competent Business

Point 1. Welcome/Apologies for Absence

All seven members present and Councillor Kenneth MacLeod and Alice Murray. Apologies from Councillor Donald MacSween.

Point 2 Minutes of the Meeting of the 10th September 2024

The Minutes were approved, then updated regarding action arising.

Update 1. to the Minutes: David Green stated that he had written to the relevant parties regarding local concerns regarding the Calmac Ferry service; specifically, the necessity to disembark via the car deck. The response was that Caledonian MacBrayne have placed the query in their queueing system; the Stornoway Port Authority sent a long and detailed response. The overall projection is that there is unlikely to be any progressive action for the next year.

Update 2. Community Survey Question 2 returns were collated by Muriel MacLeod, and she confirmed that all relevant parties would be contacted with the information revealed by the survey.

Point 3 Matters Arising

A request has come in for the Ness Community Council to financially contribute to Ness Junior Football Strips – training shorts and tops. Proposed sponsorship from the Breakwater, Cross Stores and Ness Glaze is underway. It was recommended that the request be sent in formally, in writing, for it to be considered at a future meeting according to process.

Point 4 Finance Report

Cairstiona Macleod, Treasurer, shared the Ness Community Council Statement: £2349.13. The expenses pending at this point are:

An invoice for the wreath laid at the Ness War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday.

The room hire costs for Taigh Dhonnchaidh.

The Christmas lights purchased for Lionel Primary School.

It was noted with gratitude that Paddy Furey has sourced these lights at cost price, £200.

Point 5 Recent Correspondence

No recent correspondence to be covered.

Point 6 Community Survey

Muriel Macleod has now collated all the responses from all 5 questions set in the Ness Community Council local survey, an extensive task for which we as a group are grateful for her having undertaken. As noted above, Muriel Macleod will ensure that all relevant parties be contacted with the information revealed by the survey. With regard to the previously collated responses to Question 2, Paul MacAdam responded positively from the Police; Transport Officials at CnES and also Hebridean Housing Partnership acknowledged receipt of the information, and Urras Oighreachd Ghabhsainn provided a response.

It was decided that a summary of the survey returns and thanks be posted on Facebook. The key issues highlighted by the survey will be taken in turn as items on the Agenda throughout 2025, starting with Ness Swimming Pool Concerns as an item on January 2025 Agenda.

Point 7 Crown Estate Funding

Alice Murray identified that a distinction must be made between Local Place Plan and Local Development Plan. The Local Place Plan has been extended to 2025. Both of these areas are fully under the responsibility of the Planning department, and Mairi MacIver should be the point of contact when necessary.

The question of ceding North Galson was discussed in this section of the meeting, and again, it was acknowledged that this is a matter for the residents of North Galson to decide, but that CCN/NCC has no objection.

It was proposed that the Community Council make information and advice available to support interest in bidding for funds. Alice Murray highlighted that individual groups planning strategically, to secure match funding etc...would be positive.

Point 8 Emergency Preparedness – Resilience

David Green attended a Ready Scotland Webinar and would engage with CnES' Murdo A MacKay and Anna Hulme to research the ways in which we as a Community Council can add value locally. Grants are available, and there is also an NHS Western Isles Website, as well as a Council Resilience website. Dates will be set for meeting in December regarding this.

Point 9 Draft Schedule of Meetings 2025

The key issues highlighted by the survey will be taken in turn as items on the Agenda throughout 2025, starting with Ness Swimming Pool Concerns as an item on January 2025 Agenda.

Spiorad na Mara will need to be formally responded to in May 2025, so far as we currently know, so this will be an item on the agenda for the meeting in March 2025. The following dates were agreed for formal meetings:

14th January 2025

11th March 2025

13th May 2025

8th July 2025

9th September 2025

11th November 2025.

Point 10 Any Other Competent Business

None.

Actions agreed

No.	Action	By whom	By when
1	Community Survey results to be sent to relevant organisations	MM/DG	End January 2025
2	Information to be circulated to local organisations about grant funding, including CERF, to be considered	All	End January 2025
3	Meeting with CnES on Community resilience to be set up	DG	Done. 11 th December 2024
4	Ness Swimming Pool concerns to be item on January agenda	All	14 th January 2025
5	Spiorad na Mara proposals and consultation to be on the March agenda	All	13 th March 2025