

Meeting of the Shawbost Community Council
7:30pm on Tuesday 13th August 2024
Grinneabhat

Present: Donald Mackinnon (Chair), Norman Campbell (Vice-chair), Kathleen Macrae (Treasurer), Effie Macdonald, Peigi Ann Shields, Donna Morrison

Apologies: Euan Macleod (Secretary), Donna Maclellan, Kaleigh Macleod, Alicia Matthews, John Norman Macleod (Councillor)

Minutes of Meeting 14th May 2024

Minutes were approved by Kathleen and seconded by Norman.

Matters Arising from Minute

- Thanks were expressed to Euan for the comprehensive minute of the previous meeting. Discussion was had over the minutes. The point about Northland talking about compulsory purchase powers was discussed. This point will be clarified with Northland Power.
- Discussion on holding a meeting that was requested by a community member at the previous meeting with local politicians, community representatives and other stakeholders to discuss N4. A suggestion was made to wait until after Northland has presented their phase 1 Consultation which will lay out their plans in more detail than the community have received to date. Committee discussed who should be invited: MP, MSP, Local Councillors, Estate Group Representative which would be someone from the Barvas Estate. Format of a meeting was agreed to be discussed later, as it would need to be a constructive meeting for all involved.
- Various road issues were discussed that were brought up at the previous meeting. Regarding the bridge at South Bragar, South Bragar Grazing's Committee will be asked for an update if this has been closed for safety concerns.
- The work on the verges on the inside road in Arnol has been completed. Another issue was raised about the white lines on the same road, they have been scraped away and are no longer visible. Committee to speak to council to highlight this issue.
- The South Bragar shore road also has an area, on the bend leading to the cemetery where the road is eroding quite badly. This will also be reported to the council.
- The issue of bins overflowing was discussed. Donald has already raised this with Iain Norman Campbell, Head of Cleansing. It is a problem everywhere. We discussed possibilities of sending lorries on nearby routes to these bins when they are overflowing. There was a suggestion to place signs up so that locals could report overflowing bins to Comhairle nan Eilean Siar to alert them to the live problem. Having a phone number or an email to the relevant officer was agreed to be a helpful solution.

Finance

Bank balance is £5970.65

We have received admin grant from Comhairle nan Eilean Siar.

Crown Estate Funding

Some background information was provided on why this item was brought forward to be on the agenda. There had been communication issues around the previous funding round that had led to groups thinking they would receive support which was not ultimately the case.

Donald attended a meeting with local councillors, the chair of Ness and Airdhantuim Community Council and some other community groups on 8th August at the Clan Macquarrie. Once the minutes are approved from the meeting they will be circulated to the committee.

The committee agreed to invite councillors to a meeting to discuss transparency on how decisions are made and how they provide feedback to groups that haven't received funding, to hopefully improve the process for next year.

Local Place Plans

There was discussion around what these place plans actually are. Deadline to apply was September 2024 but has been extended to September 2025 so there is time to explore this.

Planning Application

The War Memorial Committee have asked the community council to submit a planning application for a flagpole. This was agreed.

The committee briefly discussed a planning application that was made for the Cemetery Committee. There will hopefully be an update at the next meeting.

Any Other Business

No other business

Date of Next Meeting

Date of next meeting 8th of October. Local councillors will be asked to attend.