



# MINUTES

Ness Community Council

*Date:* 13/05/25

## In Attendance

David Green Muriel MacLeod Cairstiona Macleod Annie MacSween

Alison MacDonald Donna MacIver Cllr Donald MacSween

Apologies

Chair: David Green

Cllr Kenneth MacLeod

## AGENDA

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Minutes of meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025
3. Matters Arising
4. Finance Report
5. Spiorad na Mara (SnM) update.
  1. Proposal of Application Notice (PAN): the PAN is a notice to CnES advising how SnM intends to engage with the community about their proposal. Relevant documents will be provided at the meeting. CCN/NCC members have received them in an email dated 22<sup>nd</sup> April from Grant Anderson of SnM.
  2. Community Benefit consultation update. *See Aquatera Introduction and Community Benefit Consultation.*
6. Coastal Community Fund. Update on progress in the 2025 round of funding allocated to forums.
1. Report from informal meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> April, including
  - South Dell bus shelter
  - Speed signs
  - House numbers
  - Ness sign
  - Lionel School junction
7. Any Other Competent Business

## Point 1. Welcome/Apologies for Absence

Apologies from Mary Duff and: Cllr Kenneth MacLeod

## Point 2 Minutes of the Meeting of the 24<sup>th</sup> March 2025

The Minutes were approved, and updated regarding action arising.

## Point 3 Matters Arising

There were none.

## Point 4 Finance Report

Cairstiona Macleod, Treasurer, shared the Ness Community Council Statement of circa £ 2,900 .

## Point 5 Spiorad na Mara (SnM) update

David Green and Muriel MacLeod have been monitoring public engagement and processes related.

1. Proposal of Application Notice (PAN): the PAN is a notice to CnES advising how SnM intends to engage with the community about their proposal. Relevant documents will be provided at the meeting. CCN/NCC members have received them in an email dated 22<sup>nd</sup> April from Grant Anderson of SnM.
2. Community Benefit consultation update. *See Aquatera Introduction and Community Benefit Consultation.*

All members to encourage as many people as possible to attend events set up to engage with the community to allow the fullest picture to be accessed.

## Point 6 Coastal Community Fund

Update on progress in the 2025 round of funding allocated to forums.

In total the applications - £109k for £93K.

£76k worth of applications from the Northern half of the sector, with a minimum of £5k. It was identified that there has to be some reconciliation of funding, and it was reported that it looks as if everyone who applied will receive 75% of the total their application was looking for.

There is an upcoming meeting of the three Ward Councillors and Alice Murray, and representatives from organizations who have not made applications: Gemma MacIver (Urras) Ivan Brown (Barvas estate) and Gordon Matheson (Horsiadar). Following this meeting, letters will be sent out and signed letters must be received to ensure monies may be allocated.

Donald MacSween highlighted that there are some anomalies yet to be ironed out regarding the £5k threshold in order to improve the process of application going forward. David Green highlighted the improved perception of the process through inclusion of independents. He also recalled that the previous meeting fell short of the plan set in 2024 to allow discussion two months prior. One of the commitments made was to publish the list of applicants in advance – the failure to do so has been noted. The need for forum meetings to take place before the end of the application process was underlined. Annie MacSween identified that the application form for it was very difficult to complete on the Council website, which will be passed on.

Councillor Donald MacSween was thanked for providing the update.

## Point 7 report from the Informal meeting of the 15<sup>th</sup> April 2025 , including

- South Dell bus shelter

David Green has spoken to John Murray regarding reallocation of the bus shelter, and the initial “yes” response was then negated by information that so many school pupils use this second bus shelter that it is not an extra one, and therefore cannot be moved; it was noted that the information may well be outdated and that this should be corrected if required by the council. The cost of relocation has been quoted as circa £2k; a new shelter would cost circa £8k. The information to be updated is that there is now a new drop-off point – it has moved from Cross to Dell – John Murray will be contacted to update this. He is known to be commissioning other works, and it would be positive to try to incorporate this issue to make the process cheaper.

- Speed signs

It was noted that the Ness signage is small and hard to see – other districts have larger, more visible signage. Tech services have notified the NCC that they have some which can be repositioned. David Green will raise this with John Macleod. A suggestion of establishing a “Thank you for driving carefully through our village” was presented and approved. The NCC will pursue a review of Ness road signage.

- House numbers

This will be discussed with UoG, to support their original project.

- Ness sign

It was noted that twice we have met and agreed that the people of North Galson are to decide whether they wish to cede. A reply was sent to the third enquiry requesting us to discuss this point. Cairstiona will also check with Calmax regarding potential costs.

- Lionel School junction

It was discussed whether the new owners of “The Anchor” property would be aware of the restricted view drivers have at this junction, and if an opportunity arises to discuss this with them, NCC will do so positively.

## Point 8 Any Other Competent Business

The archive of pre-2017 NCC is housed in the Comunn Eachdraich

There was a discussion of the best location for storage of files, and OneDrive is currently the NCC choice.

Annie MacSween raised awareness of research into the needs of SEN: young adults identified this as an area locally needing to be focused on and that money may be available from a range of sources.

### ACTIONS AGREED

No.	Action	By Whom	By When
5	Encourage members of the public to attend meetings re Offshore wind farm proposals	All	Before 8 <sup>th</sup> July meeting
7.1	Contact CnES re bus shelter and signage concerns	David Green	As soon as possible
7.2	Contact Urras Oighreachd Ghabhsainn re House sign initiative	David Green	As soon as possible
7.3	Contact Calmax re cost of ‘Welcome to...’ sign	Cairstiona Macleod	8 <sup>th</sup> July 2025

8	Set up OneDrive shared folder for NCC records (minutes etc.)	Muriel Macleod and David Green	As soon as possible
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