

South Harris Community Council Minutes

05/08/2024 in South Harris Free Church Hall

Present – Donnie MacDonald – Chair; Marion Morrison – Treasurer; Stephen MacKinnon – Secretary Bob Chaffer; Caroline Chaffer; Julian Saurin; Cllr Kenny MacLeod

1. Apologies – Lucy Duff – Vice-Chair; Patricia Martin; Effie MacLeod; Cllr Paul Finnegan
2. Minutes of last meeting 4/6/2024 were proposed by Bob and seconded by Marion.
3. Matters Arising – None
4. Rodel Toilets –
 - Application to Crown Estate Fund was successful and £1,500 has been awarded.
 - Donnie still waiting for word from Historic Environment Scotland at Fort George re donation of toilet rolls and hand towels.
 - Tina MacLeod, Rodel, is cleaning toilets.
 - Marion has sourced 2 new high performance UPVC doors which come to a total of £1,600 – It was agreed that money from Crown Estate will be used to purchase these – **Marion to order.**
 - Money for other costs will be sourced from donations made at toilets.
 - CNES Admin grant has not been paid into account yet, this is usually done in May. **Cllr MacLeod to chase up.**
 - New lockable donation and storage boxes have been purchased and have arrived. **Julian and Bob happy to install and will work with Marion on this.**
5. Beach E-Coli Update –
 - Sub-group has been added to with Grant Fulton and Jeeves Toor joining.
 - The sub-group has met with a Professor from Glasgow University who is doing research around domestic water and discharged waste from houses – research is still being pulled together.
 - A further update will be made once all the data is in place.
6. New Houses –
 - Contactors are now on site having started at the beginning of July. Donnie has met the site manager and asked him to visit all the houses on Ferry Road and several on Strond Road to introduce himself.
 - It is hoped that the Council/Contractor will maintain road surfaces which will be affected by the many heavy plant vehicles travelling on them.
 - Community benefit from the contractor was taken out of contract due to value engineering. It is hoped that something can be negotiated with the contractor, perhaps around the play park.
7. Play Park – **Cllr Finnegan to be asked to bring Cllr MacLeod up to date on this matter as well as provide an update to the Community Council.**
8. Nursery –
 - Member of Parent Council due to send update to Cllr MacLeod later tonight. **Cllr MacLeod also to get update from Cllr Finnegan.**

- It is understood that there has been no communication to parents of provision for August when school holidays conclude. Previous provision up until June had been for 3 days a week in Leverburgh.
 - **Lucy to be asked for any other updates from Parent Council to Community Council.**
 - Job advert went out for full-time member in Leverburgh but got no responses. This was to be re-advertised. No mention was made in the advert about the opportunity to learn Gaelic on the job as had been previously agreed in the meeting attended by Donnie, Parent Council, and Council officials.
9. Northton and Strond Roads –
- Awful condition of both these roads was highlighted again. Particularly Northton where a member of the community has said that it was 31 years ago that the full road was last surfaced.
 - There is also the issue of the school bus often being unable to turn at the end and either having to drop the kids off at the village entrance or having to reverse through the village.
 - Agreed that Northton should be the priority. **Cllr MacLeod to contact Murdo MacRitchie about coming down to visit Northton and meet members of the Community Council.**
 - **Julian to ask advice of 2 recently new members of the Northton community who are Road Engineers.**
10. A.O.C.B –
- Stationery – Issue of cost of paper and ink was raised for printing lengthy reports. **Agreed to discuss at next meeting.**
 - Cllr MacLeod confirmed that he will be on same Council Committees that Cllr Fulton was.

Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 3rd September 2024 at 7.30pm in Leverburgh Free Church Hall.