

Breasclete Community Council.

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 12th February 2025, Breasclete Community Centre at 7.30

Present: Angus Alex Mackenzie, Jacqui Ferguson, Cllr Ranald Fraser, Kenny-John MacIennan, Fraser Macdonald, Lorraine Ballantine, Noreen Macdonald, Malcolm Mackay, Angus Smith, John Smith

Apologies: Alice Murray, Christina Murray, Cllr M MacDonald

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Amendment to sederunt required. Approved F. Macdonald, 2nd L. Ballantine

Matters Arising:

Bus Shelter: Schedule of repairs to bus shelters being prepared by CnES

Church Car Park lighting: Cllr Fraser will pass this to relevant council officer

Garynahine repairs: A. Mackenzie noted that the repairs at various locations in Garynahine had been completed very quickly.

Callanish Visitor Centre: Refurbishment continuing. Decision not to re-site defibrillator elsewhere, but to refit when centre has reopened.

Clerk will contact BCA to request refresher training for the community.

Callanish 2 & 3: Ongoing

Local Plan: Clerk will write to A Murray and D Mackinnon for support with this. To invite to a meeting with community forum groups

CnES Budget: Cllr Fraser explained the budget setting. Crown Estate funding £1.65 million, CnES pulling £800K from that figure and 11 wards will share the rest. He estimates £47K coming to ward 6.

£7 million of savings have to be found which is likely to include a raise in Council tax. There will be no redundancies, but vacancies may not be filled. Community Councillors noted concerns on retaining expertise in the Comhairle if vacancies were being left unfilled. Clerk will email as last year. Community are also being invited to consult on priorities.

Correspondence: Correspondence circulated previously via email.

Email received from Inspector Jane Mackenzie stating she was transferring to another location, and passing our query to the acting inspector. Clerk will contact him.

Renewables:

N4: pre-consultation meeting on community benefit held by Aquatera on behalf of Northland. They will return in March for various community engagement sessions.

Grimshader and Heastabhal: January meeting postponed until March.

General discussion on battery storage plants and safety of electric cars.

AOB:

Visitor Levy: Email from a campaigner against Highland Council's proposed visitor levy, which will mean island residents accessing healthcare or other services will be penalised. Clerk to email correspondent in support and to write to MSP regarding island proofing concerns.

Callanish Pier: Clarification from CnES that they own the Pier and access road from the visitor centre car park. For noting.

Cycle path: A Smith reported that the cycle path from Breasclete to Callanish needed swept and white lines. Cllr Fraser will arrange this.

Date of next meeting: 12th March 2025.