

South Harris Community Council Meeting 14/01/2024 at 7.30pm in South Free Church Hall

Present – Donnie MacDonald – Chair; Stephen MacKinnon – Secretary; Marion Morrison – Treasurer; Julian Saurin; Bob Chaffer; Patricia Martin; Eva – Harris Forum Development Officer, Cllr Kenny MacLeod

1. Apologies – Lucy Duff; Etta Olley; Caroline Chaffer; Cllr Paul Finnegan
2. Minutes of last meeting 3rd September 2024 – Julian proposed, and Lucy seconded
3. Matters Arising –
 - Shakleton Anniversary Event – No further progress. **Marion to arrange meeting between Donnie, Marion, Effie, and Michelle MacLeod – HVS.**
 - Rodel Toilets – **Bob and Julian to put up donation boxes in next two weeks.**
4. Harris Local Place Plan –
 - Part one of consultation – questionnaires online until 31st January. **SHCC members respond and direct responses to Secretary to be collated by end of next week.**
 - Next step will be 6 different community consultations in different locations.
 - Monday 10th February in South Harris in person consultation. 7pm-11pm. Leverhulme Community Hub
 - Wednesday 12th February in Talla na Mara for in person consultation 7pm-11pm.
 - Additional lunchtime consultation for pensioners also to be arranged.
 - **Stephen to advertise questionnaire on Facebook.**
 - Debate over whether each community council should submit separately or only as a collective Harris Forum. **Decided that SHCC should contribute to overall Harris Forum plan, but each CC should also submit a separate report.**
5. Nursery – Five-day provision starting again from February 18th. SHCC welcomes this news and thankful for all the work that has gone in.
6. Play Park –
 - Chair attended last CNES Education meeting. Leverburgh still top of the list, but funding will be spent throughout the Western Isles, assessment for each area on how much funding is being carried out.
 - Cllr MacLeod looking to work with HHP and contractor to carry out groundworks so that CNES funding can be targeted on equipment. Pushing to get this done while groundworks equipment is in Leverburgh for house building. Cllr MacLeod

Speak to Technical Department about what works have been priced and are required **and check with Linda Armstrong, Playpark Steering Group, re feasibility study.**

- SHCC Chair expressed frustration that it will have been 2 years this spring since feasibility study was carried out closing Leverburgh play park.
7. Housing Project – Work continues at an excellent pace. First six houses up wind and watertight, plumbing and electrical works ongoing. Groundworks for next 6 beginning.
8. Visitor Levy – Patricia and Cllr MacLeod have not heard any updates. Replacement in staff may have caused delays. **Patricia to chase update.**
9. Northton Roads – Ongoing to be completed by end of March. Chair has suggested to Cllr MacLeod that Strond and Borrisdale roads are in equally bad condition and that if plant works are already in area, it would be as well to add Strond and Borrisdale – request has been submitted.
10. A.O.C.B –
- Cal Mac Consultation – 20th January in Leverhulme Community Hub
 - Community Garden – Application submitted through Harris Forum – **Marion to catch up with Eva.**
 - £350 contributed to Pickleball group by SHCC towards cost of Hall rent in Leverburgh.
 - Northton Grazings – SHCC write about the removal of dumped cars on the Machair, which is SSSI land. Copy in Nature Scot, SEPA, Estate owner, Crofting Commission, and CNES. MacLaughlin's do free uplift of vehicles and hand V5 to driver. **Agreed that letter by SHCC should be prepared and sent.**
 - Defibrillator may be able to be placed in Finsbay – building contractor providing.

Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 11th March 7.30pm