

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PLOCKTON & DISTRICT COMMUNITY  
COUNCIL HELD IN PLOCKTON VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY, 1  
FEBRUARY, 2011 AT 7.00 pm.

PRESENT: C.M. MacRae (Chair) G.R. Webster  
K. Leiper G. James (Sec/Treas)  
J. MacDonald C. Will (Crofters' Rep)  
M. MacKenzie Cllr. A. Sinclair  
I. Matheson I. Turnbull (NTS)  
J. Storie Const. Donald Morrison  
(Kyle Constab.)

Matthew O'Neill – British Transport Police  
Sarah Bowyer- Well North  
4 Residents

APOLOGIES were received from J. MacKenna and G. Glasgow.

1. VISIT OF MATTHEW O'NEILL, BRITISH TRANSPORT POLICE

Matthew O'Neill outlined to the meeting the role of the British Transport Police which assists with any issues related to railway safety such as vandalism, level crossing problems, litter, etc. and asked that any problems should be reported to the local police and these would subsequently be passed on to the Transport Police. He also confirmed his intention to visit Plockton High School to highlight safety issues on an educational level. It was noted by the meeting that there had been a general improvement on Plockton Station where litter was concerned.

With regard to the need to establish responsibility for the maintenance of Station Road, Matthew O'Neill offered to follow this up with Network Rail.

*The contact telephone number for the British transport Police is 0800 405040*

2. VISIT OF SARAH BOWYER, WELL NORTH

Well North is an NHS Highland Project which has been established for 12 months with the purpose of highlighting and improving a healthier lifestyle in the community by way of diet and activities. A steering group has been formed to organise meetings on various topics and a Walk Leader training project has been established. Various future projects are also under discussion, and Kally Leiper had agreed to be the CC's representative for Well North.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting were proposed and seconded by I.Matheson and J.MacDonald, respectively.

Matters arising

a) Police Matters –

It was noted that there had been a break-in at the Plockton Inn, and this was being investigated by the police.

With regard to the outcome of the charges relating to the theft from the seal trip boat, the owner had been informed by the Procurator Fiscal Services that a fixed penalty (known as a Fiscal Fine) had been imposed and paid by those involved. Const. Morrison confirmed that a Fiscal Fine is put on record and should any further offence be committed this is taken into account as a criminal record but cannot be charged again should there be any further offences.

Const. Morrison again requested community input to assist the police in any crime solving.

b) Roads Dept. – Duirinish sign has still to be replaced.

Potholes have been repaired behind the Public Toilets.

An area of road surface on the Achnandarach Rd. past Duirinish Chalets cattle grid is rising resulting in possible damage to the underside of vehicles, the road past Durinish Lodge having similar problems.

Serious concern was expressed at the extremely poor condition of the road surface between Plockton and Drumbuie, and it was agreed to write to John Farquhar Munro MSP on the matter.

c) Village Play Area – A reply to the letter written to the School Playground Committee had not yet been received.

d) Loch Lundie - Joanna Peebles, Regional Communities Manager for Scottish Water confirmed that our letter requesting further information under the Freedom of Information Act, would be dealt with by their team and the CC would be kept updated.

e) Housing – It was noted that there was still one house available at Burnside. The Chairman has been in contact with Gordon MacDonald, HC Senior Engineer S&L, regarding the outstanding matters relating to the Burnside development, i.e. installation of adequate streetlighting, completion of wall, contractors' signs, bridge restrictions, signage in the area highlighting the fact that there are children in the area. A meeting has still to be arranged between the relevant parties. *Chairman to action.*

f) Plockton Pontoon Ownership – This matter has now been settled, ownership having been legally transferred to the Harbours CIC.

- g) Planning Application – The Planning Application for 12 Harbour St. has now been received. A lengthy discussion on the details of the Plan ensued, with very real concern being expressed at the proposed right of access behind the adjacent property which it was felt was not an option for various reasons and also disputing the right itself. The CC, with the exception of one member who wished to register their support,, reiterated its original objections in relation to parking, vehicle turning, and the siting of rubbish bins. *A letter to this effect will be sent to the Planning Dept.*
- h) Public Catalogue Foundation – Although the Chairman had brought this to closure declining the offer to put the Plockton Hall paintings in this catalogue, the Foundation’s representative was having to refer the matter to their Director to see if he wanted to pursue the matter further. It was hoped, however, that this would not be the case.
- i) Car Park Public Toilets – After much discussion on the way forward to re-establish this facility, I. Turnbull, NTS, agreed to to arrange a meeting of interested parties to establish future ownership and responsibility for refurbishment. J. Leiper as Secretary of Harbours CIC to be kept informed. It was felt that the loss of this facility had been far too prolonged.
- j) Bin Collections – There had been some progress on the regulating of bin collections for businesses, but as yet not confirmation had been received.
- k) Duirinish Hanging Baskets – This was being progressed.
- l) Friends of Dr. MacKinnon Memorial Hospital – A letter of thanks had been received for the CC’s donation.
- m) Car Park Overgrown Greenery – This has still to be dealt with.

#### 4. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) The discovery of a cancer compound being found in West coast water was discussed, a website having detailed results. It was agreed to write to Scottish Water on the matter.
- b) Details were received of an HC Hearing Resource Centre being set up in Bayfield, Portree to offer advice, support and information in all areas of hearing loss.

#### 5. AOB

- a) The next Ward Forum will take place on 21 March at 2.00 pm in Plockton Village Hall.

- b) It was agreed to write to the HC with regard to the proposal that Plockton Library be re-situated at, and amalgamated with, the High School. |Serious doubts were expressed at the viability of this, with the village location being much preferred.
- c) Reported instances of a telephone holiday "scam" had been reported and Jan Storie offered to deal with these should anyone wish to let her know if they had been a victim.
- d) The ongoing problem of potholes generally was highlighted.
- e) Acts of vandalism such as rocks in the road at Frithard, tampering with windscreen wipers, were reported.
- d) There was still no dog litter bin on the Brae. *Chairman to action.*
- e) The NTS planned to tidy up the Drumbuie/Barleyport path.

6. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the CC will be held on Monday, 14 March 2011 at 7.30 pm in Plockton Village Hall.