

Application for this work has to be submitted. David Baldwin and Mark Crowe (HC Roads Dept.) had suggested that the CC should make this Application. An objection by a resident had been lodged with the Grazings Committee against the choice of site for the parking facility, the feeling being that there could be a better alternative location, and also expressing disappointment that the decision had been made by the Grazings without consultation with the wider community. In reply Morag MacKenzie, CC, stated that as Duirinish was a Regulated Crofting Township and the land concerned was common grazings, there was no requirement for any consultation outside the Committee itself, who were prepared to fund the project.

Alternatively, the necessary Planning Application could be submitted by the Grazings Committee. After lengthy discussion as to who should lodge this, a proposal was made by George Glasgow, seconded by Kally Leiper that the Grazings Committee itself should apply. The subsequent result of a vote was 5 in favour, 2 against, 1 abstention. There being no alternative motion being put forward, this was, therefore, passed.

- d) Ward Forum – The next Ward Forum will be held in Ullapool on 26 September.
- e) Village Play Area – As there had still been no reply from the NTS re the acquisition of a site, a further request would be made.
- f) Housing – The new notice board has been erected at Burnside.

The Housing Asscn. has confirmed that they have no funding available to assist with the much-needed streetlighting. This constitutes a real safety issue and it was felt that the traffic police should be asked for their general assessment of possible hazards in this area. There is potential danger for children on the righthand side approaching the bridge on the road into Plockton which definitely requires attention. Cllr. Campbell agreed to look into finding possible funding assistance through the “Safer Roads to School” Fund.

- g) Streetlighting - A letter had been received from a resident expressing approval of the new-style light on Harbour Street, and the Chairman had spoken to the HC Lighting Dept. as to the proposed timing of having all the village lights replaced, but as yet has received no confirmation.
- h) Planning Applications – The plans for No.12 Harbour Street have been passed despite strong objections from the CC.

- i) Car Park Public Toilets – John Leiper, Harbours CIC Secretary has written to Mark Crowe, HC Services, re the awaited valuation but has not as yet received any reply. *Cllr. Campbell to action.*
- j) Plockton Library – The Chairman had been asked by David Linton, HC Libraries, if the Hall Committee would be prepared to reduce the annual rental paid. It was agreed that this would be discussed at the next Hall Committee meeting.
- k) Skips – A letter had been received from Colin Clark, HC Head of Waste Management laying down reasons for the discontinuation of the skip service and stating that it is incompatible with two of the Council’s more recent policies, i.e. alternate weekly collections and charges of bulky uplifts. *“The introduction of these policies is to effect a change in public behaviour to achieve two things: firstly to increase the quantity of waste that is recycled without a significant increase in collection costs, and secondly to encourage individuals to think more carefully when discarding goods thereby imbuing a degree of responsibility for the cost of disposal on their part”.*

Free skips would still be supplied for village clean-ups and it was agreed that there would now be two-a-year.

Cllr. Campbell to follow up.

- l) Raw Sewage – A letter requesting assurances that a septic tank would be installed on the remaining Rhu property presently without one, would be sent to the house owner.
- m) Installation of New Water Pipe - Concern was expressed on two counts, i.e. poorly displayed road signings relating to Diversions, and the lack of promised updating on the work from Scottish Water to the CC. Cllr. Campbell agreed to register these complaints to Scottish Water and ask for them to be rectified.
- n) Possible Sale of Church of Scotland – There is nothing further to report on this matter.
- o) Camper Van Access through Harbour St. – Owing to the fact this is not a through road and the difficulties encountered for camper vans and motorhomes to access, an appropriate sign has been placed at the beginning of Harbour St.
- p) Hearing Resource Centre – The Chairman had spoken to Mary Scanlon, MSP, regarding the possibility of having a monthly facility in Kyle, as is already in Portree, but was told that there was nowhere available to house this. The CC questioned why the Kyle Surgery could not be a venue.

- q) Duncraig Castle – Two Planning Applications had been lodged, one for a house to be erected on the righthand side coming up from the railways station, and the other to alter the access road to the Castle so that it will not pass the front door. The Castle is to be closed for two years for work to be carried out.

2. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) An offer had been received from Rod MacLeod to donate all the funding needed to renovate the public footpath between Nos. 10 and 11 Harbour Street. He would like to do this in memory of his late wife, Jane MacLeod. A letter would be sent expressing appreciation for this gesture, and the matter would be progressed.
- b) Phil Di-Duca, Forestry, had reached an agreement with HC Tech Services to clear woodland on the Achmore Road in conjunction with the water pipeworks, and highlighted that the woodland owners were making considerable contributions towards the resurfacing of the road after the pipework is finished.
- c) The Chairman had contacted Henry Glasse for an update on the situation regarding Ard a'Mhorair, the state of which is still deteriorating, and was informed that although joint ownership has been accepted, a dispute still exists regarding the actual dividing boundary and until this is resolved nothing can be finalised. The CC was still hoping land could be acquired for a village play area.
- d) The timetable for the CC Elections had been published, commencing 20 September 2011.

3. AOB

- a) A notice had been put in place requesting prior notification for the setting off of fireworks. One had been received for a small display on 25 Sept. between 9 and 10.00 pm.
- b) A donation of £250 to the CC for the village had been received from Annan and Jill Dryburgh in appreciation for all the help they had received on the occasion of their daughter's wedding. Thanks had been expressed to them both.
- c) Many thanks to the CIC Harbours for the donation of £1000 towards the Village Officer.
- d) The Primary School Parents Council had kindly agreed to organise Bonfire Night this year.
- e) The present CC would cease functioning officially on 14 November 2011.

- f) The Duirinish sign had still not been replaced. *Chairman to action.*
- g) A boat trailer had been abandoned at the corner of Duirinish bridge. *Chairman to action.*
- h) Compliments had been received at the grass cutting work carried out by Lynne Metcalfe , village maintenance.
- i) The streetlight at the Green Shed was out. *Chairman to action.*
- j) It would be appreciated if the hedge at the corner by The Studio could be cut back.
- k) The signage for the toilets at the Plockton Hotel is not ideal, many tourists not noticing it and looking for the facility further through the village.
- l) The CC strongly felt that the information compiled for the new regulations relating to the minor changes to CC's could have been produced in a far more economical manner and it was agreed to write to Alistair Dodds, HC Chief Executive, to enquire what cost had in fact been incurred. *Chairman to action.*

4. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on Tuesday, 8 November 2011, at 7.30 pm in Plockton Village Hall.