

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PLOCKTON & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD IN PLOCKTON VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY, 12 MAY, 2015 at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT : C.M. MacRae (Chair) I. Matheson
J. MacKenna (Vice Chair) J. Sanderson
M. Jones (Vice Chair) G. James (Sec/Treas)
G. Glasgow Cllr. I Campbell
M. MacKenzie

2 Residents

1. Minutes of the last meeting were proposed and seconded by M. MacKenzie and M. Jones, respectively.
 - a) Police Matters – It had been hoped to be able to discuss the outcome of the police speed checks which had been carried out in the area of the Plockton railway bridge, but unfortunately again there was no police presence at the CC meeting.
 - b) Village Playpark – The AGM of Friends of Plockton Playpark had taken place, but Minutes had not yet been received.
 - c) War Memorials – The names on both the Plockton and Lochalsh war memorials had been painted and both memorials were being entered in the British Legion memorial competition.
 - d) Roads – The cattle bridge at Duirinish is in need of tightening up. It is hoped that work necessary in Erbusaig will be carried out in July, and there is still work outstanding in Duirinish. The lack of available funding for roads and pavements generally in the whole area remains an ongoing problem.
 - e) All-weather Pitch – No further progress.
 - f) Garden Area at Railway Station – The Rector of Plockton High School informed the CC that a group of pupils have started some horticultural work at the station. *It was noted that complaints had been received about the increase in litter since the re-opening of the chip shop, although obviously this was not entirely generated by school pupils.*
 - g) Strome ferry Bypass - Following the Stakeholders Meeting in March to discuss the Options Appraisal where strong feelings were expressed that any improvement to the present road should not be contemplated, the two remaining options were a bridge at Strome ferry or a single track road from Braeintra to Attadale. The CC agreed to make strong representations to the HC expressing its total opposition to the Braeintra proposal as an extremely retrograde step and an unacceptable solution. Funding remained unidentified, but another meeting would be taking place mid-June.

- h) Village Clean-up – This had been carried out and many thanks were expressed to the pupils and staff of the Primary School for their excellent help.
- i) Lyme Disease – J. Sanderson had been in touch with the NTS re leaflets for distribution, and Cllr. Sinclair had provided a contact to the Chairman to source information packs.
- j) Wester Ross Biosphere Project – A further meeting (the final meeting at this stage) will take place at Ledgowan Lodge 28 May.
- k) Proposed Development of Plockton Car Park Area – The Sailing Club and Harbour CIC have met to discuss the planned extension of the car park. Mark Crowe, HC Roads, had been informed by the CIC of the proposals for additional facilities and had no objections to these.
- l) Planning Application for Old Manse Glebe – Planning permission has now been granted for two one-bedroom houses to be built on the Church of Scotland glebe opposite the Primary School.
- m) Bank Street Greenery Cutting – John McGill had carried out this work and kindly wished his £100 payment to be sent to the Children’s Hospice Asscn. Scotland from whom a very appreciative letter was received..

2. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Plockton Drama expressing many thanks to the CC for its donation towards the Drama’s trip to Orkney to take part in the final of Scottish Community Drama’s countrywide One-Act Festival. This help was much appreciated.
- b) Mary Gollan, having received several complaints about the extremely poor state of the pavement outside the Plockton Inn requesting this should be attended to. The Chairman had spoken to Roads Dept. who once again informed him that no work had been carried out on pavements for the past 5 years. It was also noted the Plockton Hotel pavement is very much in need of attention. *Cllr. Campbell to action.*
- c) Jeannie Graham, HC External Funding Manager informing the CC that the Duncraig Trust is open for business, the closing date for applications being 29 May 2015. Information on the scheme is available on www.highland.gov.uk/info/899/schools
- d) Ongoing correspondence regarding the unacceptable lack of road markings at the front of the Primary School and the Roads Dept. funding shortfall had now resulted in confirmation being received that the markings would be renewed prior to the start of the Autumn term.

- e) Septic Tank – The owner of the property concerned was encountering considerable problems with Building Control regarding the installation of his septic tank. *Chairman and Cllr. Campbell to action.*
- f) The NTS have requested a meeting on site at Sgeir Buidhe to be held with the owner and members of the CC, to discuss the general tidying up around the site.

3. BURNSIDE BRIDGE SAFETY ISSUES

Following concerns raised by residents regarding the problems and possible dangers in the Burnside bridge area, the Chairman had emailed CC members and residents (40 in total) and received 30 replies outlining suggestions to resolve the situation, and these were forwarded to Mark Crowe, HC Roads Dept., and Allan Bryce, Safer Roads for Schools Officer.

Whilst it was agreed that ideally the wider solutions would be the answer, ultimately to carry these out would be out of the question due to lack of Roads Dept. funding. The CC agreed, however, that improved appropriate signage together with painting the green area red as in other similar circumstances, i.e. in the Breakish area, would be helpful in providing a safer facility.

CC members, in view of the level of concern expressed by many residents re safety issues at Burnside, are to meet with Allan Bryce as soon as possible.

4. AOB

- a) Plockton Primary School is celebrating its 150 year Anniversary in June and as part of the celebration would be most grateful to receive any memorabilia , photographs, etc.
- b) It was noted that during recent painting work carried out on Council houses in the area, No.14 Harbour St. had been omitted.. *Cllr. Campbell to action.*
- c) Heathercrest, Duirinish, was in need of work to be carried out by the Council on the gate and fencing. *Chairman to action.*

5. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be the AGM and will be held on Tuesday, 30 June, 2015, at 7.30 pm in Plockton Village Hall.

G. James
Secretary

