

Minutes of Plockton and District Community Council Meeting

6th December 2016

Present:

Mary Jane Campbell (Chair), Tristan Southall, Alex Townend, Ewan Cameron, Morag Mackenzie, Thomas Maclennan, Cllr Audrey Sinclair (H.C)

One member of public also in attendance.

Apologies:

Alexander Mackenzie, David Skilling, Catherine Will (Crofting Rep).

Minutes of Last Meeting:

Amendment: Replace AS with MJ prior to “informed the meeting the Highland Council would start work in November to renew street lights in the village”. Action DS

Amended minute adopted. Proposed AT, 2nd TM.

Matters Arising:

Disabled access to bank in Kyle: The proposed solution is for a disabled access lift. Concern has been raised that this was not suitable for a powered wheelchair. Discussions are on-going.

Village clean up: The CC thanked Plockton Primary for their hard work during the village clear up. It was noted that adult turn-out from the village to support the clean-up was disappointing low.

Replacement street lights: Highland Council contacted the CC regarding replacing street lighting in Plockton with LED lighting as an energy saving measure. The style of the lantern will be considered where there is a conservation area but will otherwise be standard type lanterns. Some of the proposed lights have already been fitted at the start of Harbour Street, so residents can have a look and see what they think. These offer a much better control of the light output.

Access to all weather pitches at High school: Plockton High School are currently in discussion with the HC Area Office as any use of Council property has to be agreed at this level. They have some concerns at the proposal (access, litter, injury) but agreed that it would be worth drawing up a protocol and having a trial run. Susan Galloway has said she will keep CC informed.

Whins / Gorse clearance: AT has cleared whins at bottom of ‘Strathie’. Roadside whins on straight between Plockton and Duirinish still to be cut. Action: AT to request this is cut.

Septic Tanks: Mr J Greer of Rhu Mhor View informed the CC about considerable difficulties and expense he is currently experiencing in seeking to modernise his septic tank. MJC thanked Mr Greer, apologised for the difficulty being faced and offered any support that the CC may offer. Action: Cllr. AS to write letter in support of Mr Greer’s case to the Highland Council and share relevant details with MJC so that the CC may also add a letter of support.

Community Council Leaflet to be sent to all homes in the CC area with details of CC activity.

MJ is in discussion with Highland Council regarding people undertaking community

payback and the possibility of them doing some work in Plockton. It was decided that a possible project would be clearing gorse on the island. Action: MJ to contact David Livingston.

Roads

It was agreed that 'Roads' should be a standing agenda item for future meetings.

- Cattle grid at Burnside, Plockton: Continued need to dampen noise. Since last meeting AT spoke to the Highland Council. But no action proposed.
- Durinish Bridge: Still in need of urgent repair.
- Plockton Airstrip: 3 residents have raised a complaint with the Highland Council about a number of bad potholes on the road at the airstrip.
- Sign at junction at foot of 'Strathie': This sign was removed and has not been replaced.
- 'Wee Strathie' (i.e. hill from Plockton to Duncraig): Lack of roadside drainage leading to surface water and ice on road.
- School Railway Bridge safety: Continued concern about the safety of the school railway crossing, noting the lack of action on speed bumps, green 'pavement' and signs warning of on-coming vehicles in road, when exiting the village.

Action: DS to add all of the above points to roads issues to be raised with Andrew Hunter.

Planning

AS confirmed that the new planning application for the gap site at the church had gone to planning committee and been rejected. The applicant may still appeal the decision.

No further planning notices to report.

Finance Update

Current bank balances are:

- Treasurer's A/c- £2097;
- Fireworks A/c - £2882;
- Special Projects A/c - £ 5389

Fireworks

At short notice PSBSC agreed to undertake the catering and collecting of donations at the annual bonfire night fireworks. Overall takings were down but £1,915 has been banked. Action: AT to clarify with PSBSC treasurer and Plockton Inn what bills are outstanding.

It was agreed that the remaining unsold burgers should be written off as these will not be suitable for re-sale.

It was agreed that in future it is crucial that a club is appointed far earlier in the year. It was agreed the Plockton Tourist Association will be invited to undertake catering duties for the 2017 bonfire night. Action: MJC to speak to Plockton Tourist Association and give them the information sheet.

It was agreed that businesses would be invited to donate to the NY fireworks. Action: AT to invite all hotels to donate to NY fireworks. TM to ask if other Hotels would be willing to have a donations jar.

It was agreed that the CC should purchase a suitable tent / gazebo to cover the BBQ area for future firework catering events. Action: TS to look at options and report back.

AOCB

No matters raised.

Future meetings:

23/1/17

13/3/17

1/5/17

12/6/17 (AGM)

28/8/17

9/10/17

4/12/17