

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PLOCKTON & DISTRICT COMMUNITY  
COUNCIL HELD IN PLOCKTON VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY, 1 MARCH 2010  
AT 7.30 pm

PRESENT :	C.M. MacRae (Chairman)	M. MacKenzie
	J. MacKenna (Vice Chair)	I. Matheson
	G. Glasgow	J. Storie
	K. Leiper	G.R. Webster
	J.D.F. MacDonald	G. James (Sec/Treas)
		C.Will (Crofters' Rep)
		Cllr. A Sinclair
		Const. Harper
		Const. Wood

2 Residents

1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Matters arising

- a) Police Matters – The Chairman thanked the Police officers for attending the meeting.
- Before any decision is made on the forming of either a Residents Watch or Neighbourhood Watch it was agreed that further information should be gathered, the Police advising that Neighbourhood Watch would be more appropriate in Plockton's case to monitor incidences of vandalism, etc., Residents Watch being more related to the local environment. It was agreed that if it is decided to follow up this project, then the Community Safety Officer should be consulted.
  - It was felt that there had been a noticeable reduction recently in cases of vandalism, the police representatives assuring the meeting that action was ongoing relating to suspects connected with previous offences.
  - A helpful discussion took place on the proposed future installation of CCTV in the main Car Park.
- b) Ward Forum – The next meeting was scheduled for 12 April in Ullapool. With regard to the grant awarded for the painting of the village seats and tables, this work had commenced and would need to be completed by end-March in order to claim the Grant in this year's budget.

c) Roads Dept. –

- The Chairman had contacted the Roads Dept. re the shortfall in the use of the gritter on Harbour St. and Frithard Rd. This had been partly rectified, the Roads Dept. explaining that their schedule did not allow time for such input. They had, however, carried out this service on a couple of occasions.
- Complaints had been received about the poor state of Harbour St. *Chairman to action.*
- Real concern was expressed at the further deterioration in the state of the road between Plockton and Drumbuie caused by the severe winter weather conditions. It was agreed to write to Charles Kennedy MP and J.F. Munro, MSP highlighting the situation, with particular reference to the possible dangers for school buses, the increase in traffic which will be generated by the Burnside houses, etc.

d) Plockton Railway Station – The Chairman had been in contact with Scotrail regarding the state of the road down to the station and had been informed they “believed the responsibility for the road lies by default with Highland Council”.

With regard to the extreme litter problem being generated mainly by High School students, the school say they have no authority to intervene where the pupils are concerned.

Scotrail have the matter in hand of providing seating and shelter on the platform.

The platform at Duncraig station is in urgent need of repair and Scotrail would be asked to carry out this work, the facility at present being a possible hazard and unsightly.

*All matters to be actioned by the Chairman.*

- e) Village Play Area – Cllr. Sinclair would follow up the request sent to the Dir. of Education re the possibility of the grassed area adjacent to the Primary School being utilised for this facility.
- f) Disposal of Cardboard from Commercial Premises – It was felt that this problem should be dealt with by the premises concerned.
- g) Plockton Car Park – Due to the closure of the Car Park Public Toilets, a contract had been drawn up between the Highland Council and the Plockton Hotel to use the Hotel facility until such time as the proposed Car Park project was completed, rather than the HC repair the damaged roof of the gents toilet, lack of available finance being sited. As this project could be some considerable time in coming to fruition, it was felt that it would be far more practical to repair the roof, and it was

agreed to write to the HC proposing that the CC provide a quote from a local builder for the work to be carried out.

It was agreed a letter should be sent to Plockton Harbour CIC requesting an update on the Car Park project.

- h) Loch Lundie – Scottish Water had stated their intention to put Loch Lundie on the market, and it was agreed the Chairman would contact them declaring an interest and asking what timescale was involved and for an update on the whole situation.
- i) Health Services Workshop - Kally Leiper had attended on behalf of the CC. the main purpose of the meeting being to discuss streamlining the hospital facilities on Skye with a view to money saved going into community health facilities.
- j) Burnside Housing – A completion date of 26 June 2010 had been given by the Housing Asscn., the allocation for which would be given 6 weeks prior to that date.
- k) New Year Fireworks – It was agreed that as from this year this event would be financed from the CC Fireworks Account.
- l) Barleyport House Planning Application – This Application, made by Lynne Kennedy, supported by the CC, had now been passed by Planning.
- m) Pontoon Ownership – No progress had been made on the transfer of this amenity from the CC to Plockton Harbour CIC.
- n) Abandoned Boat - This still remained on the airstrip area, the van having been removed..

## 2. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) The Directorate for Planning and Environmental Appeals re a scheduled visit from the Reporter, Philip Hutchinson, for a site inspection at 12.15 pm Friday, 19 February, this appointment subsequently not being kept owing to the Reporter mistakenly arriving in the afternoon, when only some of the interested/involved parties were present. An apology has since been received from Mr. Hutchinson. Although the Reporter had intimated that he had all the input he needed, it was felt that a letter should be sent by the CC requesting that this meeting should be re-scheduled.

- b) BT confirming they would inspect the damaged red kiosk on Harbour St. which had subsequently had the panes of glass replaced, and it was hoped that the box would also be painted.
- c) Village Clean-Up would take place on 16 April, Plockton Primary School having once again offered there much-appreciated help.
- d) The CC expressed appreciation to the owners of Duncraig Castle for keeping it updated on plans for the Castle, and wished them every success in the future.
- e) A newspaper article highlighting a call for local grazings committees to undertake and publish an annual report showing the condition of croft holdings and grazings in each township.

4. AOB

- a) The new street lights have still not been installed.
- b) Buckies Pier is to be repaired by Graham Sharp.
- c) Reported restricted useage of Plockton High School Games Hall. *Joy MacKenna to follow up*
- d) Wester Ross Alliance – new officers now in place. Decisions will be made on Leader funding.
- e) Scottish Water to be requested to refurbish Frithard Rd and Cooper St. areas where repairs have been carried out.; also to repair the overflow pipe opposite 36 Harbour St. *Chairman to action.*
- f) Repair to causeway still to be carried out.
- g) The HyrdroElectric are moving the brae transformer further along the area..
- h) It was agreed to write to the owner of 12 Harbour St. and Sgeir Buidhe expressing concern about the long-term, poor state of these properties and to enquire when this work was to be completed.

5. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on Monday, 19 April, 2010, at 7.30 pm.

