



- The Plockton Play Park project is progressing slowly, as are the installation of the two septic tanks in Cooper St. and Rhu.
- Stromeferry Bypass remains a distant project, but the plans for the new Broadford Hospital are progressing.
- There has not been a police presence at the CC meetings for 12 months, but there have been no major policing problems.
- Burnside Bridge remains a major problem.
- Plockton has been chosen as one of the villages for development in the new Highland Council Local Plan, a draft copy for which will be presented soon.
- Leaflets for Lyme Disease have been acquired and distributed, with more being ordered.

The Chairman expressed his thanks to all CC members for their attendance and contributions in the past year and also thanked the Secretary/Treasurer, Cllrs. Campbell and Sinclair, and the Auditor, Bob Anderson.

### **3. TREASURER'S REPORT**

The audited Treasurer's, Fireworks and Special Projects Accounts were presented to the members, and proposed by J. MacKenna and seconded by I. Matheson. Thanks to Bob Anderson, Auditor.

### **4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

As there was to be a CC election in November, it was agreed unanimously that the present elected officers would remain in place until then.

### **5. MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MINUTES**

- a) Police matters – Sgt. Crawford, who was new to the area, was welcomed to the meeting, and highlighted the fact that there had been a dramatic reduction in drink driving-related offences since the introduction of the new drink limits. He also confirmed that there had been 5 speed checks carried out in the village during April, with no reported offences.

The CC had received a complaint from the residents about the anti-social behaviour of High School pupils in the area of Ceann an Uib, and they intended forwarding this also to the High School, the Police and the Highland Council. The Police had already been contacted previously and advised residents to in future dial 999 to report cases involving vandalism or threatening behaviour from pupils. The High School Rector had expressed her disappointment at the public conduct of the pupils and had assured the residents that there would be more vigilance in patrolling the area by the school staff. The residents were requesting that the area become “a restricted no-loitering area for pupils and hostel residents alike on a permanent basis”. The CC discussed this matter and expressed the hope that the school would be able to find a resolution.

The safety issues surrounding Burnside railway bridge were discussed and the Police view of the situation. Sgt. Crawford agreed with the meeting that the ultimate solution would be traffic lights. The fact that the speed bumps were totally inadequate was once again highlighted, together with better signage. Mark Crowe, HC Roads, had once again reiterated the problem of lack of funding, and Allan Bryce, Safer Routes for School, had suggested that if a larger scheme is required by the community then perhaps there should be wider consultation with the Area Roads Dept.. The CC were still awaiting a promised visit from Allan Bryce and this would be followed up.

Sgt. Crawford said the Police were fronting a campaign to make sure that vulnerable people were made aware of telephone scams and asked for support to this effect.

- b) Village Play Park – The CC were encouraged by the input of Alan Jones and the Chairman expressed appreciation at the work carried out so far by the Friends of Plockton Play Park.

The CC expressed concern at the level of involvement which could be required as a result of the wider remit proposed for the possible acquisition of feasibility study funding, particularly as a new CC would be elected in November. *Subsequent confirmation has been received from Alan Jones that, apart from the actual Awards for All application, all future responsibility will lie with Friends of Plockton Play Park who he is hoping to represent. The new Awards for All application would, therefore, be made in the name of the CC.*

- c) Roads – Both the Burnside and Duirinish cattle grids are still in need of tightening up, and the bridge has once again been damaged. The regular damage to the bridge highlights the need for the 30 mph speed limit sign to be re-sited further away from the bridge on the Plockton side.

Roads Dept. have agreed to make two wheelchair ramps in Harbour St. i.e. one outside No. 23 and one opposite the Village Hall.

Weedkilling needed generally on village streets.

- d) Stromeferry Bypass – The Chairman and I. Matheson had attended a meeting in Achmore Village Hall, the alternative solutions discussed being a bridge at Stromeferry and a road between Braeintra and Attadale, the lack of available funding remaining a problem. There was also no guarantee that there would be any funding to carry out work on the present road either.
- e) Lyme Disease – 100 leaflets had already been distributed and further would be ordered. It was agreed a donation would be made to the charity which supply these. *Chairman to action.*

- f) Wester Ross Biosphere Project – The CC had been informed that ASC's involvement had come to an end with this project and local organisations will take things forward through the Strategic Partnership and in time through the Board of a new Wester Ross Biosphere organisation.
- g) Highland LEADER 2014-2020 Programme – Tristan Southall had agreed to become involved in this programme.
- h) Septic Tanks - In connection with the Cooper St. septic tank, a meeting had been held with the Chairman, the resident and Mark Harvey, HC Planning Officer and Chris Hallas, HC Provisional Support Officer, both of whom had agreed that it would be acceptable, with SEPA's agreement, for the pipes to end over the rocks. SEPA's agreement was subsequently obtained.
- i) Sgeir Buidhe – Agreement had been reached with the owner of this property regarding the cutting back of greenery and vegetation in the area.

## **6. CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) Details have been received regarding the history of Mitchell's Pond.
- b) Mark Crowe, HC, informing the CC that Andrew Hunter is the new Community Works Officer and that he himself is now the Asst. Area Manager for Community Services.
- c) A letter had been received from a resident raising the issue of overnight parking on the car park which although there are signs not permitting it, still takes place, the main issue being that generators are left running outside camper vans.  
*Chairman to action.*
- d) The CC Elections would take place on 18 November and the Chair (C. Macrae), Vice Chair (J. MacKenna), G. Glasgow, J. Sanderson, G. James (Sec/Treas – non-member appointment) all expressed their intention of not standing for election. The process would start on 10 August.
- e) The CC had sent their congratulations to Helen Murchison on being awarded the BEM.

## **7. AOB**

- a) Concern was expressed that the footpath on the shoreline past the Post Office was no longer accessible and a definition of the garden boundaries was needed. It was agreed that this matter should be followed up by the crofters association.

- b) The residents had asked that the seats at Ceann an Uib be removed, but these were not the property of the CC.

**8. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

**The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 15 September 2015 at 7.30 pm in Plockton Village Hall.**