

# Minutes of Plockton and District Community Council Meeting

## 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2018

### Present:

MARY JANE CAMPBELL (CHAIR) (MJC), ALEX TOWNEND (AT), EWAN CAMERON (EC), TRISTAN SOUTHALL (TS), CLLR BIZ CAMPBELL (BC).

Plus 1 member of the public (Bob Kennedy)

### Apologies:

MORAG MACKENZIE (MM), THOMAS MACLENNAN (TM), ALEXANDER MACKENZIE (AM), CATHERINE WILL (CROFTING REP), JANE CAMP(JC)

### Police Matters:

No Police Officer present

### Minutes of Last Meeting:

The minutes of the P&DCC meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> September 2018 were adopted without amendment. Proposed MJC, 2nd EC

### Matters Arising:

EC has fixed railings of steps between Harbour St and the Brae.

Installation of Septic Tank at Tigh Na Mara Rhu, Plockton: There has been a further delay in the submission of planning.

Other matters arising are addressed in the agenda items below.

### Planning Matters:

**18/03257/FUL | Change of use from residential (use class 9) to guest house (use class 7) | Sgeir Bhuidhe Plockton IV52 8TL –**

- It was confirmed that it was the intention from the last meeting for the P&DCC to object to the above planning application to change of use from residential property.  
**Action: MJC to submit objection on behalf of P&DCC**

**Ref. No: 18/04760/FUL | Erection of extension to restaurant, erection of two service/accommodation buildings (12 guest rooms) and formation of parking area. The Plockton Inn Innes Street Plockton IV52 8TW**

- The proposed extension to the Plockton Inn was discussed although not all members had had the opportunity to view the plans. No comments from members of the public have been received and the proposed provision of additional parking is welcome. It was agreed that this application would be discussed again at the next meeting.

## **Treasurers Report:**

£3794 special projects

£2412 fireworks account

£1469 treasurers account

## **Fireworks:**

The P&DCC have applied for a Public Entertainments Licence from the Highland Council as this is now a compulsory requirement to host public fireworks displays. This has cost £432 and has also necessitated additional insurance and inspections of gas and electric equipment. We are now in the 28-day consultation period which concludes before the 5<sup>th</sup> November, so should be in place before the event (assuming no objections received).

### **Actions:**

- AT to send copy of insurance certificate to TS
- TS to add copies of insurance and equipment certificates to Event Management Plan and resubmit to Highland Council
- TS to speak to HC to check on progress of application
- TM to ensure all arrangements in place for fireworks
- TS to confirm with Sue Atkinson about catering and steward volunteer numbers

## **Roads:**

We have been told that the council will only respond to complaints logged on their website. If there are enough complaints about a bit of road then something will be done. All roads complaints have to be logged here:

[https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/20005/roads\\_and\\_pavements/96/road\\_faults](https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/20005/roads_and_pavements/96/road_faults)

Issues discussed were the poor state of the road at the top of Strathie. This will be added to the list of roads issues to be passed to the Highland Council. A proposal for speed bumps on Harbour St was not carried forward.

### **Actions:**

- MJC to post public notice encouraging members of the community to submit objections to roads direct to the HC website.
- JC to update the roads actions list (including with items discussed at recent meetings) and circulate ahead of the next meeting.

## **Cows:**

*It should be noted that the Community Council has no decision-making power in relation to the return of the cows. Instead it is the role of the CC to reflect the views of the community. A member of the Community Council who is also an active crofter declared a conflict of interest and did not participate in the discussion.*

The Plockton Grazing Committee hosted a public meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> October to inform the community about the reintroduction of cows into the village. The meeting was well-attended. At the meeting the National Trust (the land owner) confirmed that the 15-year agreement expires this October and has not been renewed. The Grazing Clerk confirmed that the crofters intend to return cows to the village in the spring of 2019. The National

Trust confirmed that they have advised against the return of the cows but are not in a position to prevent it. A number of members of the community spoke to oppose the return of the cows. Although it appeared that the majority of attendees at the meeting were opposed to the reintroduction of the cows, no vote was taken.

It was noted that various members of the community have received correspondence from relevant experts, such as the Roads Department, Public Health, Highland Council Access, Crown Commissioners, however copies of all relevant letters have not been forwarded to either the Community Council or the Grazing Committee. The content of these letters is understood to contain useful information about the risks posed by the reintroduction of cows and should inform the decision about whether the cows should return.

However, it was also noted that the rights of crofters have been hard-won in the past and any solution should recognise this. It is understood that the Grazing Committee intend to meet shortly to discuss the outcome of the public meeting.

### **AOCB:**

Benches over the water treatment to be repaired: **Action: EC**

### **Outstanding from last meeting:**

Keep Clears to be repainted throughout Plockton – ACTION Alex Mackenzie to email Biz Campbell. JC to add to the roads list.

Marquee: The Community Council will manage the marquee that it bought last year. It will be available for hire by people and groups within the Plockton Community Council area. Please contact TM in Plockton to arrange hire. The Community Council will arrange for the marquee to be erected and taken down. Hire fees are yet to be finalised. *BC noted that there are dangers inherent in the CC hiring out the marquee, both from an insurance point of view and an asset-owning point of view. These issues should be clarified.*

***Date of next meeting: 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018***