MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PLOCKTON & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD IN PLOCKTON VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER, 2010.

PRESENT: C.M. MacRae (Chairman) J. Storie

J. MacKenna (Vice Chair) G.R. Webster

G. Glasgow G. James (Sec/Treas)
J.D.F.MacDonald Cllr. I. Campbell

5 Residents

APOLOGIES were received from K. Leiper, I. Matheson, M.MacKenzie and Kyle Police.

The Chairman opened the meeting by congratulating Geoff Webster on his 80th birthday, and thanking him for his letter of appreciation following the birthday celebration held by the many organizations to which Geoff has contributed in office over many years, including his longstanding CC legacy.

1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last Meeting were proposed and seconded by G. Webster and J. MacKenna, respectively

Matters arising:

a) Police matters – It was felt that the general decline in incidents of vandalism during the season had continued, and it was noted that new signs relating to dog fouling had been put in place.

As the HC had put the acquisition of the car park public toilets on hold, this would also delay the installation of CCTV by the Harbours CIC, as this building is a prospective siting.

- b) Ward Forum The Chairman and G. Webster attended the meeting which was held in Lochcarron, the main topic of discussion being in relation to cutbacks. The CC hoped that the much-needed repair work to Station Road could be funded by the Discretionary Budget. Cllr. Campbell to follow up
- c) Roads Dept. The Chairman had approached George Speed, HC Roads Dept. regarding the extremely poor state of the corner of Harbour St. and the area behind the public toilets, the temporary filling-in of the potholes having been extremely unsatisfactory. It was hoped this would be rectified.

- d) Plockton Railway Station The station gate had been painted and some work had been carried out on the platform edging. There were still, however, no seats in place and it was hoped this would soon be rectified.
- e) Village Play Area The promised report from Ian Jackson, HC Education Officer, following his visit to the Primary School to view the area adjacent to the school as a prospective play area, had not been received. Cllr. Campbell to follow up.
- f) Loch Lundie A reply had been received from SEPA clarifying that should Scottish Water's plan to go ahead with the dam removal, SEPA would be responsible for ensuring that any possible effect on the environment would be limited.
- g) Housing The CC was pleased that the houses at Burnside are now being occupied, and it was noted that the welcome letter sent by the CC to the new residents had been much appreciated.

The main concern regarding Burnside is the provision for pedestrians crossing the railway bridge, which it is felt is a potential danger. Calum MacPhee, HC Technical Manager, had been assured by Tech Services that they are in compliance with their obligations, stating that this area has a 20 mph restriction already in place. This, however, is not the case, this restriction being limited to school arriving/leaving times. It was, therefore, agreed that the CC should request an on-site meeting with Tech Services and the Housing Association to discuss a more satisfactory system.

It was agreed to ask the Housing Asscn. if they would be prepared to fund a Village Notice Board for Burnside, and at the next meeting of the CC to discuss the possibility of a welcome event for the new residents.

- h) Pontoon Ownership The process involved in the change of ownership from the CC to Plockton Harbours CIC is underway, with confirmation being awaited from the HC, as funders, that it has no objection to the transfer, agreement having already been received from the HIE. Other funders will also be contacted. The solicitors concerned will then finalise the transfer.
- i) Scottish Water The work at Frithard Rd. and Harbour St. has now been completed.
- j) Sgeir Buidhe and 12 Harbour St.. A new Planning Application for Sgeir Buidhe has been placed, a copy of which is in the Library. Subsequently objections have been received from Historic Scotland and the owner will be submitting revised plans in line with acceptable criteria. New plans were presented to the meeting.

- With regard to 12 Harbour St. revised plans for a further extension were to be submitted to facilitate the proposed facility.
- k) Village Officer The CC wished to record its appreciation of the excellent work carried out by Lynne Metcalfe as Village Officer, and a letter of thanks would be sent to her.

The grass-cutting behind the NTS Craft House had been carried out by the Village Officer and the CC were very disappointed that the NTS funding of this work was not easily resolved.

- i) Ard a'Mhorair The Chairman had been in email contact with Henry Glasse regarding the possible tidying-up of this area, and had been informed that Mr Glasse was presently in contact with Graeme MacKenzie on the matter.
- j) Retirement House on the Brae It was felt that any additional housing being built on the Brae would necessitate road improvements, and should there be plans for further housing, this should be primarily for young locals.
- k) Possible Closure of Plockton Library This was discussed at the Ward Forum, a signed petition against this having been presented. A proposal had been made that libraries could be handed over to a Highland-wide Trust. *Cllr. Campbell to follow up*.

2. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) AGM of S&LCVO.
- b) The Public Catalogue Funding Charity had asked if they could include two of the Village Hall paintings in their publication, but the CC felt this could cause a security problem.
- c) The HC re the proposed plans to acquire Better Broadband. The CC would write supporting this project.
- d) Scottish Natural Heritage re Carn a'Bhealaich Mhoir Site of Special Scientific Interest.
- e) S&L Environment Forum Mink Survey S&L.
- f) Alternate Weekly Bin Collections Concern was expressed at the problems associated with having only a fortnightly collection of the green bins containing perishables.

3. AOB

a) It was agreed a new Notice Board would be provided for Plockton Stores.

- b) The CC agreed the path at the rear of 10/11 Harbour St. should remain unchanged.
- c) Cllr. Campbell offered to look into solving the problem relating to the disposal of cardboard boxes by businesses.
- d) The Hockey Club would be asked if they would be prepared to organise this year's Bonfire Night.
- e) Mark Crowe, HC Roads Dept. would be asked if there was a possibility of the speed limit through the village being reduced from 30 mph to 20 mph.
- f) A History of the Kyle Line is on display in Plockton Library for the next 3 weeks.

4. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on Tuesday, 26 October, 2010, in Plockton Village Hall at 7.30 pm.