MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF PLOCKTON & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD IN PLOCKTON VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY, 2 MARCH 2014 at 7.30 pm

PRESENT : C M MacRae (Chair) Cllr I Campbell

J MacKenna (Vice Chair) Const B Harper

M. Jones (Vice Chair)

J. Sanderson 1 Resident

M MacKenzie I Matheson

APOLOGIES were received from G James, G Glasgow & C Will

The Chairman opened the meeting by expressing the condolences of the Community Council to the families of Alan James and John Farquhar Munro. Alan had been an active and popular member of the Plockton community and John Farquhar, a local councillor for 33 years, was the first MSP for Ross, Skye and Inverness West from 1999 until his retirement in 2011.

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting were proposed and seconded by M Jones and I Matheson respectively.

Matters arising:

- a) Police Matters As there is no guarantee that a police officer will be available to attend meetings a consequence of staff reduction a "Police Mailbox" has been set up. This will enable an alternative means of communication between the CC and the police and will ensure continued and direct contact.
- b) Planning Application This application for the proposed flats between the Manse and the Old Church is ongoing and decision is expected in April.
- c) Burnside/Road Signs Traffic calming work and alterations to the speed limit are in progress. The new Duirinish sign is almost ready.
- d) Village Play Area Letters to local businesses and organisations asking for donations have been distributed as funding is required for a feasibility study. Questionnaires are currently being circulated for the feasibility study. The NTS has agreed to draw up a lease. There is a Coffee Morning planned for 29th March at 10.30 in Plockton Hotel. Quotes for work on this project have been requested.
- e) Station Road A letter is to be sent to Highland Council and Scotrail to request an update.
- f) Village ATM Ongoing.

- g) NTS War Memorial The CC wishes to express its thanks to Gavin Skipper (NTS) and the students of Plockton High School for their hard work in clearing a large area around the War Memorial. This voluntary work takes place on one day per week for a year under the supervision of the NTS.
- h) Campbell's House This planning application has been passed. However, it is disappointing that no local planning notifications have yet been received by the CC following a previous request. The Chairman will contact Robbie Bain.
- i) Bins Further complaints had been received from a local resident re builders' rubbish being deposited in the bins at the main pier. This will be an ongoing concern as long as there is a lack of facilities in the area for disposing of such waste. There is a need for a Lochalsh recycling centre as Portree is a distant and expensive option. A request has been made to the Enforcement Officer.
- j) Causeway The Chairman will contact Ewen Cameron again for a quote.
- k) Potholes There are various potholes in urgent need of attention, eg in Harbour Street, Strathie and the Duirinish Lodge road. The dip in the Duirinish bridge has not been made good. Chairman to take this forward.
- 1) Defibrillators Many thanks are extended to Calum and Jane MacKenzie for their superb fundraising efforts which have realised in excess of £1, 600. As a result, two state of the art defibrillators will now be provided for the village by Lucky2Bhere. Thanks are expressed also to Mike Shucksmith and his company in Yorkshire for providing free training in the use of the above along with a First Aid refresher course. A meal voucher will be given to him as a thank you. J MacKenna will contact the High School to explore the possibility of one of its defibrillators being repositioned on the exterior of the building for public access 24/7. The school has already made these available for public use, but access is limited to opening hours.
- m) All-weather pitch/Lochalsh Sports Association Cllr Campbell has this matter in hand. John MacDonald is organising a meeting for all interested parties on a date to be arranged in late March/early April, when it is hoped a decision can be made about the way forward.

2. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Drink licences Plockton Hotel has applied to vary its licensing hours. The deadline for objections is Thursday, 13th March. The Chairman will email George Glasgow who is currently away on holiday.
- b) SAC Renewable Energy An application form had been received but it is not applicable to this community.

c) CC Insurance policy – paid.

3. AOB

- a) Septic Tanks Two local private properties still have no septic tank. The CC to contact SEPA re the two outfalls as the quality of the seawater and shoreline continues to be affected. A copy of the letter to be sent to the two householders.
- b) Village Clean-up 18th April. Three skips will be provided.
- c) Campbell's House Awaiting an electrician to disconnect the exterior access lights for the time being.
- d) The Haven Hotel Will be ready for an Easter opening. The CC extends its best wishes to the Henderson family.
- e) Litter It was disappointing to hear of a renewed complaint about litter at the railway station, especially after the adoption of the station by the school pupils. However, senior management is very sympathetic and spot checks are being regularly undertaken.
- f) New Street Lights A resident has complained about the new lights in the approach to the village being very dazzling. The Chairman to make enquiries.
- g) New Hospital This has been endorsed and is to be a "Hub and Spoke" development. The next meeting will be held in Broadford Hotel on 11th March.
- h) Service Points Closures This is the worst decision made by Highland Council and has resulted in feelings of anger and disgust, especially as there has been no consultation whatsoever.
- i) Causeway There is a bad hole at the post office end. There is a request for the installation of a low level light for safety. (Action Chairman)
- j) War Memorial A request was made for scrub cutting so that the memorial could be visible from the village. The Chairman to contact TEC Services and the British Legion for funding.

4. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Monday $14^{\rm th}$ April 2013 at 7.30 pm in Plockton Village Hall.