

# **Minutes of Plockton and District Community Council**

## **Meeting 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019**

### **Present:**

Mary Jane CAMPBELL (CHAIR) (MJC), Alexander MACKENZIE (AM), Alex TOWNEND (AT), Ewan CAMERON (EC), Morag MACKENZIE (MM), Thomas MACLENNAN (TM), Tristan SOUTHALL (TS). Catherine WILL (CROFTING REP), Councillor Biz CAMPBELL (BC)

Plus 3 members of the public

### **Apologies:**

None

### **Police Matters:**

No Police Officer present

### **Minutes of Last Meeting:**

The minute of the P&DCC meeting of 10th December 2018 was adopted without amendment. Proposed MM, 2nd TM

### **Matters Arising:**

*Benches:* EC is actioning the repair. There was also discussion about the need to replace some benches. **Action: AT to look at the options and costs of replacement benches.** If any member of the community wishes to donate a bench to the community this would be most welcome.

*Fireworks:* TS to ask for an update from Jonothan Mackinnon about the Boatshed electrical certificate.

*Septic Tank:* No further updates

*Cows:* No further updates

All other matters arising are addressed in the agenda items below.

### **Planning Matters:**

No further planning applications have been received since last meeting.

### **Finance Update**

£3,795 special projects

£2,091 fireworks account

£1,169 treasurers account

## **Roads**

Since last meeting MJC has spoken with Highland Council in Dingwall to again push for some of the more urgent road issues to be addressed. These included the poor state of the road at the top of Strathie, work on cattle grids, white lines, the pavement outside the Hotel and Inn, the road around the airstrip etc. During the meeting the list of outstanding road actions was reviewed. **Action MJC to update roads list, and prioritise, and forward to BC who will pass on to relevant person at the Highland Council.**

As noted in the last minutes: We have been told that the Highland 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)

## **Plockton & District Development Trust / Company**

AM reported that the steering group have produced draft Articles of Association, with expert help from Sandra Holmes. These draft Articles were passed to the Scottish Government for review which confirmed that they were appropriately drafted.

The steering group have acknowledged that the Trust / Company is unlikely to be formed in sufficient time to have an opportunity to purchase either one or both of the plots which are now on the market for Aird a Mhorair (Cooper St). It is noted that one of these plots has already gone to a closing date.

The next step for the Development Company / Trust will be to host a social event to begin the process of getting members signed up. One idea is that this could be combined with the village clean up. The next step will be to begin to undertake consultations to develop an Action Plan of possible projects. Other suggestions is for further talks with the Harbour CIC.

## **Kyle and Lochalsh Community Trust (KLCT)**

TS reported on a meeting hosted by KLCT, for representatives of Community Councils across Lochalsh. It was a good meeting and a representative from the Scottish Community Development Centre (SCDC) was there to provide information and support. KLCT recognise that they have had a predominantly Kyle focus and there is therefore a mis-match with their Articles of Association which shows that the coverage for the Trust covers the whole of Lochalsh (which includes 7 Community Council Areas, including Plockton). So as a trust they recognise the importance of now doing a consultation exercise and developing an action plan for the whole of Lochalsh. Or, as an alternative, they could re-draft their Articles of Association (with the approval of their membership) to tighten the geographic scope to just Kyle. They will continue to explore with Lochalsh communities how to undertake a community-wide consultation. KLCT are also keen for members of the Lochalsh Community to join (for free): <https://www.lochalsh.uk/join-us/become-a-member/>

## **AOCB**

- The village clean up will be scheduled for the 6<sup>th</sup> April (if the skips are available). Given the risk that the Community Council will be charged for the cost of skips if inappropriate waste (i.e. white goods) is deposited in the skips, it is proposed that the skips are only in the village for a short time with someone in attendance at all times to check what is being deposited. As noted earlier, there is a suggestion that the (draft) Development Trust / Company could schedule a social event to coincide with the village clean up.
- It is understood that the former Janitors House at the High School which has been empty for several years has been offered to accommodate a Police Officer.
- It is noted that the Highland Council have stopped all over-time for janitors at the High School. Concern was expressed about the effect that this would have on the provision of High School facilities for use by the community.  
**Action: AM to e-mail Chair of the Highland Council Education Committee.**
- The Community Council expressed thanks to Jane Camp for her work as secretary, following her resignation from the post. **The Community Council is therefore seeking a new secretary.** The secretary is a non-voting position and a small payment is available to help cover any secretarial costs. Anyone interested in playing this important role for the community should speak to Mary Jane. **Action: MJC to speak with some possible candidates, to see if they would be interested in fulfilling the role.**
- Kate Havard asked the question “**Does Plockton still need a Post Office?**” Kate stated that the Post Office is becoming quieter and she is keen to reduce her hours and, in the longer term, retire. But it was also noted that with the closure of the bank in Kyle the dependence on the Post Office may increase. She will be discussing the next steps with the Post Office.
- Duncan McAndrew notified the Community Council that the Plockton fishermen intend to donate a bench, in memory of Bruce Fewell, to be placed at the top of the pontoon in the carpark.

## **Outstanding Actions:**

- Marquee: Hire fees, terms and insurance still to be clarified.

## **Date of next meeting (@1930 hrs):**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2019 (AGM)

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November