

MINUTE OF PLOCKTON AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 15 MAY 2023

Present: Peter Mackenzie (PM), Ian Hay (IH), Martin Bliss (MB), Ewan Cameron (EC), Alex Fergusson (AF), Mary Gollan (MG)

Councillor Biz Campbell (BC)

Iain Turnbull NTS (IT), Michael Hay (MH), Morag Mackenzie (MM), Alex Townend (AT)
Hugh Vowles (HV)

Apologies: Fiona Mackenzie

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute was proposed by MB and seconded by EC as a true and accurate account.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT

MG reported that despite many requests over the past 8 months to RBS, the statements for the 3 a/cs had still not been received therefore it has not been possible to have audited a/cs.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- a. PM and IH have still to make a map of the fencing and PHS and Ceann an Uib.
- b. IH had bought the materials for repair of the phone box on Harbour Street and BT had been contacted for possible assistance.
- c. PM had contacted SEPA re the ongoing sewage discharge problem at Rhu and they had acknowledged receipt of the email.

4. TRAFFIC PLAN

- a. BC was thanked for her assistance in trying to get answers on the way forward for the car park extension. IH noted that there had been several changes of HC personnel. The CC members who attended the community engagement meeting with Shane Manning in 2021 had been led to believe that the car park extension was part of HC's plan but the CC have been told that this is no longer the case. PM highlighted that PDCC had submitted a traffic plan participation request to HC in July 2020 which is still open and unresolved. It was felt that a meeting with Brian Stout, HC engineer, Leona Joiner and Tracey Uddy, HC head of roads, and all other interested parties e.g. Plockton Community Trust (PCT), PHCIC, PSBSC, local fishermen, etc would be greatly beneficial. There is a requirement for a feasibility study and costs to ascertain the way forward. PM had been invited to attend the recent PCT meeting to outline the CC's position with regard to the carpark extension. PM and IH will write to BC outlining the community concerns and she will pass this communication on to the relevant HC parties.
- b. AF raised concerns from a Burnside resident about the safety aspects of the railway bridge for young children crossing. IH agreed to contact 'Safer Roads to School' to see if there is a possible solution. It was agreed by AF to contact the PHS to have a competition to design a new sign for the bridge approach.
- c. AT stated that 10 camper vans had been parked at the Coral Beach 'car park' last weekend despite there being no facilities.
- d. MM stated that there was a requirement for traffic calming measures on the Duirinish bridge. There was still no 20 MPH sign in Duirinish.

- e. MH requested that there be a 'No Overnight Parking' sign at the approach to Achnadarach as the road was unsuitable for camper vans and there was a proliferation of them this year and last. PM will write to Scottish Water re contamination of Loch Achnahanich by campervan sewage and will also ask for more dog bins.

5. PLOCKTON AIRSTRIP

There had been a recent meeting at HC with regard to selling the airstrip. This had led to much comment/discussion/rumours in the village. BC was unable to shed any light on the meeting as she was not on the committee and the minutes have yet to be published. IT stated that the airstrip had been sold by NTS to CC with a proviso that if it to be sold, then they, NTS, have first refusal to match the highest bid. At the moment, PDG rent it from HC until 2024 and from last year's accounts, made £97 profit!. The CC asked that they are consulted on any future meetings and it was suggested that the PCT should indicate an interest in this site.

6. HOUSING

PM had met with James Swinnerton from L&SHA in April to discuss the local housing situation. Currently, there are 12 people on the housing list for Plockton requiring accommodation – 2 x 4+ beds, 2 x 3+ beds, 1 x 2+ beds and 7 x single/bedsit. HC have appointed L&SHA as agent for the development on the janitor's house in the PHS grounds. As yet, there is no firm commitments on a date for work to be undertaken on the site. HC anticipates there will be a public consultation on the proposal for accommodation on a small part of the 'shinty field' later in the year. PM stated he would ask that a link be put on the Plockton.org website for people to view details from the HC on the housing list.

7. AOB

- a. AF asked who maintains the gorse around the village and asked if it was okay to continue to cut it down to alleviate the risk of fire. AT and IT both agreed that limited cutting was permissible. IT stated that NTS had put up new 'fire signs' warning of the danger of lighting fires.
- b. The CC had received an email from C MacRae with a list of concerns. Several of these had been dealt with in the meeting but the following points were discussed.
 - 1) Skips now had to be in a locked environment and disposal of goods had to be monitored. EC agreed to place a skip in his yard at the airstrip. PM will arrange with HC for a skip to be delivered and the CC will put up notices and publicise this as appropriate.
 - 2) IH will look at maintenance of the tables and benches.
 - 3) The maintenance of the steps from the brae to Harbour Street is an ongoing issue. NTS offered volunteer assistance for repairs.
 - 4) IH will liaise with the relevant owners of the noticeboards which require maintenance.
 - 5) It had been misreported in the press that "Skye was getting all the HC roads money". BC emphasised that this was not the case and in fact, our ward was getting a sizeable chunk of money for roads maintenance.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING will be Monday 12 June at 7.30pm in Plockton village hall.

