

MINUTE OF PLOCKTON AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16
SEPTEMBER 2024 IN PLOCKTON VILLAGE HALL

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

Jimmy Fergusson, PHCIC (JF), Bill Taylor, PDCT (BT), Alex Townend, Crofters (AT)

Apologies: Biz Campbell, Fiona Mackenzie, Michael Hay, Trent Townend, Jo Scott Moncrieff

1. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Approved by EC, seconded by IH.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT

There had been no movement on any of the accounts.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- a. The camper van signs had been received and MH will erect them.
- b. It was agreed to buy another sign to prevent camper vans going along the road towards the houses at Dubhard, to be erected where the refuse bins are situated.
- c. IH will check tides for getting work done on the causeway, hopefully w/c 30 September.

4. PLOCKTON HIGH AND PLOCKTON PRIMARY SCHOOLS SAFETY

- a. PM will write to HC for an update on the assessment of the state of the buildings at the primary school and ask why a stockade fence had been erected.
- b. HC had emailed with their proposal for traffic lights and zebra crossings at the railway bridge. After discussion, the CC unanimously agreed that this seemed a very good solution and were pleased with the proposed layout. The work would comprise of traffic lights close to the speed bumps on the main road on both sides of the bridge and also at the top of station road to encompass traffic from both Dubhaird and the station where one zebra crossing would be. The other zebra crossing is at the western side of the bridge. An estimate for this work was given as £163K. PM will email back to HC.

5. LOCHALSH LEISURE CENTRE UPDATE

MG informed the meeting that the HC had approved a grant from the Community Regeneration Fund for £25K and also the SLA had been received from HC. A sponsored swim had generated approx. £18K and a crowdfunder had been launched the previous week in Kyle Hall to hopefully reach a total of £40K (the £18K is an excellent start). An advert had been placed for a Centre Manager. Work was starting this week on electrical repairs now there were funds available.

6. CAR PARK

- a. Following observation of traffic during the summer, it was agreed that there is an urgent need for a place for buses to turn. PM will write to HC.
- b. It was agreed to make car park signs ourselves to be erected on the toilet building, to direct traffic to the car parking at the rear of the car park as it was not at all obvious to visitors that this was available. PM to contact Signbiz for the sign. JF agreed that the PHCIC would oversee putting the sign up.
- c. It was agreed to give the PHCIC £1-1.5K for the shortfall in toilets income, once it had been established the exact figure. JF said the PHCIC were looking at putting a card reader in the toilets as it was felt this would generate more income.

7. PLANNING

- a. There was a planning application for work to 19 Harbour Street. CC has no objections.
- b. It was confirmed that the new road layout at Duncraig Castle was still a right of way.
- c. The CC was very disappointed to note that the proposed housing at the Janitor's House at the school had still not gone to the HC planning committee.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. IH will write again to HC about the state of the pier at the end of Cooper Street. This is a Thomas Telford designed pier and therefore of historical importance. It was said that HC are looking to offload piers, etc. CC will offer assistance in it's repair.
- b. MB once again brought up the state of the artificial pitch at the high school. The price for hire charged by HC is prohibitive most clubs. It is £103 for a 2 hour hire with no changing facilities. The pitch needs to be relined as the existing lines are not properly visible. It was noted the Portree HS had a new pitch relaid during the summer holidays despite being much newer than the one at Plockton HS. MB will write again to HC, copying in Highlife Highland, the education chair and the head of PHS.
- c. PM asked AT if the ditches on the brae had been cleared yet. He stated that EC has this in hand and they will be cleared as much as possible in the near future.
- d. IH has spoken to HC Lighting dept about the street lights at Camus an Arbhair which were still not working since the land slide at the start of the year.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: MONDAY 21 OCTOBER 2024