

PLOCKTON AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY 15.09.25

Present: Peter Mackenzie (PM), Ian Hay (IH), Ewan Cameron (EC), Mary Gollan (MG)
Jimmy Fergusson (JF), Jo Scott Moncrieff (JSM), Councillor Biz Campbell (BC)

Apologies: Martin Bliss, Fiona Mackenzie, Michael Hay

1. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute was approved by IH and seconded by EC.

2. TREASURER's REPORT

MG reported that £600 had been spent from the main account on joinery works, hire of boatshed, paint, auditor and batteries for defib. Balance is £1979.41.

3. MATTERS ARISING

- a. The road sign at junction off A890 Achmore to Plockton road remains unrepaired.
- b. IH has contacted Mark Crowe about repair of the main pier and has also contacted Historic Scotland.
- c. No progress on repair of the sea wall.
- d. The road to the airstrip has been partially patched.

4. PLOCKTON AIRSTRIP

CC members were invited to a meeting with Plockton and District Community Trust (PDCT) to discuss potential purchase or otherwise of the airstrip. The CC agreed to support the PDCT going forward and wished to be involved in all decision making. It was agreed to hold a public meeting in the village hall to discuss this proposal and get a feel from the community. There was a well attended meeting in August and it was agreed to look at getting a feasibility study re purchase from the HC.

5. PLANNING

- a. There were no new planning applications.
- b. PM had been approached by a member of the community expressing concern over the garage application on Cooper St. PM has since written to HC Planning Dept with comments from CC. This application and the one concerning the new build on Innes Street are still ongoing.

6. TRAFFIC/RESURFACING/DISRUPTION

- a. The ongoing Scottish Water issues with a burst outside the high school have been partially resolved but their main works have been postponed until 2027.

- b. The contractor is currently laying ducting for the new traffic lights and PM has spoken to the foreman in charge. This work will be completed before the resurfacing.
- c. The resurfacing from the Station bridge to the end of Innes Street where it meets Harbour Street requires that from 29th September, the road will be closed from 2200 until 0600 each night. PM will contact the contractor as the train times have changed since this decision was made so the closure times may need to be adjusted. As previously stated, there will be amnesties every 2 hours and emergency vehicles will have full access.
- d. PM will contact the local operator of social media to publicise the closures.
- e. There had been concern that Harbour street also needs to be resurfaced. BC will ask if the contractor can fill the potholes when they are doing the other work.
- f. The Duirinish to Drumbuie road remains in a very bad state of repair, particularly the passing places.

7. COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

- a. Steps from the brae and the causeway are awaiting the contractor to start.
- b. PM will ask NTS what their intentions are regarding the vacant tourist information centre in the car park.
- c. PM will ask PDCT for an update on progress of the tourism and traffic management plan.

8. ACHMORE C1222 ROAD PROBLEMS

- a. PM and IH had attended a meeting with Achmore and Stromeferry CC about problems on the road from Achmore to Plockton.
- b. The passing places are inadequate and the crash barriers are in some places broken or in a dangerous state of repair.
- c. In 2024 there were 40 vehicles recovered by Morar Motors alone. Almost all these vehicles had gone off the road into ditches and soft verges and were unable to get out without assistance.
- d. In the year to date there have been 20 recoveries plus local residents taking 4 vehicles out and the Lochcarron Garage also recovering vehicles.
- e. The two CCs had written to Tracy Urry, HC on 3 September and had received a reply on 8 Sept. Her replies to various queries were:
 - Principal Engineer has confirmed there are no structural concerns with the bridges
 - Bridge repairs at the damaged bridge at Craig are underway
 - There is already a vehicle length restriction on the road
 - There are already advisory signs re suitability of the road for larger vehicles but acknowledged potential sightline visibility issues
 - They have identified sections that may benefit from barriers and the work may be considered for inclusion in the next contract
 - The feasibility study on the road has been undertaken and will be shared with both CCs in due course

9. FIREWORKS

- a. It was agreed to have the same display as last year for the bonfire night on Wednesday 5 November.
- b. Wood only can be collected by EC if required.
- c. NO items are to be left in the car park for the bonfire at this stage.
- d. There may be a requirement for further catering equipment. PM will liaise with Sue Atkinson as to possible requirements.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. We have still not received a reply to the letter sent to Derek Brown, HC Chief, on 11 June. BC will ask about this and PM will send the letter again.
- b. PM will ask SLHA why they cannot resubmit the plans for the Janitor's House with an amendments to reflect the concerns as listed.
- c. There was no progress on the proposed development adjacent to the shinty field. PM will write to ask about this.
- d. Cardboard collection from commercial premises was proving to be an issue but the CC are unable to assist.
- e. The new defib batteries are working intermittently. PM to investigate.
- f. Following the big storm in August, PM has informed HC of dangerous branches on a tree on the corner of Harbour Street/Frithard Road.
- g. The fence at Frithard Road has been repaired.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

MONDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2025