

## PLOCKTON AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2025

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

Alex Townend (AT), Morag Mackenzie (MM), Jimmy Fergusson (JF), Jo Scott Moncrieff (JSM), Councillor Biz Campbell (BC)

### 1. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minute was approved by IH and seconded by PM.

### 2. TREASURER'S REPORT

We had received the grant from HC of £414. A new grill and bain marie had been purchased, primarily for use at the bonfire night. The report on the fireworks account would be detailed later in the meeting.

### 3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- a. The sign at the junction off the A890 at Achmore had still to be fixed.
- b. There had been no update from HC on the repair of the sea wall at Harbour Street or the main pier. BC will ask again for sight of this report.
- c. IH had attended a meeting called by PDCT to discuss the possible purchase of the airstrip. A committee had been formed. It is very early days and there was nothing new to report.
- d. The contractor is aware we are anxious to have the causeway repaired.
- e. BC informed the meeting that an appointment had been made of a new Education Officer, Derek Martin.
- f. IH informed the meeting that there was now an officer in charge of unused council properties. BC is hopeful there will now be consultation on three issues of serious concern to PDCC – the report on status of the primary school; the continued non use of the janitor's house; progress on the development adjacent to the shinty pitch. BC will ask the council official about these matters.

### 4. PLOCKTON – ACHMORE C1222 ROAD

- a. There had been a land slip on the sea/North side of this road on 30<sup>th</sup> September and the road was now closed.
- b. Despite signs, people had been reported to be removing these and driving through. The HC had now erected more permanent signs to stop this. The CC feels these signs are inadequate and there are no diversion signs in place.
- c. This land slip had been anticipated by both PDCC and Achmore and Stromeferry Community Council. About 2 months ago, a joint letter had been written to HC and an unsatisfactory reply received.

- d. Since the land slip, the CC had received a brief, undated and unsigned report on the condition of the road, undertaken by HC, which does not appear to be a proper structural survey including risk analysis.
- e. IH will write to Tracey Urry, HC, attaching the report, outlining both Community Councils' grave concerns about this road.

## 5. PLANNING

- a. There are no new planning applications.
- b. In light of the recent case highlighted in the press in which Ardgay and Rogart Community Council are being taken to court, on Thursday 20 November, by a member of their local community, concern was expressed at the possible inadequacy of the Community Council's insurance to deal with cases like this and whether CC members are exposed to possible claims. The CC will write to Derek Brown to seek clarification as a matter of urgency.

## 6. TRAFFIC/RESURFACING/DISRUPTION

- a. The contractor and HC were congratulated on a good job of resurfacing the road from the railway bridge to the end of Innes Street, completed on time and with minimum disruption. The new traffic lights are in place but are not yet operational.
- b. The CC would like to thank Hamish Bennett for organising the resurfacing of the small stretch of road from the end of Cooper Street to Rhu, completed at the same time.
- c. JF requested that, since there had been a substantial increase in traffic along the back of Innes Street during these works, the pot holes had become much worse and if these could be filled the next time there is a vehicle capable of undertaking this work in the village.
- d. Lining of the new surface will now probably be undertaken in the spring due to a drop in temperature.

## 7. COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

- a. Frustration and disappointment were once again expressed at the lack of communication from HC about their intentions for the primary school.

## 8. FIREWORKS

- a. Despite the weather, the fireworks event was once again a great success.
- b. Neither the collection tins nor the food generated as much income as previous years but costs were covered and a small profit made.
- c. Huge thanks were offered to Ewan Cameron and his team of 7 who were on the island; Sue Atkinson and her team of 19 who provided soup, ran the food stall, shook the collection tins, offered stewarding services and lit the bonfire from the mainland; Morar

Motors for fuel; Plockton Hotel and Plockton Inn for their collection tins throughout the year.

- d. It was decided that some of the surplus money generated would be used for 2 new benches at Barleyport and Achnahenich. A donation to the village hall of £1000 to help with insulation of the hall was also agreed.
- e. We will write to the fireworks supplier asking for a credit as some fireworks did not function.

#### 9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. The bolts on the cattle grid at Burnside need to be tightened. IH will contact the local roads engineers.
- b. The potholes on the Duirinish to Drumbuie stretch of road, particularly at the passing places are still awaiting repair as is the streetlight over the footbridge in Duirinish. MM will write to 'Fix My Street' on the HC website to highlight these issues.
- c. PM resigned as a member of the Community Council and therefore as Chair.
- d. On behalf of the CC, IH offered his thanks and gratitude for all Peter's work over the last 4 years – he had undertaken a lot of tasks over and above that required which was greatly appreciated by those who worked with him and the community at large.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: MONDAY 19 JANUARY 2026