

PLOCKTON AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTE HELD ON MONDAY 16.03.2026

Present: David McGhie, Chair (DM), Martin Bliss (MB), Ian Hay (IH), Fiona Mackenzie (FM), Michael Hay (MH), Mary Gollan (MG), Morag Mackenzie (MM), Alex Townend (AT), Councillor Biz Campbell (BC)

Apologies: Jimmy Fergusson

1. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

- a. The minute was approved by IT and seconded by EC. All matters arising are covered in agenda items.

2. TREASURER's REPORT

- a. The fireworks account paid out £939 for two benches leaving a balance of £3840.
- b. The general account paid out £171 for website hosting leaving a balance of £1799.
- c. The annual insurance has still to be paid.

3. ROADWORKS

- a. IH had received a reply from HC about the gritting undertaken in the recent snow and HC intend to improve their service next time, possibly with the help of local crofters, etc.
- b. There was a follow up from Dot Ferguson, HC on the consultation between PDCC and HC in 2021 asking for an update on the situation. IH had replied.
- c. HC indicated that they intended laying new white lines on the new tarmac before Easter and will also refresh existing signage.
- d. IH will write to Malcolm Macleod, HC about the permanent traffic orders which have never been put in place. The temporary traffic orders ran out some time ago and at present this means they are unenforceable.
- e. Sandra Holmes from PDCT had written stating that she hoped to arrange a meeting to discuss the Invitation to Tender bids for the Traffic and Tourism Management plan, at which the CC had been invited to attend. DM will liaise with SH over possible dates.

4. PLANNING

There were no new planning applications.

5. DEFIBRILLATORS

- a. MG stated that maintenance for the defibs in 2024 was £600 and in 2025 was £300.
- b. There is a spreadsheet to keep up to date with batteries, pad, etc which DM will check.
- c. MB agreed to look after the 3 in the village and MH the 2 outwith the village
- d. BC will ask HC if there is funding available for maintenance.

6. AIRSTRIP UPDATE

- a. DM had attended a meeting with PDCT, chaired by Kyla Orr. Also present was a representative from Dornoch airstrip who offered valuable insight into the possibilities for Plockton.
- b. It is a private airstrip and will never be used commercially due to size.
- c. After discussion with, and advice from, the Dornoch rep, Sandra Holmes will talk to HC about the possibility of leasing the airstrip.
- d. It was felt this had been a productive meeting and good step forward between PDCC and PDCT.

7. FIREWORKS PLANNING

- a. At present there is no one person in overall charge of the event and we will look for a volunteer for this role, probably from outwith the CC.
- b. EC is in charge of the fireworks on the island. AT leads the marshalls on the night but there is a need for further training and the purchase of hivy jackets. Catering on the night is run by Sue Atkinson. DM will check that all statutory legislation is covered.
- c. There is a requirement for some first aid marshalls and dedicated first aid kits.
- d. It was agreed that a subcommittee should be formed to run the event.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. An email from SSEN offering possible funding will be followed up by DM.
- b. All other relevant correspondence had been circulated to members for comment.

9. COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

- a. MG will once again contact the contractor re the causeway and brae steps.
- b. There had been no progress on the main pier repair.
- c. The two new benches for Barleyport and Achnadarach had arrived and MM will put them in place. It was agreed to move one of the benches from Harbour Street to the plinth on Frithard Road hill.
- d. Potholes on Harbour Street, Duirinish, airstrip road, etc were again highlighted.

10. AOB

- a. BC stated that the short term letting proposal will shortly be coming out for consultation with communities. She emphasised that it is important that communities are consulted and their feelings recorded.

- b. Plockton Village Hall had submitted an application to the Community Regeneration Fund (CRF) for funding to insulate the hall roof. This will cost from £15-25,000. The Community Council wished to record their full backing of this vital project as the hall serves all ages of the community and is a vital asset.
- c. Duirinish Bridge still requires repair.
- d. The permanent water leak adjacent to the defib in Duirinish has still not been fixed. IH will write to Andy Bone, HC, ccing BC.
- e. The report on the condition of the sea wall has still not been undertaken. IH will write again to HC.
- f. There was no feedback from HC on the insurance issue.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: MONDAY 20 APRIL 2026