



Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 1st March 2021 at 7.00pm via MS Teams

1. Present

Jillian Bundy (Chair), Patricia Groves (Secretary), David Craig, Donald Omand, Karl Rosie (Councillor, Highland Council), Heather Thompson, PC Craig Sutherland

Apologies

George MacDougall

Declaration of Interests

There were none made.

4. Police Matters

PC Craig Sutherland reported on crimes from December 2020 to March 2021. 21 calls, 4 of which were crimes (1 sexual offence) and 17 outside criminal matters. There were no organised crimes, anti-social behaviour crimes, or substance misuse (in our Area). There were a number of road issues – speeding, RTI. General advice was given to the public and there were medical matters.

Members of the committee raised issues of speeding traffic, log lorries and the bridge at the west end of the Village. Solutions suggested were, flashing images, more speed signage, speed bumps. Traffic Units come from further south to check speeding vehicles on an irregular basis.

The security lights at Charles Sutherland, Donald Alexander and Balmore yards was also raised. PC Sutherland will email the proprietors to ask if they can adjust the lights.

Operation Ruling is an initiative by the Police to reduce criminal behaviour. 3 cannabis farms, 9 drink drive offences, 9 drug drive offences, no insurance, assaults (Wick), house break ins (Thurso). Concerns regarding Corona Virus, e.g. Camper vans in Armadale, cannot always be dealt with as it is too late by the time they are reported. A warning is given first, then a £30 fine that is doubled each time you get a ticket. The public can report issues by email from the Police Scotland web site.

Craig left the meeting at 7.28 pm.

2. Adoption of Minutes

Proposed: Heather Thompson

Seconded: David Craig

Actions from previous meeting

PC Craig Sutherland will email about the lights from the yards.

Karl to attend Roads Committee Meeting on Wednesday and will find out more about road signs

Ruth was updated

Joan Lawrie gave the information about digital notice board but it might be complicated and expensive therefore Pat will enquire about traditional notice board and Karl will investigate if it can be erected at the bottle bank sight.

Information can be posted on the Community Council web site.

Judith Hill was contacted by Pat about the date of the next Meeting and that resulted in PC Craig Sutherland attending tonight's Meeting.

David reported that the Planning Department want approval for the anemometer and it will be discussed at the Planning Meeting tomorrow.

Jillian wrote objection to Ackron.

Jillian emailed Fiona Milligan and was told the contractors had been selected according to the distance they had to travel and they had been advised about social distancing etc. Blasting appears to have stopped at the moment. The 20mph signs are too small but Fiona Milligan says it is just a reminder to the contractors.

Karl contacting Joan Lawrie about the shop is ongoing.

Jillian has spoken to Scottish Community Development Trust and the Case Officer is contacting her with more information. Grants can be applied for and with the help of the SCDT a community shop can be set up. 6 - 8 trustees are required. Mike Flavell, Rita Leavesley, Jillian, Heather and Pat have shown interest in the venture for Reay and the Parish of Reay. SCDT and CC often work together and Jillian will continue with this initiative. An Option Study will be the first thing required to be done.

3. Correspondence

Venture North will erect tourist signs in Council Car Parks but want to know what information will go on the signs. Discussion about whether the car park at Reay Harbour was Council run and at Scrabster. David and Pat will look at signs and contact Venture North.

5. Planning and Licensing Updates

Nothing to report

6. Treasurer's Report

£5518.32 in the Bank

7. Village Officer

Jamie has not done the groundworks yet but the inclement weather is probably the reason. George has highlighted the need to get a lawn mower back from Ian Grant as it has to be accounted for.

8. Renewables and Developments

Drum Hollistan is going to appeal and there will be a Public Enquiry and the CC has been asked if they want to be represented. It will not be conjoined with Lime Kiln that is scheduled for the 14th June 2021. The CC can send in a written submission and be represented and have the right to ask questions. Jillian will proceed with this action.

The Limekiln press release was discussed and Alan Hendry, reporter to the John O' Groat Journal will include the comments from the Committee. Brenda Herrick is willing to help and Mathew Reiss also phoned. Jillian will draft information for the Councillors, future candidates etc. Karl will highlight how upset and disappointed the Committee are over the press release and the perceived underhand behaviour of the companies. The Project Manager from Infinergy will be invited to attend the next meeting.

9. Dounreay Stakeholder's Group

David was unable to attend the Meeting. There are Minutes from the 20th January and 7th February 2021. The next meeting on the 24th March will be the AGM and a public meeting will follow it. The dates of the next meetings to follow.

10. Association of Community Councils Update

Jillian will circulate the email

11. AOB

There will be a HC meeting on Wednesday when the vehicle data collected from Reay will be discussed. HC would install and maintain the flashing speed images but the CC would have to purchase them. Perhaps funding from the windfarms can be obtained?

The pot holes around the village are appalling. The numerous log lorries are exacerbating the poor road conditions. Perhaps developers can mend the roads after construction work is finished? There are 500miles of roads in Caithness and £7.2 million for road maintenance. Karl was asked if at the Planning Meeting, he could raise the issue of the anemometer.

It is proving difficult to find out about land for allotments at Scrabster.

12. Date of next meeting

12th April 2021 at 7.00pm via MS Teams

Actions

Karl to check if notice board can be erected beside the bottle bank.

Pat to find out about notice board costs

David and Pat to look into the signage at Scrabster and Reay.

George to retrieve lawn mower from Ian Grant

Jillian will send in a written submission for the Lime Kiln public enquiry.

Jillian to invite Infinergy Project Manager to the next Meeting.

Jillian to draft comments to Councillors etc. to rebuff Lime Kiln Press Release.

Jillian to circulate ACC email.

Karl to raise the issue of the anemometer at the Planning Meeting