



Minutes of Caithness West Community Council 7.30pm, 21st March 2022 at Reay Golf Club

1. Apologies

Donald Omand, Matthew Reiss

Present: Jillian Bundy (Chairperson), Patricia Groves (Secretary), George MacDougall (Treasurer), David Craig, Heather Thompson, Struan Mackie (Councillor, Highland Council)

2. Adoption of Minutes and Actions from previous meeting

Proposed: Heather Thompson

Seconded: David Craig

3. Correspondence

Halsary Community Fund will be operational in the next financial year. Members of the Community Council can volunteer if they want to be on the committee.

4. Police Matters

Speed checks were carried out in Reay, four drivers were stopped and warned and two drivers charged with speeding offences. Speed enforcement activity will continue as and when resources can be tasked.

A meeting was held on the 14th February to discuss the speeding issues and signs required for Forss. Mark Rowse will provide funding for the signs at either end of Forss Village. The Council will match the signs to others in Highland Region.

5. Planning and Licensing Updates

Nothing to report

6. Treasurer's Report

£6550.87 in the account

The grass verges cost £1060 and the notice board £117

7. Village Officer

Village Officer fund paid for the verges and the notice board. The fund should be extended after the Council Elections. Any large equipment for use by the Village Officer is for use over the whole Community

Council area. Mackenzie Sutherland will oversee industrial mowers, trimmers etc.

To brighten up the Village a suggestion was made that the Gardening Club be asked if they would help in planting flowers in pots that CWCC would purchase.

8. Renewables Developments

Limekiln has removed two turbines but they seem to now be in the extension to the wind farm.

Awaiting Public Enquiry result on Drum Hollistan.

Waiting to hear about Hill of Forss.

Ackron want to survey Jillian's field.

Offshore wind farm applications will be considered more favourably in the future.

9. Dounreay Stakeholders Group

The next meeting is on Wednesday 23rd March.

The waste facility at Dounreay will be under discussion. The waste varies and it should be possible to sort out the waste, depending on the type. David plans to talk about it at the meeting.

10. Association of Community Councils' Update

No update.

11. Community Shop

The sub group met in Reay Golf Club and had a Zoom meeting with Toby Sandison, Community Shares Scotland who explained about selling shares to raise money for setting up the shop. The group are unsure as to the way forward.

Sandy Anderson, who has carried out work for Reay Hall and Reay Golf Club is to be contacted about carrying out a feasibility study and business plan to find the best location and governance structure for the shop.

A Development Officer for Caithness West had been talked about as this might be someone who could move the project forward but nothing more was known about it.

The Post Office had also been contacted about a mobile Post Office but they had not been back in touch.

It was suggested that HIE might be able to help.

12. AOB

Heather is submitting a funding application to Bailey Wind Farm and Caithness and North Sutherland Fund for the "smiley face" traffic signs this week. The CWCC constitution requires to be signed by office bearers of CWCC and a bank statement along with endorsements from Reay Golf Club, Matthew Reiss (Councillor), Rebecca Munro and Ruth and Rowland Shallcross, members of the public.

It appears that Caithness and Sutherland are the only part of the Highland Region that has to pay for these signs. The Council will maintain the signs.

There is a problem about the removal of the damaged brown tourist signs and the erection of the new signs and it requires the roads executive officer to sort it out. It is hoped that they can be delivered to HC depot at Janetstown.

Heather has still had no response from Joanne Sutherland regarding a speed survey in the village. Struan will find out when the speed data is to be carried out in Reay.

It was noted that Reay Primary School road markings have not been done.

The 20mph flashing sign at the school is not working again.

The road surface from Isauld Bridge to Sutherland's Garage is to be carried out as part of the capital plan.

David completed the Offshore Wind Farm document.

13. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 16th May 2022 at 7.30pm in Reay Hall

Actions

Pat to ask the Gardening Club if they would plant out pots that the CWCC would purchase.

Pat to contact Sandy Anderson

Struan to find out about funding from HIE for the shop.

Struan to find out about speed data

Struan to find out about 20mph sign

The meeting closed at 9.00pm