

Dores & Essich Community Council

(held virtually)

Minutes of the Meeting

Monday 8th March 2021 at 1930 hrs

1. Members Present: Ella MacRae (Chair), Angus MacLaren (Vice-Chair), Simon Pillatt (Secretary), Nikki Perrin (Treasurer), Colin MacPherson, John Martin, Duncan Manson, Cllr Margaret Davidson and Anne MacLaren (Minutes Secretary)

Plus Iain Cameron, Candy Cameron and Fiona King

Apologies – Jeanette Murray

2. Minutes from last virtual CC meeting on 18/1/21 – they were proposed by AM and seconded by CM

3. Matters Arising –

3.1 Scottish Water – Cllr Davidson and EM had a meeting with Scottish Water and the pumping station at Loch Ness is currently not going ahead but will be in the future. They will honour the water upgrade from Aldourie to Dores. The community feels let down by this. Cllr Davidson will write a letter to the executive Board to say how disappointing this is.

3.2 Affordable Housing – Cllr Davidson received an email this afternoon and EM was forwarded a copy. One issue to be resolved is the two small grassed areas to the west and north of the Church. The Church of Scotland want to include these two areas in the transaction presumably to make the area more attractive to buyers. Ella spoke to Gail Matheson, Highland Housing Alliance earlier today. There will be a meeting when the land is valued for the housing and cemetery extension and samples sent for testing.

3.3 Cemetery Extension – as in point 3.2 above.

3.4 Village Improvement Traffic Calming – EM commented to wait and see if the CC get money for this. Cllr Davidson talked about extra money in the housing and roads budget and it was agreed a letter will be written to John Taylor, Colin Ross and Trace Urry at Highland Council.

3.5 Inner Moray Firth Development Plan – emails have been sent to CC members and it was agreed that a separate meeting should be held to discuss this in more detail. This has been arranged virtually for 15th March at 7.30pm. SP to send link along with the plan for full discussion. Letter to be sent to David Fraser about this meeting.

3.6 Scaniport Road Safety – nothing to report here but Alistair MacLeod, Roads Department, to put traffic counters down on the road to monitor this.

Cllr Davidson to speak to Keith Gibson, Planning Department, regarding any provisions being made in the access road works for a bus stop at the proposed development of 5 house plots in the former camp site at Scaniport.

3.7 ILLI Pump Storage Scheme – no updates to report

3.8 Broadband at Scaniport – CM commented that an application has been made for funding with the R100 Broadband Scheme. The Scottish Government is to make an announcement on this on Friday and CM to look at website then for any updates.

3.9 Ward Boundary Changes – CM commented that his letter written on behalf of the CC was submitted by 26th January deadline.

3.10 Community Website – this is working well and will be taken off future agendas.

3.11 Fish Farm – EM asked to put Archie Johnstone, SEPA, on the community website to be contacted if any further issues with slick.

3.12 CC meeting dates - 19/4, 14/6, 9/8. 4/10, 22/11 and 17/1/22

4. Police Report – no report received as yet.

5. Planning – planning application from Dochfour Estate for 2 glamping pods at Ballindarroch. A few clarifications are needed per CM.

6. Treasurer's Report – NP, Treasurer, commented that online banking has now been set up and just 3 payments have been made since last meeting. There is currently £7,385.76 in the bank account.

7. Correspondence –

Dog Poo poster – email from Jane Manson about putting posters up near the loch and asked will there be funding for this. This was discussed with NP and they are both happy to work on this. Maybe this could be jointly funded with the Development Trust.

EM commented on whether to appoint someone to help with the beach cleaning.

AOCB

EM commented that the prescription pick up from Foyers Surgery to Dores may stop in the near future due to the person currently doing this, his house has now been sold and moving away. EM will contact the surgery to see if they know anyone who will do this or maybe advertise the post.

AM said that Alan McKinnie has been in touch regarding the fly tipping close to Kinchyle and AM will speak to relevant farmer.

Candy Cameron mentioned the Tourist Group is organising another litter pick at the end of March.

EM is going to get in touch with Alan Johnstone, Highland Council, to change wording and touch up the sign at car park.

JM commented about the 30mph signs to be moved at Essich Meadows and was looking for advice on this. Cllr Davidson advised to write to Alasdair Christie or John Taylor at the Roads Department. Copy to SP on this.

Christmas tree is still in place at Dores and DM will arrange to now take this down.

EM closed the meeting at 2040 hrs.

Date of next meeting 19th April 2021 at 1930 hrs to be held virtually.

