

Dores & Essich Community Council

(held virtually)

Minutes of the Meeting

Monday 17th January 2022 at 1930 hrs

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

Plus: Iain Cameron, Siobhan Foster, Cllr Margaret Davidson, Shona Hay, Seonaid Green, Gavin Findlay and Gary Johnston from G.H. Johnston Consulting

Apologies – Councillor David Fraser. Nothing to declare.

2. Minutes from last virtual CC meeting on 22/11/21 – they were proposed by AM and seconded by CM.

3. Matters Arising –

3.1 Scottish Water – EM commented that SW have asked to buy land from the Highland Council. Cllr Davidson says this is not moving and no rush with this.

3.2 Affordable Housing – Gary Johnston from G.H. Johnston Consulting was invited to this meeting and made a short presentation showing the current local plan for the land South of Village Hall. He is looking for Community Council support on this. A further meeting will be held to discuss,

3.3 Cemetery Extension – Cllr Davidson commented the valuations have been done and Church of Scotland to agree and take this forward.

3.4 Village Improvement/Traffic Calming – EM commented no updates

3.5 Inner Moray Firth Development Plan – adding to Gary Johnston's short presentation there is to be a meeting held in March.

3.6 Scaniport Road Safety – an email received from Colin Ross, Highland Council, apologising he hasn't managed to progress the plan but will aim for next meeting to produce a draft.

3.7 ILI Pump Storage Scheme – Community Liaison Group newsletter sent out in December. EM, CM and JM attended a meeting at Wildside, Whitebridge on 2nd December for their own new scheme and asked for consideration to be taken into account our road.

3.8 Broadband at Scaniport – CM commented this is ongoing and he has been in touch with Fergus Ewing about getting involved. He will discuss with Openreach why ½ of Scaniport households are included in the Government R100 scheme and other ½ not.

3.9 Ward Boundary Changes – Nothing to report.

3.10 Dores Beach – Tim Francis, the access ranger, intends to create a WhatsApp group (Friends of Loch Ness) to provide communication between all to share experiences and advice.

3.11 Fish Farm – EM commented no updates.

4. Police Report – there is nothing to report on this.

5. Planning – there has been two planning applications – formation of vehicular access to Achvraid Farm and a conservatory to be built at 4 Strath Gardens, Dores.

6. Treasurer's Report – NP reported £8,073.23 in the Bank account and £6,997.76 unrestricted funds.

7. Correspondence –

Shona Hay, Torbreck sent an email to say she reported to the Highland Council a dead tree at the roadside at the boundary of Coulavie and Torbreck Lodge. EM has been in touch with Alan Johnstone to get this tree shifted. JM commented there is also one at the Torbreck Road/Essich Road junction.

Correspondence received about dogs off their leads and car parking at Aldourie. EM had a meeting with Candy Cameron and Aldourie Castle to discuss. Contact with Tim, Access Ranger, to be made about the dog problem.

8. AOCB –

CM attended the ward meeting on 7th December on the investment in playparks, trails and paths, cycle networks and community ideas. He will send out the information on this and will get costs for the work per Cllr David Fraser.

JM commented on Torbreck Road C1040. He met up with Murray McCheyne. A survey has been drawn up and sent to the residents on Torbreck Road for their views and have now spoken to some of the residents about the survey.

EM raised the problems with the Dores – Foyers Road between drainage and potholes. Cllr Davidson commented to report this on the website as there will be a quicker reply. Also, a letter to be sent to John Taylor, Highland Council and copy Cllrs Davidson and Fraser in on this.

EM commented a notice will be sent out to see if anyone is interested in joining the Community Council as a new member. A letter to be sent out to Inverness Royal Academy for potential youth members suggested by JM.

With regards to the ILI Pump Storage Scheme CM commented on the appointment of a Consultant for the CAP process. He is going to prepare a draft briefing on this and send out.

EM closed the meeting at 2055 hrs

Date of next meeting – 7th March 2022 at 1930 hrs