

## **Dores & Essich Community Council**

Minutes of the Meeting

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at 1930 hrs

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

Plus: Cllr David Fraser, Tim Francis (Senior Access Ranger), Claire Cuthbertson, Fiona King, Jennifer Fraser, Holly Kingham, Siobhan Foster, Gregor Sutherland and George Fletcher

Apologies – Nikki Perrin (Treasurer), John MacKenzie, Chris Vallance, Bryony Beck and Emma Harrison from Visit Loch Ness. Nothing to declare.

**2. Minutes from last CC meeting held on 25/4/22** - they were proposed by EM and seconded by CM.

**3. Matters Arising –**

**3.9 Dores Beach** - Tim Francis (Senior Access Ranger) spoke about problems at the beach area. The main issues are litter and fires. One idea to help is permanent signage and clearing the far end of the beach from gorse. The CC will have a chat about this and which is the best approach. A meeting will be organised with landowners and Stewart Eastaugh, Access Officer.

**3.1 Scottish Water** – work to start in September with pipe coming from school to the village. The belmouth was discussed at the Church car park and maybe get tarmacadam work done. CC to contact Scottish Water about getting this work done.

**3.2 Affordable Housing** - Gail from HHA will look at any updates this week.

**3.3 Cemetery Extension** – planning is now in.

**3.4 Village Improvement/Traffic Calming** – still problems with parking and maybe restrictions should be enforced.

**3.5 Inner Morag Firth Development Plan** – CM completed his review of the proposed plan against earlier comments on the Main Issues Report and summarised in a table. Comments to the Highland Council will be submitted by 17<sup>th</sup> June.

**3.6 Scaniport Road Safety** – CM and AM attended a meeting with Colin Ross, Highland Council on 6<sup>th</sup> June to look at the trees earmarked for felling in the interests of road safety. Arrangements for the Gateway and signs to be ordered.

**3.7 ILI Pump Storage Scheme** – CM and JM attended a meeting a month ago. Community benefit and shared ownership were discussed. Community benefit still to be decided on and as far as shared ownership is concerned ILI has withdrawn that option. CC will have a meeting soon to discuss this.

**3.8 Scaniport Broadband** – CM commented some properties have been included in the broadband scheme and some have not with no explanations why?

**3.9 Dores Beach** – discussed at the start of the meeting before Tim Francis left.

**3.10 Dores Fish Farm** – there were complaints about pollen bloom. SEPA to be contacted with any issues.

**3.11 New Members to join Community Council** – 4 new members have joined:-

John MacKenzie – Loch Ness View

Claire Driver – Church Bank

Holly Kingham – Torr Gardens

Jennifer Fraser – Dirr Wood

Unanimous decision to elect these new members who have put their names forward. The CC will wait for the Highland Council to confirm this.

**4. Police Report** – covering the period from 10/5/22 to 13/6/22 – there were 3 calls in relation to incidents on the road. There was one call in regards to public protection and 3 accidental 999 calls.

**5. Planning** – there were 4 new planning applications since the last meeting:-

- a) Conversion and extension of existing farm buildings at Achvraid – no issues with this
- b) Construction of a new storage building in the grounds at Aldourie – no issues with this
- c) Cemetery extension and new access road serving both the cemetery and future housing development – no issues with this
- d) Construction of a single house on a piece of woodland next to Lethendy, Scaniport. The problem is this area is completely wooded and not a site to develop. CM advised the CC to object to this due to loss of trees and not sufficient space. There is also an issue with flood risk on SEPA advice.

**6. Treasurers Report** – EM read out the report and there is currently £8,015.93 in the bank account with £6,940.46 unrestricted funds. £1,000 was received in May from Caledonian Concepts for the Etape. The report to be put on community website. It was agreed to give the Dores Hall a £500 donation.

**7. Correspondence**

An email has been sent to Cllr Margaret Davidson thanking her for her support over the years

An email was sent out about the Platinum Jubilee garden party which was held at Aldourie School on 2<sup>nd</sup> June.

JM asked that the community be informed about the Cost of Living Allowance especially those with exemption. They had to contact the Highland Council and have their bank details ready to receive any payment into their account.

An email received about Investing in Communities Fund stating this is now open to applications.

## **AOCB**

The Police had been reported on an incident on fly tipping – disappointment this was not on Police report given. Cllr David Fraser commented this could be on Highland Council website.

EM thanked AM for his support over the last 12 years. He is now standing down from the CC.

EM was thanked for all her hard work and commitment as Chair over the years. She is standing down as Chair but will continue to be on the committee.

EM closed the meeting at 2100 hrs

Date of next meeting – 8<sup>th</sup> August 2022 at 1930 hrs