

## **Dores & Essich Community Council**

Minutes of the Meeting

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 1930 hrs

**1. Members Present:** John Martin (Chair), Simon Pillatt (Secretary), Colin McPherson, Ella MacRae, John McKenzie, Claire Crosbie, Duncan Manson, Cllr Chris Ballance and Anne MacLaren (Minutes Secretary)

Plus: 3 members of the public

Cllr Balance takes Chair due to ongoing elections..CM and JMCK nominates JM as Chair. JM and SP nominate JMCK as Member. JM and JMCK nominate SP as Secretary. JM and SP nominate CM as Vice-Chair. Agree standing orders.

JM now takes Chair.

Apologies – Nikki Perrin (Treasurer), Adrienne Dempster, Steve Feltham

Nothing to declare.

**2. Minutes from last CC meeting held on 18/9/23:-** proposed by CM and seconded by JMCK.

**3. Matters Arising –**

**3.1 Affordable Housing** – there has been an amendment to the planning for car parking.

**3.2 Cemetery Extension** – EM commented that 6 households have been asking about the extension. CM and Cllr Ballance to liaise with Highland Council about updates.

**3.3 Village Parking** – there are no updates - parking manager will be contacted by Cllr Fraser.

**3.4 Scanport Road Safety** – CM commented work to be starting soon per Colin Ross.

**3.5 ILI Pump Storage Scheme** – CM commented an announcement is imminent. The promised money for Community Action Plan has not been received yet.

**3.6 Dores Beach** – Lavinia, Aldourie Estate says ok to clear top bit of beach and costs involved and signage. Tim Francis, Access Ranger, to go over signage and would like a meeting.

**3.7 Path to School** – As AD not at meeting wait to get update from her. JMCK offered to use blower on path to remove leaves.

**3.8 Public Toilet** – JM commented the Highland Council Comfort Scheme is not reducing funding now. He will speak to Adam and will speak to Development Trust about ongoing funding. .

**3.9 Loch Ness Lodges** – CM submitted comments on drinks licence. A reply was made no planning permission not pertinent to licensing. JM expressed concern regarding traffic to entrance.

**3.10 Citizen of the Year Award** - EM previously nominated Calum Crosbie for this for all his work in the village. JM proposed a £50 voucher to be given to Calum and this was agreed.

**3.11 Letter to Jessie Jappy** – this has still to be done and signed.

**4. Police Report** – no report but JM commented on black bags to be put over the 20 mph signs to cover them. Cllr Balance to find out the data for speed limit used.

**5. Planning** –Gary Falconer has put in outline planning permission for his house plot at Scaniport.

**6. Treasurers Report** – report sent from NP and was read out stating there is currently £7,952.65 in the Bank account with £6,877.18 unrestricted funds. NP wishes to resign as Treasurer.

**7.** Co-option of John McKenzie as Member and adoption of Ella MacRae as Associate Member. DM proposed JMCK as Treasurer and SP seconded this.

**8. Visit Inverness Loch Ness** – Difficult to get hold of them and a repeat letter will be sent out to get someone to attend a meeting. Keep writing and contact Val Sweeney.

**9. Correspondence** – work needing done to repair the steps to Torr Gardens – this is a Health & Safety issue and was reported to HC. No response as yet.

**10. AOCB** –

Fiona King commented on funding for local care services. Citizens Advice Bureau was recommended by CC. With advocacy services a social worker should find advocate.

EM commented several people asked why there is no signage on new cycle path from Holm. Murray McCheyne to be contacted about this.

EM commented that at top of Darris Road a local boy get the school bus. The bushes there should be cut as dangerous and EM to contact Lavinia about this.

Clare Cuthbertson commented negatively about the cancelled busses due to Storm Babet leaving people stranded. HC to be contacted about the bus service to Does.

Does Hall will have WIFI soon with money received from Discretionary Grant.

IC commented on the planting of acorns in the area and would like CC support on this and get locals and school pupils involved on the planting. This will be put on the local website.

CM asked about property and liability insurance which turns out this is already in place.

Also, CM asked about getting tenders for the Community Action Plan which has now been processed. 2 tenders are close to the budget.

Local Place Plan - An application was made to Dores Development Trust who are concerned about the amount of money asked for. £10,000 was asked for and this needs a refusal or acceptance. At the next meeting a decision will be made. A funding application has also been made to Great Glen Fund per Foundation Scotland, a decision on which is expected in January.

Cllrs Fraser and Balance to be asked for suitable dates for future meetings. Meanwhile, a meeting to be arranged for 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

JM closed the meeting at 2120 hrs

Date of next meeting – 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 1930 hrs