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**Unconfirmed Minutes of Sunart Community Council
Meeting held 9th May 2019 (7:30pm), Village Hall, Strontian**

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone. **Apologies** J. Jones (Secretary) K Swift (Police Scotland)

Attending: D Anderson (Chair), C Hunter (Vice Chair), T Coldwell, L Wilson, J. Hilder (minute taker) 6 members of the public.

2. Minutes of meeting held 11th April: Proposed C Hunter, seconded L. Wilson

Amendments:

The minutes published in the De tha Dol appear to be a draft version. J Hilder was not present and did not approve the minutes.

The April Minutes tabled on the 9th May wrongly referred to the previous minutes as being from February.

The minutes wrongly referred to the Ardnastang Common Grazings Committee requesting a meeting – this should have read that some individual members of the ACGC had asked for clarification of the Longrigg Woodland proposals and that Sunart Community Company were seeking a meeting.

Action: Agreed that henceforth the draft minutes to be circulated to the Community Councillors before being sent to De tha Dol.

3. Matters arising from the previous minutes

Police Matters: No report given, however J Hilder updated the meeting following a conversation with K Swift regarding Wildcat Haven and shaved and mutilated cats. K Swift said further complaints had been received and the police were aware that WH do not have a licence to trap and release feral cats. He had invited the vet concerned to a joint meeting of community representatives to explain their practices. No response had been received thus far.

Heritage:

Sunart Archive. - It was noted that the house belonging to the late George Fox was now up for sale. This could result in a need to find temporary storage of the Sunart Archives.

Free Church Anchor – J MacMillan was anxious that the anchor should be raised from the seabed and preserved. Treasurer noted that some funds were being held on reserve to pay for sundry costs (e.g. Marine Scotland licence) but a major funding push would be required to pay for the conservation of the metal anchor, to prevent it from deteriorating once raised. **ACTION: D. Anderson** to call a Public Meeting.

Monument Park Drinking Water Supply: In the absence of any improvements to the water supply it was agreed the Secretary should write to the Council and Scottish Water to chase progress. **ACTION:** Secretary.

Dail Mhor House: The service now has a commitment from NHS Highland and remains open for respite care, and full-time jobs have been advertised which is good news. Lunch Club is expanding and a hairdresser visits regularly and podiatrist services are planned. Lara van de Peer, Project Officer has hosted drop-in sessions around the peninsulas to collect views on what care provision is needed for the future

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and will shortly launch a public questionnaire. ALL RESIDENTS are encouraged to respond to the survey over the summer. J. Matheson (Acharacle) had attended the NHS Annual Review on behalf of the Working Group.

Community Councillors have succeeded in raising funds to renew the garden plants, tubs and furniture around Dail Mhor with thanks to the Ardgour Community Trust, Sunart Community Benefit Fund and Highland Council Discretionary Fund. Other applications are being made. A working party will be announced when the planters are ready – all welcome to assist.

Longrigg Woodland: The ‘Steering Group’ are awaiting the business plan from the consultants. As above, the minutes were corrected, and the Steering Group and consultants are seeking a meeting with the Ardnastaing Common Grazings Committee to discuss ideas for a possible concept for a timber transport route that might be mutually beneficial.

Visitor Information Centre: The Oakwood Tourism and Craft Centre is proving very successful; however it still requires more volunteers. Anyone wishing to work a shift for a few hours per week will be given full training. The committee are especially short of people willing to do a few hours at the weekends. Please contact Izzy Baker or call in to the shop if you are interested in helping.

SCC Website: Carried Forward. **ACTION: L. Wilson** to contact Dean Mann to organise new email and Facebook protocols and how to update the site.

Correspondence: Resilient Communities Fund - SSE Networks - J Hilder has contacted J. Madden and there doesn't appear to be any requirement that will fit the fund. However the Hall could do with a new set of crockery.

- War Memorial – As no contractors had submitted tenders for the new handrail the Secretary will approach some directly.
- Resilience Plan – Community Councillors met at 7pm 9th May to update information. A Full Resilience Planning Meeting to take place on 12th September with the Emergency Services and all those who have given their names as Emergency Coordinators for the Village.
- Disposal of SW assets – Anaheilt Common Grazing's Committee decision awaited.
- Corran Ferry – No update available.
- Gravelling the Recycling Area – Councillors expressed thanks to Roy Cattle and the Highland Council team for smartening up the area around the recycling banks.
- Community Council Scheme – recruitment of a young person – carried forward
- Forestry and Land Scotland - Several complaints had been received about the rough and uneven track at the Ariundle Oakwoods – Action Secretary to write.
- **Community Clean Up** – This took place on Sunday 5th May and was well attended. Chair thanked everyone who helped out. Michael & Martin Calver were especially thanked for bringing down a high-pressure cleaner for the slipway and jetty which made a big difference to the annual clean up.
- Compared to previous years there was very little litter. Councillors acknowledged that some dog walkers / residents regularly collect litter which is much appreciated.
 - E McVicar explained he had sought to plant some flowers and shrubs in the area beside the bridge opposite his house since the old picnic benches were removed. He was thanked for his efforts.

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- He requested that the Community Council seek to re-instate the benches. **ACTION:** JH to discuss with Men's Shed to see if Comm Council can commission some new benches.
- Mr McVicar also wished to point out that he has to collect rubbish from outside his house and thrown over his fence on a daily basis, particularly when the schoolchildren have passed by after lunch. He has also witnessed and taken photographs of children vandalising signs and benches on the village green. Most recently children vandalising the coffee sign were reported to A. MacLean. The police have not been informed since the earlier incidents of children climbing on the roof of the BT Exchange (there has been no repeat since.)
- Community Councillors expressed sympathy for Mr McVicar and dismay that children should behave in such a way and should have such little respect for their surroundings.
- Dog Poo Bag Dispensers & Bin – JH has purchased 2 dispensers for the village. There is a need for a Dog Poo Bin at the entrance to the Community Woodland near the greenhouse. **Action: Secretary** to contact the Council

4. Planning Matters -

- a. 19/01613/FUL Erection of Extension to Outbuildings – Laudale House.) Noted

5. Correspondence

- a. Geoengineering – Circular received by lobbyists waning against alleged impact on health from 5G networks and short wavelength radio signals – Noted.
- b. Carnegie UK Newsletter – Noted
- c. Innogy Glen Tarbet - – Annual Monitoring From required for hydro funds.
Action - Treasurer
- d. Horsley Cottage public path – Secretary had written to Access Officer to enquire. [*Access Officer had responded on 8th May, but his report had not been received by all parties and this would have assisted discussions.*] – Mrs P Adams had written to the CC (29th April) to complain about the realignment of the footpath through the garden of Horsley Cottage, and to inform the SCC that she had raised the matter with D. Kennedy the Highland Council Access Officer. Mr & Mrs Adams attended the meeting as did the owners of Horsley Cottage. As the realignment of the path had been previously brought to the attention of the Community Council the Secretary had already received a response from Mr Kennedy, email dated 23rd April, in which he confirmed that the landowners appeared to have carried out his recommendations (which were made a condition of the publicly available planning consent.) (i.e. "*realignment, reasonably level ground, natural surface, which members of the public of average walking ability to can negotiate*".) Mr & Mrs Adams contested the quality of the path and also that the new route was no longer suitable for wheelchairs. (Occasionally in the past care staff from Dail Mhor had used the path as a circular route with clients in wheelchairs to the village green. One community councillor confirmed this had been the case some years ago. Other community councillors suggested that the route had never been a suitable route for wheelchair access and other routes via the village green were available.) All acknowledged there is a steep slope on the path as it drops from the private road to Bramble Cottage, towards Horsely Cottage. The landowners confirmed their intention to cover the new path with gravel as part of their planned building works and so the current surface was temporary. They will also prune overhanging vegetation where permitted. (Some trees are

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protected). They have accepted the new route will be waymarked. This was welcomed. Mr & Mrs Adams remain unappeased.

It was agreed to seek an update from D. Kennedy as neither party had received any further update since his visit on May 3rd. In particular clarification was required on whether the route is a designated right of way or not.

6. Treasurer's Report

Deposit Account is £10,555.07

Current Account is £4,497.60 (although there are some cheques to clear)

7. Any other Business (AoB) - None

8. Date of next meeting: Thursday 13th June 2019, 7:30pm in the Village Hall, Strontian.

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