

Draft Minutes
Sunart Community Council
7:30pm, Thursday 13th October 2022 Sunart Centre

1. Welcome and Apologies:

- a. Attending: D Anderson (Chair), E Sneddon-Hughes (Treasurer) J Jones (Secretary), J Hilder, V Balnaves -Aitken, J Millar-Craig (Minute Taker), J May, Cllr S Fanet and one member of the public
- b. Apologies: Cllr A MacDonald, Cllr Kate Willis, Cllr MacLennan

2. Acceptance of previous minutes (Inc. amendments)

Proposed: E Sneddon-Hughes Seconded: V Balnaves- Aitken Amendments: None
Minutes prepared and produced by J Millar Craig and the Secretary

3. Matters arising not included in the minutes

- a. Police matters – [*Tabled after the meeting due to email problem*] . A male has been charged with the two vandalisms in the village and other charges have also been libelled. The renovations should be starting in the next week or two at the houses, certainly been plenty of contractors in, there will be no access to the station by the public unless by appointment. Mull Rally - assistance from Road Policing has been requested for the rest of this week and early next week due to the traffic volume.
- b. The plaque for Fiona Christian has been mounted on a bench made by The Men's Shed and the bench is placed outside the Oakwood Visitor Centre.
- c. 7.d. Forestry & Land Scotland (FLS) - The Secretary had written to David Robertson requesting a meeting to discuss the state of the boardwalk and path in Phemie's Wood, the bridge in Ariundle and other points with regard to FLS. Meeting date still to be finalised. Secretary to email will email FLS again

4. Planning Matters

- a. None notified in this month's period

5. Correspondence

- a. Corran Ferry pre application consultation- **public meeting** arranged for 10th November 2022, at the Ardgour Memorial Hall, Clovullin between 2pm and 8pm. Prior to this an online meeting for Lochaber members and the Corran Ferry Steering group Community Council Representatives, is being arranged.
- b. Local Housing Strategy – Highland residents are being invited to complete a survey which will help inform how the Highland Council will deliver new affordable housing and housing services over the next 5 years - Noted
- c. Strontian Road Surfacing work 10-14th October – J Matheson. This work had been postponed until November due to inclement weather - Noted
- d. Community Regeneration Funding – Highland Council are inviting organisations to apply for community regeneration funding to finance projects which will respond to the needs of the local area – Noted
- e. Marine Licensing Pre-Application Consultation – Corran Narrows Slipway & infrastructure Improvement Scheme – Event 10th November 2022 Noted
- f. Monument Park Water Supply – Gavin Steel, Scottish Water. The temporary supply of water from Scottish Water to the water tank for Monument Park is still in place. Scottish Water are seeking a meeting to discuss how to take matters forward. Cllr Fanet has agreed to chair such a meeting. Secretary to email Gavin Steel
- g. FLS Drimnatorran Forest Land Management Plan Consultation. - Community Council and Community Company will submit responses. Action: JJ and JH. Secretary to email FLS
- h. Cost of Living Support: Community Lead Initiatives – Voluntary Groups are invited to apply for grants for relevant projects. This notification has been forwarded to the Resilience Group. Currently, a lunch club is held fortnightly at the Sunart Centre. A grant could support another organisation to run a second lunch club alternate weeks.
- i. Lochaber Cares Stakeholder Workshops – link placed on Facebook

6. Treasurer's Report

Invoices and expense have been paid up to date. Secretary confirmed that the Public Entertainment License for the Bonfire and Fireworks covers a 3-year period. £400 has been received from book sales.

7. Any other business

- a. Fireworks Night 5th November – it has been agreed that this year, less spent on fireworks and quieter ones will be purchased if possible; contributions from local businesses to be sought if time permits. The bonfire will be set up in the far corner of the show field car park. The Cub Scouts' leader to be contacted regarding soup, food, etc
- b. Corran Ferry Funding – Community Council has been approached by Cllr MacDonald to ask local community councils to email Ms Jenny Gilruth, the Secretary for Transport, to request that funding is put in place for the proposed new E ferries and necessary changes to the infrastructure. There is a meeting to be held 10th November about the new ferries. Cllr Fanet involved. A fixed link is still part of a feasibility study.
- c. Access ramp at the Keystore Village Store. We look forward to completion of the works to the ramp and the temporary signs indicating the access via the path round the green.
- d. Website – Helping Hands page - this has been set up by the Resilience group.
- e. Grant Application – Salen Community Wood. Group: The requested grant of £100 approved and can be paid when a Salen Community Wood Group's bank account is set up.
- f. Grant Application for Nimble Finger Project - £300 was approved for the Nimble Finger project to be put towards a Halloween Party for the Strontian community. The group are also going to carry out a number of fund-raising activities.
- g. Resilience Funding – £1000 has been approved for the Resilience Group to help put together 'Grab Bags', emergency equipment items and leaflets in case of emergency. The Resilience group has also been exploring as to how best to establish a Community Hardship Fund that might provide additional support locally and ways this might be distributed. It was agreed that £3000 to be ring-fenced for this possibility.
- h. Remembrance Day Poppy Wreath – The wreath has been bought. Police will be notified about closing the road during the service. E Sneddon-Hughes will place the Community Council wreath.
- i. A member of the public raised the issue of Highland Council storing items in the show field car park. We understand this is council property, however, there may be a potential issue affecting the Bonfire and fireworks event. Secretary will contact the local team.
- j. Ash Die Back: There are trees on the Anaheilt Road that are affected and some dead branches will need to be removed. J Hilder to follow up with Highland Council and will label the trees to identify those that are the responsibility of the Community Company and those which are Highland Council responsibility.
- k. Sunart Open Day – will be held on 26th October, 10am to 4pm. This is an information event for the local community and especially for people new to Strontian A representative from each Community Council, Community Company, the Men's Shed and other local groups will be present to help explain the role of each of these bodies within the community, and to answer any questions.
- l. A member of the public raised the question of updating the village playground. After discussion it was proposed that in the short term, a new bench, supplied by Community Company, will be placed in the playground area. Also a £6,000 grant has been obtained towards the cost of a replacement swing.
- m. **Urram update:** The Feasibility Report into replacement buildings at Dail Mhor has not yet been published whilst additional information from the NHS is awaited and then the report will be published. Meanwhile the Dail Mhor home remains open and staff are organising some local fundraisers to raise money towards some redecoration and minor improvements that will help improve the 'comfort' of the residents. The community is encouraged to support these. Meanwhile Urram continues to support care provision locally through its Befriending and Hospital Transport Services.
- n. The Christmas Market and switching on of the lights, is to be on Saturday 26th November.
- o. Village Hall – The Wee Show had recently made a welcome return to the hall. However, there still seemed to be 'legal' issues with using the hall. Cllr Fanet will research a Highland Council contact name.

Date of next meeting – Thursday 10th November 2022 at 7:30pm, via Zoom