

**Draft Minutes**  
**Sunart Community Council**  
**7:30pm, Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022 via Zoom**

**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)
- b. Apologies: Cllr Kate Willis, J May

**2. Acceptance of previous minutes (Inc. amendments)**

Proposed: E Sneddon-Hughes; Seconded: V Balnaves-Aitken

**3. Matters arising** not included in the minutes

- a. Police matters –None indicated
- b. 5g FLS issues and FLS Drimnatorran Forest Management Plan Consultation – Secretary had emailed FLS and was still awaiting a reply. It was anticipated that the lack of maintenance of paths, bridges etc would be highlighted in the Community Questionnaire. It was agreed that pressure needs to be maintained on FLS and to continue to push for a meeting to progress issues. R Layden to be contacted regarding the replacement of the Ariundle river bridge and the small bridge in Fairy Walk. To be added to the discussion was the bridge, which enabled those cycling from Polloch along Loch Sheil to access Glenfinnan, as it is damaged. Also the state of the paths around Badger Point, was a problem highlighted in an email received from a resident in Polloch. The Glenhurich Land Management Plan (See Correspondence 5a) will also form part of the discussions.
- c. 5a. Corran Ferry pre application consultation meeting – Dean Mann joined the meeting and reported on the Ferry meeting. Dean explained that there are two elements a ferry replacement and a fixed link. He explained that the fixed link was 25years hence. And that the ferry replacement is an immediate requirement as both ferries are beyond their predicted service life. To date, a lot of time and effort had been put into preparing a proposal for two, new electric powered vessels and the necessary infrastructure. The frustration is that Highland Councillors are not committing a budget to move the proposals to the next phase of the project i.e. design the ferries and placing the order, and instead taking a wait and see approach. It was agreed that all the local Community Councils would be contacted, including Mull, so that a unified approach, representing as large number of people as possible, could be made to Highland Council and the Scottish Government. This would be in order to push the political will towards making a firm commitment to the funding of the project. There could also be pressure exerted to get the next steps in the project underway. (A fuller note of his report can be found on the website.) Thanks were given to him for his input. ESH had also attended the meeting and was in agreement with Dean's appraisal.

**4. Planning Matters – previously circulated**

- a. 22/04291/PNO Raise the roof of existing agricultural building Craigrowan, Anaheilt, Strontian PH36 4JA - Noted

**5. Correspondence**

- a. Glenhurich land management consultation – see 'Matters Arising 3b' above.

**6. Treasurer's Report**

A donation of £100 to be put towards the fireworks, was gratefully received.  
Current £11,351.98      Reserve: £10,599.01

**7. Any other business**

- a. A member of the public had raised the problem of dog excrement on the path along the Back Road by riverbank and on the path at the back of the hotel. JH to put up dispensers of free 'poo bags' on each of the paths. A reminder will also be put onto Facebook asking

people to pick up after their pets. There are several bins in the area where these bags can be deposited.

- b. The old phone box at Polloch (acquired on behalf of the community) has been refurbished by Mark Embling and is now ready to receive defibrillator costing approx. £1,800. This to be purchased behalf of the community. It was agreed that Sunart Community Council will contribute £1000 with further monies coming from fundraising such as at the raffle at the Christmas Market. A Polloch resident has contributed £250. Community Company is in discussions with Bo Wilson about appropriate replacement and maintenance.
- c. Halloween Party – the Halloween Party had recently taken place, much to the enjoyment of the children in the village. There is also now a quantity of themed party kit which can be stored and used again in subsequent years. Congratulations to those involved.
- d. The books that had been outside the village shop have been moved inside the Library for the winter months.
- e. Monument Park Water Supply – The Secretary has contacted Gavin Steel of Scottish Water. A copy of the E mail will be sent to Cllr Fanet who had agreed to chair any meetings.
- f. Ash Die Back – Highland Council had responded to J Hilder. He has been informed that trees within 3 metres of the road are the responsibility of Highland Council. They will investigate the matter, carry out a bat survey and then commission the work needing to be done. However, there are some trees in the Community Company ownership, on the Back Road, that require attention; quotations for doing this work are being obtained. The dead tree on the back path near the fire station is to be removed.
- g. The Back Road path is in need of maintenance. Volunteers will be sought to help with leaf clearing, putting down stones etc. An event will be advertised soon.
- h. Fireworks – this event had had to be postponed as the fireworks were not available in time. This has been rescheduled for 12.11.2022.
- i. Christmas Market – This will go ahead weather permitting. A ‘to do’ list is available for volunteers to help set up etc.
- j. Vicki Balnaves-Aitken is to set up a ‘*Whatsapp*’ group for community council members to enable quick dissemination of information.

**8. Date of next meeting** – Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 7:30pm, Sunart Centre