

**Minutes of 20th February 2023 meeting**

**West Highland College, Broadford**

**Present:**

Hamish Fraser, Alistair Macpherson, David O’Donnell, Norma Morrison, Joan Robertson, John Finlayson, Paul Matthews, Hermione Lamond

**Apologies:**

Liz Whyte & Darach Hynd

Hamish welcomed all to the meeting.

**Minutes of 9th January:**

David O’Donnell proposed, and Joan Robertson seconded the minutes of the previous meeting.

A correction required for the minutes of the January meeting, was brought up by David. To be actioned by Paul

**Matters arising & Police report:**

Hamish wrote to Chief Inspector Alasdair MacLeod, Area Commander, South Highland, to invite to meeting to discuss recent violence in Broadford. Unfortunately he is leaving the force and suggested we meet with a local Inspector or Sergeant in the first instant

No Police report.

Plans to invite Insp Ross or Police representative for next meeting - Hamish

**Community Update: Encompassing items 6, 8, 9 & 10 of the agenda.**

**Norma’s Community Coordinator Update**

**Broadford Toilets:**

* Standstill
* Maclaren Builders will concentrate on Broadford when Elgol finished.
* Queries over 20K bond for road crossing – thanks to JF for support with this. JF said there has been a conversation about this and has been actioned.
* Finally got paperwork for additional funding – Place Based Investment Fund – thanks to JF for support with this.
* HC are happy to grant BSCC a lease for the old toilets (same basis as Elgol) as the Community Asset Transfer goes through - thanks to JF for support with this.
* Note that Asda will be our new neighbours – do we want to write a letter of support?
* HC staff excellent when it comes to claiming – Town Centre Fund very straightforward.
* Action:
* Carry out a search of the land ownership of the toilets to ensure registered correctly this time.
* Full CAT to be started.

**Elgol Toilets:**

* Nearly there!
* RTIF need to be all claimed by 10th March RTIF
* RTIF funding is more complicated – again staff very helpful.
* First HCCF claim about to be submitted.

Action:

* Look at interpretation boards / signs - Elgol Community to look at this.

**Paths:**

* Hospital path - nothing back from NHS re support with funding
* Mark Crowe attended new school consultation regarding school path – he will be involved in supporting the active travel element of the new school / community campus. Very helpful having him there.
* Elgol path
* Contract not yet awarded as shortfall of 12K.
* Hoping to get additional funding from IIF or the Ian Findlay Fund – waiting for update on the IIF.
* Claim submitted for work to date - not yet paid.
* Planning to get a path working group up and running. Need to look at what we have and any missing gaps. Ian Finlay Fund a possibility for path study and maintenance plan.

**Community Fridge:**

* Ongoing – getting more stock in
* Thanks to the Waste Officers for supporting with the clothing share element of the Community Fridge – everything is going well and it has been a welcome addition.
* Lease has expired on the Community Fridge.
* Potential to move to the old toilets when the new toilets are ready.
* Could apply to HC Cost of Living Fund for funding to develop the old toilets.

**Cost of Living:**

DTAS Cost of Living fund successful - £27K.

**Secured funding for:**

* Community Link Officer
* Funding for food for 3 x warm space events run by BSCC / HEB / KSB, Church of Scotland, Rag Tag
* Funding for CAB to support Community Link Officer with training, offer shadowing and providing outreach workers for events.
* Transport
* Heating for warm space event
* Highland Council Cost of Living fund still to be applied for, (approx. £10K)
  + Community Fridge or another project?

**South Skye Community Hub:**

* + Successful community consultation day – very interesting and a very engaged community.
  + Need to nail down the appropriate legal body to manage the South Skye Community Campus.
  + Attended CARES funding surgery with thoughts for the hall development. Contacted the local development officer and have a plan of the stages to go through and some additional info from the village hall committee.
  + Village Hall is making initial contact and will then support with funding bids.
  + Ongoing work on business plan
  + Meeting to be confirmed with Sports Scotland – thanks to JF for support with this.

**Mackinnon Memorial Hospital**:

* + Following on from the successful partner meeting we are waiting for progress…. No change! Have chased HC and still no response!
  + EOI still in place until all ironed out.

**Other:**

* + Supported Waste Project with induction process including contracts etc.
  + QuickBooks for the Charity – training someone up to assist.
  + Supported Flourish with Mental Health and Wellbeing fund application.
  + Gave a talk at the Scottish Island Federation meeting regarding community resilience and the impact of the cost of living crisis. This is following on from our inclusion in the Scottish Government research about community resilience during the Covid 19 pandemic.
  + Successful Community Regeneration funding bid for additional hours for community coordination / development. Interviews this week and hope to have someone in post asap!
  + South Skye Event Space had a successful application to the Community Regeneration Fund too. In addition to this in order to deliver the project over 30K of own funds used and a loan from the HC. Work to commence mid-April.

**Highland Council update:**

* Budget meeting still planned for 2nd March.
* Current budget gap of £50M
* Highland council capital program awaiting leap-3 funding (currently unaffordable), needs reviewed.
* Council roads – projected figure for maintenance year on year recurring is £2.6M (current budget £500k) Needs additional funding / earmarked reserves, recognising rural roads.
* Teachers pay remains an immense pressure on H.C.
* Realistically, there are to be more cuts on the horizon with the tertiary projects/services likely to be first. With 60% of budget used on Government projects and the remaining 40% going to local authorities.
* Every project in the capital program is at the mercy of the budget.

**Transport Scotland meeting:**

* Continued speeding through village discussed.
* Boy racer problems acknowledged.
* Streetlights back to working order.

**Scottish water mains project:**

Hamish speaking with Peter Gordon about strange decisions on placement of new water main. Issues regarding wasting of public money.

**Planning:**

No planning to discuss.

**Accounts:**

Investigation needed to clarify a payment to the Broadford hall - Some confusion being raised by the hall keeper. Ongoing, clarification needed.

**AOCB:**

* Kate Earnshaw meeting still to be planned.
* Police to be lined-up for next meeting – Hamish to action.
* Discussion on Helipad. No report of why it was closed in the first place…no further information offered. Funding in place for helipad TBC. Hamish
* CT scanner for Hospital will not go ahead on grounds of it not being deemed to be required.
* Discussed safer routes to School, as a member of the community had drawn attention to shortcut/path from Campbells farm housing to the present primary school. Spending money on a path that will likely be destroyed in the process of the new school build, put that conversation to bed. No funding or government help available for disabled parents getting their children to school. Suggested that this would be an NHS via social work (or vice versa) route to explore.
* Location of new hospital discussed with regards to urgent care for the north of the island, this was led by the news of the closure of the NHS dentist in Kyle. Ironically, south Skye patients having to travel to Portree for emergency treatment only. – All
* Hermione attending John Muir Trust Strathaird development meeting, will speak with Neil Clapperton
* Norma suggested a potential for a windfarm consultation meeting for the South of Skye
* David reiterated that we have space to co-opt another full member, space also to appoint another youth-member (ask Nicholas) and space for numerous associate members. Also mentioned the Parish Map access.
* Resignation of Willie MacDonald accepted and noted.

**Date of next meeting:**

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Next meeting 27th March, 8th May, and 19th June.