



BROADFORD & STRATH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes 12 February 2024

Online meeting via Teams

Present Alistair McPherson, Den Connell, Hamish Fraser, Hermione Lamond, Rhona Coogan (Chair), Nick Ferguson, Paul Matthews, David O'Donnell, John Phillips

Apologies John Finlayson (Cllr), Norma Morrison (BSCC), Skye Deans

Welcome from Rhona.

Approval of Minutes

January: proposed by Paul, seconded by Den

December: proposed by Hamish, seconded by Den

Matters Arising

Hermione – money with Senior Citizens agreed and confirmed with Joan Robertson on their behalf. Hermione - £1738.82 will be transferred via bank transfer. Full list of SC deposits/withdrawals has been determined and recorded by Hermione.

Invoices – November inaugural meeting BVH invoice to be paid by Hermione, invoice will be printed by David. Alistair's invoices for Christmas wreaths - £30 + £40 + £32.40 three separate bank transfers to be made for these amounts.

Funding – Highland Council Community Regeneration Funding announced today. BSCC were awarded £24,776 Resilient Communities Fund and £10,500 Paths Feasibility. Good news.

Paths

Brief update from Norma at BSCC:

Pier Path - Scottish Water to make repairs by the end of the month.

Skinadin circuit – Bridget Thomas has been very helpful. Issue raised that disabled ramblers have had problems and apologies were given for this. FLS were hoping to have contractor onsite last week however this was delayed due to weather. Hopefully repairs will be carried out in the next few weeks.

A section of the retaining sea wall near the community garden has become deteriorated. This was reported by the Sarah, Community Gardener.

Lime Park Landscaping

A letter has been received from Fiona Mandeville regarding the unfinished landscaping project on the side of A87 below Lime Park. This project was started in 2007 but was never completed. After discussion, the committee feel that as so many years have passed since the Community Council's last involvement, a lot of investigation would be required to revisit this and take the project forward. It

was noted that general volunteers have helped to clear and tidy the area in the last few years. Rhona to speak to Fiona.

Skye Cycle Way

John Phillips joins meeting to give an overview. The project is in the second last stage of design, referred to as developed design. There has been a slight hold up in the planning of the section between Scullamus and Harrapool, as cyclists cannot take to the 40mph main road. This was rejected by Sustrans, so a new section of path will have to be put in place instead. Transport Scotland (via Bear Scotland) and Sustrans have been consulted over the new plans.

Previous planning application was submitted between BSCC and Community Council. Planning will have to be renewed soon. John would like to propose that the application is submitted via BSCC. Planning submission costs are to be covered by project funding. All agree to this.

The project was held up greatly by Covid. There will most likely be another year or so of planning before it gets underway. Alistair - the path runs into Kyleakin area so suggests an update for Kyleakin Community Council too.

John will email plans of the route for circulation.

National Park

Angus Murray will hold National Park meeting update for us next Monday, 19th February via Zoom. Rhona to correspond with him about whether the general public can attend as this has yet to be confirmed. David can share event info via our social media, if public.

South Skye Community Campus SCIO

Hamish has resigned a trustee from the SSCC SCIO. We may need another member of the Community Council to join as a SSCC SCIO trustee on our behalf but will wait to hear from the SSCC SCIO. David remains the CC representative at SSCC board meetings.

Elgol Community Meeting & Primary School

Hermione – Elgol community meeting on 23rd Jan was very successful. The future of the village, including the primary school was discussed. Following this, in the past two weeks there were meetings with the HC Education Department, the Lochalsh & Skye Housing Association and John Muir Trust. LSHA have Elgol at top of their list for a housing development.

Education Dept. meeting resulted in email from Ian Jackson, 30 January 24. He notes that there are 6 pre-school children in the community and the future of the school is being considered in light of the views of the parents in Elgol.

Following this, the Elgol community are looking to form a Development Trust. Hermione will update as this progresses.

Bank Account / Financial

Signatory update – we need to resign one of the bank forms with a co-signature from Norma. Hermione received phone-call to say this. Rhona received a reference quote number via text so she will try to find out which branch holds the forms to see if we can collect them and re-sign.

Community Gardener fund request pending but general feeling is that we need to get our accounts in order and up to date before seeing what we can potentially offer as a donation. Rhona - can we look to fundraise for CC going forward when funds become available? David has raised this point in the past and agrees that we should do this. David will investigate this.

Planning

Robin Keane, proposing the development site near hospital, has been put in touch with David at UHI with regards to potentially building student accommodation units. When he comes to meet CC, suggestion to invite a representative from UHI to the meeting too.

John Kane, property developer, is looking to buy a house for NHS multiple occupancy in Broadford and he would like to meet with CC. Rhona to contact him.

Hamish suggests that we ask Lochalsh & Skye Housing Assoc to come and speak to us and give us an update on the housing situation in Broadford and surrounding areas.

Windfarms

No planning submission for the Breakish Wind Farm yet submitted.

David attended Local Energy Scotland / HIE meeting on zoom 30 Jan 2024 on behalf of the Community Council. A selection of Community Trust and Community Council representatives were in attendance. LES/HIE share the opinion that there is an opportunity for a Skye & Raasay wide community benefit fund or community shared ownership body to receive and distribute funds from Wind Farm companies.

LES/HIE sought volunteers to take the lead on this, to apply to CARES for funding to move to the next stage of feasibility and have legal advice and workshops for all community groups. At the time, nobody came forward. David will update CC if he hears any news on this.

Hamish – HC may object to developments if good reason in planning terms / majority local opposition, but as we know the applications go to ECU and at the end of the day Scottish Government make the final decisions.

AOCB:

John Finlayson HC update – budget setting taking place on 29 February. Also, Skye and Raasay Committee meeting will be today. Minutes at this link:

https://www.highland.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/4932/isle_of_skye_and_raasay_committee

Alastair – Christmas decorations update: cable for Christmas tree is now needing uninstalled. Alastair may need some volunteers to help with winding up the cable as it's very heavy. David and Den offer their help.

David – have BSCC accepted offer of associate membership? Rhona – there is a BSCC board meeting tonight, and they are discussing this. Update next meeting.

Sarah, the Community Gardener has been in touch with us re. Siaway fish and chips. Their litter is being left in the community garden/beach area, particularly individual small sauce sachets. Rhona will message Tom Eving.

Den – Primary School Parent Council have a meeting scheduled for March as they have some new members. They will consider our offer of associate membership then. Den will update.

Meeting Closed.

Date of Next Meeting: 7.30PM, 11 March at UHI West Highland, Broadford