



# **BROADFORD & STRATH COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES**

16 September 2024

UHI North, West & Hebrides – Broadford, 7.30PM

Members Present: Den Connell, Rhona Coogan (chair), David O'Donnell, Nick Ferguson, Hamish Fraser (online), Hermione Lamond (online), Paul Matthews, Alistair McPherson

Apologies: Skye Deans

Others Present: Martyn Ayre, John Finlayson (Cllr), Nicholas Kelly, Norma Morrison

All attendees welcomed.

### **Declarations of Interest**

None declared.

### **Approve Minutes of last meeting: 24 June 2024**

Proposed: Alistair, Seconded: Paul.

### **Matters Arising**

SSE Workers Camp & Community Benefit. Rhona – a participation request is not appropriate in this situation. Rhona will contact Stuart Macpherson (SSE Transmission) to try to organise a meeting to voice community concerns regarding the camp.

Helipad. Three sites by the hospital were listed 'for sale' on the open market through HIE. They may have been the key potential sites for the hospital helipad. The close date has been extended, giving the chance to investigate why one of these has not been allocated for the new helipad. It is extremely important that we get a helipad put in place for the hospital to avoid using Ashaig airstrip for emergency transfers. Hamish - the hospital working group will be meeting to discuss the helipad issue and the appropriate use of the old hospital site.

Grass cutting. David has emailed Kevin Gordon to report views on a lack of grass cutting. John F – unfortunately there has been a budget cut in this area, so we are getting fewer cuts and in the

peak summer season it is a problem. It's the reality of the situation we are in. Hopefully next year, it will be covered by the SSCC.

Broadford Parent Council. Den – to check in with the primary school again to see if a new parent council has formed.

Highland Council update – John Finlayson – best way to keep up to date with goings on is via the website. You have agendas and strategic committees available on there.

### **Cllr Helen Crawford's Motion**

Kiltarlity CC have emailed us to ask for support backing Cllr Helen Crawford's Motion on Major Energy Infrastructure and Community Engagement, which is to be Debated at Next Full Council, 19<sup>th</sup> September.

In summary, Cllrs Crawford's Motion calls for:-

(1) A Real Time ONLINE Mapping of all renewable applications (2) The Leader of Highland Council to lobby Scottish Government to put an end to so called "salami-slicing" (3) Specific Planning Training for Community Council members from planning experts on major energy infrastructure developments (4) A full Review of the actions that Highland Council can legally take to ensure that local community views are considered in the planning process

There are a growing number of Highland Community Councils backing the Motion.

The committee agree to publicly support the Motion.

### **Local Place Plan**

Norma – an update. There has been a huge amount of work, consultations, drafting reports to get to this point. Thank you to all who gave feedback on the draft LPP. Finalised plan sent to THC to be registered. THC were very helpful in producing the LPP. The draft LPP is on BSCC website, the final one to be uploaded soon. It is also worth noting that changes can be submitted in the coming years, as necessary.

Thanks to Norma, Christine and all who have dedicated their time to the LPP, especially given the very tight timeframe.

### **Broadford Public toilets**

Some users leave the main door open to let others through without paying. This is an ongoing issue. Tour bus companies have been contacted and asked to remind their customers to pay.

It may be necessary to modify the building to allow for a secondary barrier of sorts. Now that there is an idea of the income lost, a seasonal, part-time employee may be viable, to welcome users and keep an eye on payment system etc.

Hermione - a similar situation occurs at the Elgol Public toilets. The only solution has been to keep an eye and try to remove obstacles deliberately left to keep door open.

### **Refuse / Recycling**

Not enough collections, not enough public bins. Businesses using public bins is still an issue.

John Finlayson – the good news is that the whole refuse collection is being reviewed and a greater number of bins will be supplied next year. Also, Bowmans (responsible for the glass recycling) have purchased new vehicles and therefore collections should be more frequent.

### **South Skye Community Campus SCIO**

Two funding applications have been submitted. The Island Programme and Sports Scotland. There should be a public meeting regarding the Broadford Village Hall in the coming months. Membership drive – trying to get more members signed up.

### **Temporary Workers Camp (SSE Transmission)**

Concerns from members of the public about the potential camp on Torrin road. Request from Martyn Ayre that the Community Council could organise a public meeting if a planning application is submitted for the worker's camp. The committee agreed to this.

### **Bank Account updates**

Hermione has managed to change the banking signatories online. David, Paul and Rhona sent approval emails. David's surname misspelt so must be adjusted. Once this has been rectified Hermione will do a full handover to David. Hermione to phone and see if they can change spelling.

### **CC Admin – email / social media access**

Rhona, Hamish and David have access to the email account. Paul to be added, as Secretary. He will log in to Gmail via web browser. Paul to organize inbox and circulate any emails to be read by the committee members between meetings.

### **AOCB**

Hermione – THC contract with EDF – a man came to read the meters of Highland Council buildings in Elgol, some of which were no longer HC owned. Seems to be unnecessary. Hermione to remind John Finlayson via email.

Rhona – met with Sleat and Kyleakin CC representatives this week. Neighbouring CCs interested in connecting as we will undoubtedly have shared experiences / views on many issues. Committee agree that this is a good idea. Rhona to update.

Suggestion to have our next meeting in Elgol Village Hall. Meeting date changed from Monday 21<sup>st</sup> to Monday 28<sup>th</sup> to avoid the school holidays.