

**Minutes of the meeting of Scourie and District Community Council,
On 25th February 2019 at 7:30 pm in Scourie Village Hall**

Present: Julie Allen, Vee Crowsley, Neil MacDonald, Donald Fisher, Alistair Mackay, Julian Pearce

In attendance: Cllr Hugh Morrison, Geopark rep Jean Mackay, Allan Cunningham, Pete Tuck, Jonathan McLeod from the Smiddy, new owners of Tullochard.

Apologies: PC Fraser Mitchell, George Leligdowicz, Rebecca MacInnes, Gillian Burtwell (who has resigned. She will not be in Scourie for the foreseeable future)

Jean reluctantly agreed to do the minutes for the last time.

Minutes of last meeting: Approved by Vee, seconded by Alistair

Action points from last meeting:

Action	Person responsible	Outcome
Installation of swings	Hugh	Frame in transit
HIE contact to Julian	Alistair	Done
Defibrillators	Julie/George	Ongoing, Julie to chase
Dog Warden phone number	Hugh	Number passed to Neil
Scourie News article, dog poo		Done
Mend and paint benches	Neil, Julian, Pete	Ongoing, see update below
Invite HC housing rep to meeting	Hugh	Need to set a date
Smiddy safety barriers	Hugh	See update below
Village signs, smiley faces	Hugh	Still ongoing

Smiddy: A digital survey has been done of the whole block. John McLeod (owner) has removed the slates from the roof of the Smiddy and part demolished the leaning chimney stack, further work continues to make it safe. The whole building is very damp and most of the structure may not be saveable. The plan is to build/rebuild a house/studio there. The architect will come next month for a site visit and redraw the plans on a more modest scale than the original proposal. Mr McLeod requested help in trying to contact the owner of the adjoining building (Ali 'Kay's old shop/old telephone exchange), Hugh will find out the details via the council tax register.

Highland Council:

Cllr Morrison reported: -

- Another £1.5m has been allocated to the roads budget, which should mean £250,000 for Sutherland, it was noted Inverness is contriving to get a bigger share.
- Village entry signs and smiley face safety signs – still no progress.
- Crash barriers – still no progress
- Meeting with housing official – we need to set a date

Planning Applications: Campbell Moffat has reapplied for planning permission for the 2 houses that were granted consent a while ago. The Community Council's objections were not passed on last time, but fresh objections can be made if it is a new planning application. The second percolation test failed, there is a public right of way at the back of the land, and it is outwith the village development plan. Concern was expressed that this was a speculative application and that more holiday homes were not wanted in the village. The applicant lives outwith the area and doubt was expressed that he may not be allowed to keep the croft.

Taxi/dial a bus: Hugh to chase up with Dave Summers.

SCDC Ltd: There will be meeting soon. Still need to find out in detail what is required in the proposed Geocentre. A public meeting is proposed in the future. Lack of funding is a continuing concern. Some funding has been obtained towards finishing the path to the peat road, but more is needed.

NW Highland Geopark: The Rock Stop kitchen refurbishment nears completion in time for the new season. Staff recruitment and pre-season preparation is ongoing.

Sallachy Wind Farm: There is a meeting on 14 March to further progress this. There will be 9 towers in total with an opportunity for the community to invest in a 10% stake, up to £6m which can be obtained through a Scottish Government CARES grant. There will be a public meeting in the summer.

Defibrillators: Funding has been obtained in principle for these. Julie to follow up with George.

Laurence's caravan: concern was expressed about the state of the caravan and the ground around it. Allegedly he has a 9 year lease for the ground. It is rumoured that Laurence wants to leave his current sheltered accommodation at the end of the month and return to the caravan, however due to deterioration it has become uninhabitable. Neil will contact the Scourie Estate to discuss the situation.

Picnic Benches: The camera club has funds from the sale of the calendars which it would like to use towards the purchase of picnic benches for the village. Possible sites include Badcall, Tarbet, Mackay Cairn, Loch Daimh Mor, football field, beach and harbour. Some of the existing benches may be repairable.

Treasurer's report: the Community council has just received last year's grant, so has £503. There is still £700 in the Jaguar funds, and £8,791 in the Maldie Burn fund (£2,000 of this is ring fenced for a smiley face interactive road sign).

Minute secretary: Jean said she is unable to do the minutes at future meetings.

Date of next meeting: Monday 25 March at 7.30pm.

Action	Person/s responsible
Installation of swings	Julie to organise
Defibrillators	Julie and George
Date for housing meeting	Not allocated
Council Tax record for Ali 'Kay's shop	Hugh
Village signs/ smiley faces	Hugh
Crash barriers	Hugh
Dial a bus/taxi	Hugh
Planning permission for 2 houses	All
Laurence's caravan site	Neil
Picnic benches	Pete Tuck