

Scourie and district community council minutes of the meeting of 26th November

1. **Present** Julie Allen, Julian Pearce, Alistair Mackay, Vanessa Crowsley, Donald Fisher, Neil MacDonald

In attendance, Jean Mackay (North West Highland Geopark), James Turner (Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust), Hugh Morrison (Highland Council), Allan Cunningham, Rebecca MacInnes (SCDC)

2. **Apologies**, George Leligdowicz, Gillian Burtwell, PC Frazer Mitchell
3. **Minutes of meeting** (24 September) , proposed by Neil, seconded by Alistair,
4. **Matters arising**, the war memorial looked good and did the village proud
5. **Police matters**, none
6. **Highland Council, planning applications**, Donald to email THC giving the contact details for Julie as main contact.

Entrance signs, on going, Hugh to chase up.

Public toilets, all saved, bar KLB which has been deemed unsuitable as it is in the fish market. Kylesku is up for sale, but must be kept as a public toilet.

Community Council review scheme, Donald attended a meeting on 24th November. It was a positive meeting; THC acknowledged they don't handle CC consultations well. West coast communities have no extra funds from wind farms unlike the East Coast and the grant is not sufficient to cover CC costs.

Julie attended a meeting in Lochinver with the new chief executive Donna Manson and other council members in attendance, lots was discussed including the advantages of having an island postcode as this was mentioned as being a positive advantage.(julie to find out more) money for play parks outdoor areas like Scourie play park, is there is a possibility that THC will refurbish the play park; Hugh to investigate this. The swings would cost £2611 to replace.

Crash barriers, Hugh to chase this up yet again. A film crew from STV are coming to report on the state of them. They have been reported directly to the new Budget leader Councillor Alister Mackinnon at the meeting in Lochinver.

7. **Maldie Burn Fund**, no further applications have been received.£4787 is available. There is an extra £2,000that has been earmarked for the smiley face speed signs. It was decided to re-advertise in the Scourie news, Vanessa will organise this.
8. **Scourie Community Development Company** Had a good AGM with a few new members being elected. They will split into 2 sub groups for the exhibition centre and paths. They have been awarded £5,000 from Loch Duart, and £7500 from North Highland Initiative. Alan Jones will redo a funding plan. Angus will come back on the committee as chair when he returns in February. The grazing committee will be able to access some funds towards the paths.
- 9.
10. **North West Highland Geopark**, Laura has gone on maternity leave. The Geofestival was a great success with a much greater footfall than anticipated. The rest of the kitchen will be refurbished over the winter by volunteers. The AGM is next Saturday 1 December at noon in the Rock Stop. All welcome.
11. **Kyle of Sutherland Development t trust**, are doing a consultation with all communities . There will be an online survey, deadline 1 January. So far there have been 55 replies. They are also holding community workshops on 11th and 12th December in the village hall. The results can be used by any initiatives in the area, Sutherland Partnership, THC etc

12. **Helicopter landing site**, Rhiconich is the preferred site. A computer in Farnborough will decide what is best. Night time landings are more problematic.
13. Boat house bbq, was a great success.
14. Community housing, need to do a needs survey, Rebecca will put an article in the Scourie News to see who is in need of housing, then there will be a meeting in January with the Small Communities Housing Trust to as how this can best be serviced.
15. **Community defibrillators**, Julie will contact George to see how this is progressing.
16. **Election of new chair**, Donald stepped down at this point, and Hugh took the chair for election of a new chair. Donald proposed Neil, seconded by Vanessa, there being no other nominations Neil was elected chair and took over the meeting at this point.

17. AOCB

The Rock at the end of the parapet on the pier road needs reinforced. Hugh to look into this. Scottish water has sent out letter to people in the village about the water supply in Lairg. It was confirmed that this should have read Scourie.

Julie had met with Linda Munroe who was happy to meet with parents to find out what was needed in the village.

The Scottish Government has a resilience fund for provision of facilities for campervans. It was decided that the CD did not want to do anything that would displace local business. Campervan bring little to the area apart from litter and excrement which some dispose of at the roadside. It was suggested that they should need a permit to wild camp like they do in New Zealand.

Broadband for areas that don't have it already, what is the progress on this?

Benches: - looking at prices and suppliers for replacing some of the benches. Some money for this could come from Maldie Burn funds, made up with gala funds.

Rubbish from the beach, there are 8 bags to bring up to the road; Julian to investigate.

Sallachy wind farm, Scourie, KLB and Durness looking at investing, any returns from this would be able to be spent as wished, the community benefit fund will be ring fenced. It should come on stream in 2022. Altnahara will come on stream in 2021.

Neil thanked Donald for his time as chair.

18. **Action point review**, offsets on the main road have been done, but not on the side roads.

Julie to write to Donna Manson to ask about contributions from film crews for road closures.

19. **Date of next meeting** , Monday 28th January at 7.30pm.

20. Action points

Entrance signs	Hugh
Island postcode	Julie
Play park	Hugh
Change contact for planning	Donald
Crash barriers	Hugh
Maldie Burn Fund advert	Vanessa
Housing needs survey	Rebecca
Defibrillator	Julie and George
Pier road	Hugh
Beach rubbish	Julian
Contributions from filming	Julie