

Minutes of Meeting held on 9th June, 2005 in the Community Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Present : Alistair McCowan; Janet Mackay; Ishbel Ferguson; George Graham; Juliet Mellor; Murdo Finlayson

3 Members of the public

An apology for absence was received by Councillor Ewen Mackinnon

Minutes of Previous Meeting

It was noted that Murdo Finlayson did not receive either minutes or agenda, both sent by email.

The minutes were accepted as a true record, proposed Janet Mackay, seconded George Graham.

Treasurer's Report

The balance stands at £1,288.59.

Applecross Estate Woodlands

The Chairman reported that he had not had any contact from Bob Wilson and he assumed, therefore, that Bob did not have further developments to report. We look forward to a possible update at our July meeting.

Housing Needs Survey

The Chairman reported that Highland Communities Housing Trust are in the process of issuing a questionnaire to all adults in the community. Robin Philips, who is dealing with the matter is on holiday at present but will complete the matter on his return.

Prawn Fishing Concerns

The Chairman reported that we have written to the Scottish Executive (Ross Finnie, Fisheries Minister) supporting the need for control of this fishing, and receipt of the letter has been acknowledged on the Minister's behalf.

Community Council Elections 2005

The appropriate notices have been issued by the Returning Officer and are displayed on local notice boards. Assuming that there will be a postal ballot, the date for return of voting papers is 22nd July.

Any Other Competent Business

- a. Litter Bins : Attention was drawn to the fact that there is no litter bin at Toscaig pier. This is important given that steps have been taken to make the area tourist-friendly, and seats and picnic benches have recently been provided.

It was also noted that two litter bins have been moved (by the 'bin men') from the grass area at the head of the bay to the vicinity of the signboard near Clachan. This was done because of the damage to the grass area by gale force wind and high tide. It was suggested that we should approach Applecross Trust (the Estate) requesting that they provide some clearance and repair work (by the JCB) to enable vehicles to easily access the area again.

- b. Playground Area Boundary Fence : Attention was drawn to the fact that the fence forming the western boundary to the play area at the hall has a top strand of barbed wire which seems inappropriate. We will take the matter up with Highland Council.
- c. Grass Strimming Shore Street to Milton : It was resolved that we instruct the contractor who carried out this work last year to do the same again this year.
- d. Untidiness between Hotel and Estate Office : It was reported that action is being taken by the Trust to assist in tidying up this area.
- e. Millennium Commemoration Item : It was confirmed that the proposed 'memorial' did not proceed because it ran into difficulties with siting and planning permission. It was resolved that we should resurrect the proposal and it will be handled by Murdo Finlayson.
- f. Planning Application for House by Mr. and Mrs. Gunn : This failed 'initial application' was raised because it was felt that the matter had been harshly dealt with. After debate, it was, however, decided that nothing inconsistent with the recent draft Wester Ross Plan had taken place.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Thursday, 14th July, 2005 at 7.30 pm in the community hall.

The Chairman thanked all those present for their attendance and the meeting closed at 8.15 pm.
