

Minutes (unapproved) of meeting of the Applecross Community Council

Held on 13th June 2006 in the Community Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Murdo Finlayson, Ishbel Ferguson, Ruairdh Cameron, Jonathan Hedges, Gerry McParlin, Tim Williams

Apologies: Councillor Ewen MacKinnon

Two members of the public

Treasurer's Report: balance £1665 55

Approval of and matters arising from previous minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th May were approved. Proposed by Ruairdh Cameron and seconded by Ishbel Ferguson.

Cycle Race and road closure: the date of the race has been confirmed as the 29th July. Highland Council has been approached by the Ross-shire Cycle Club and has agreed the closure of the Bealach on the morning of the 29th, excepting emergency vehicles. Exact times and more details will be displayed on the notice boards and holiday cottages will be leafleted.

The organisers of the race are looking for people to run a refreshments stall. They will supply money to provide competitors with drinks and energy snacks and the volunteers would dispense these and also be able to sell their own products. If any local group would be interested in running the stall would they please contact the Secretary. JH to contact the Campsite/ Inn/ Walled Garden.

Inner Deer Fence: The Applecross Trust continues to pursue funding opportunities for this.

Clachan Church Renovations: The renovation work which has been identified as necessary and desirable is in the process of being costed and once this is complete a grant application will be made for the works. whilst the Trust is hopeful of a successful outcome, it is understood that the Trustees accept that regardless of the outcome of any grant

application, the windows of the Church must, of necessity, be replaced before winter and the Trust may have to fund this directly.

Library closure: the date for the closure has still to be confirmed.

Recycling: most of the bins are full. MF to contact Highland Council.

Beach Clean up: due to a clash with the Kenmore Walk, the date of the beach clean up at the head of the bay has been postponed. MI to contact Ewen MacKinnon for gloves and bags.

BT Cabling: Ofcom has been contacted to establish whether British Telecom has an obligation to bury the unsightly and potentially dangerous telephone cables at the side of the roads. Enquiries indicated that they do and perusal of The Electronic Communications Code Regulations 2003' seems to confirm this however, enforcement may be more problematic. Photographs are to be taken of the cables and once the specific areas of concern are agreed the Chairman will write to BT.

Small Scale Industrial Units in Applecross: no-one has expressed an interest to the Community Council since the last meeting.

Sheep Worrying: temporary notices have been placed on the notice boards and at local businesses. Robert Bain, the Area Development Officer, has contacted SNH and has ordered Access Code leaflets and posters, which it is hoped, will be available shortly.

Minutes Secretary: there have been no applications for the post at this time. Anyone who might be interested is urged to make contact.

Sheep fouling around the school: in response to concerns over the risk of e-coli infection through contact with animal faeces, the Education Department intends to replace the current stock fence around the school playing field with a chain link deer fence, rylock being unsuitable for safety reasons.

It was felt that whilst this would be unsightly, the Education Department has no alternative but to ensure its ground is secure against the ingress of both sheep and deer.

Any other business

Public Toilets: these have been closed for several days. Concern was noted on the impact of this during the tourist season. T W to make

enquiries and see if there is any pressure the Community Council can apply to ensure a speedy resolution.

Army Visit: the Army were commended on their conduct whilst working in the area. Although some surprise was expressed at their numbers and the amount of equipment, it was felt that the work completed would be of great benefit throughout the community.

It was suggested that Archie MacLellan be invited to attend a future meeting. to foster good communications between the community and the Applecross Trust.

Sewage in Milton: an overflow of raw sewerage from the mains at Milton was reported. This was the third such occurrence since the 'new' system was installed and there are obvious concerns over the risk of infection through residual contamination. GMcP¹⁰ write to Scottish Water expressing our concerns and establish what is to be done to prevent a further recurrence.

Verge between Shore Street and Milton: this is to be shimmed by JR.

Environmental Improvements: the Applecross Trust has indicated that it would like to work with the Community Council in identifying projects that would improve the visual environment. The area between the Post Office and the Inn, including the green around the Estate Office, has already been identified for consideration and a suggestion was made that a footpath would be welcome.

Members were asked to give this their consideration and solicit ideas and suggestions from the public and the issue will be discussed more fully at the next meetin^g.

Parking in Milton: a member of the public expressed concern over inconsiderate parking by holiday makers at Sanctuary Cottage, which had blocked through traffic and the refuse lorry. It is understood that notices have been placed in the holiday home and that the situation has subsequently improved.

Next meeting: Tues 11th July 7.30pm Applecross Community Hall.

Agenda items to the secretary by Mon 27th June