

Applecross Community Council

Unapproved Minutes of Meeting Tuesday 10th July 2007.

Present : Murdo Finlayson Ishbel Ferguson Ruaridh Cameron
Jonathan Hedges

3 members of the public.

[1] APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE :

Gerry McPartlin

Councillor Biz Campbell
Councillor Richard Green
Councillor Audrey Sinclair
Councillor Jean Urquhart (All of whom had expressed their intention to attend, but were advised by the Chair that since there was little on the agenda, it would be more profitable to attend following the Elections).

Mark Stewart

[2] MINUTES OF 12th JUNE MEETING :

Adopted as an accurate record.

Proposed : Ruaridh Cameron.

Seconded : Ishbel Ferguson.

[3] TREASURER'S REPORT :

The account balance is : **£4,831.85**

The Secretary advised that the expenses for stamps and stationery for the Elections amounted to £176.36 and passed over a receipted account for this.

The Chair advised a letter had been received indicating that the Filling Station 'Guaranteed Reserve' Deposit had matured on 23/6/07 and the balance of £2594.00 had, pending instruction, been transferred into a Matured Funds account.

After discussion it was resolved to re-invest the sum of £3000.00 for a period of 1 year, in the 'Guaranteed Reserve' account.

[4] CYCLE CHALLENGE :

Following the last Community Council meeting, a response had been received from Stathpuffer Ltd, which had been distributed by Gerry McPartlin to interested parties.

In the absence of Gerry, who had been called out on a Mountain Rescue mission, there was an abbreviated discussion, the main points arising from which were:

- a) The finances of the event and, specifically, who are the beneficiaries.
- b) Whether there would be as much direct benefit from starting/ finishing the event in Applecross as anticipated (The last post-event dance was reported as poorly attended).
- c) Consideration of the disadvantages of starting/ finishing the event in Applecross, such as increased disruption over a longer period and the problems of attendant litter etc.

[5] COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS :

The Secretary advised that Ballot Papers had been posted out in accordance with the Election schedule and that the Returning Officer had confirmed receipt of the requisite attendant paperwork.

The Secretary has thus completed the CC's requirements in respect of the Election in accordance with the legal framework and the schedule laid down. Matters are now in the hands of the Returning Officer.

Polling closes at 5.00pm, Friday 27th July and results should be posted over the weekend.

[6] CLACHAN CHURCH :

The Chair distributed a report on Clachan Church, prepared by Andrew Wright, Chartered Architect and Heritage Consultant, at the behest of the Trustees of the Scottish Architectural Churches Heritage Trust.

He then advised that, following receipt of the report, both SACT and SNH had indicated that any future funding would be conditional on the roof being given priority and that both bodies had advised that proceeding with the replacement of the windows, at this stage, might jeopardise any future application for funding assistance to the overall renovation project from themselves. The project was therefore currently in a "Catch 22" situation with insufficient monies on hand to commit to starting work on the roof, and being strongly advised against using current monies procured, for the replacement of the windows.

The Chair advised that he had been in discussion with the Administrator of Applecross Trust and was hopeful that, in the interim, the work necessary to facilitate the re-opening of the balcony could be completed in an unobtrusive manner which would not affect future funding opportunities.

There was a suggestion from the floor, from a local tradesman, that he and a number of like minded others would be willing to volunteer time to any renovation works. This offer was welcomed and it was indicated that this could play an important part in "match funding" for future grant applications.

[7] AOCB :

1) Copies of the current list of project suggestions received by Robert Hanna/ Applecross Trust, in respect of the Heritage Lottery Fund bid, were distributed. It was felt that whilst these were admirable in themselves, they did not constitute the type of major heritage based projects which might attract funding from HLF. The Chair suggested that the new Community Council might consider inviting Robert Hanna/

Archie MacLellan to a future meeting to seek to progress matters and advised that more direct community involvement was not only desirable, but essential to the bid.

2) Alistair Brown advised that the Plastics Recycling Initiative was progressing extremely well, with Applecross apparently recycling a higher percentage than neighbouring communities. He indicated that he and Tim Williams would like to express their thanks to the community for their efforts, and the Chair, in turn, expressed the CC's appreciation for his and Tim Williams' efforts.

3) There being no further business, the Chair took the opportunity of expressing the Community Council's appreciation of the work extended by the two Councillors not seeking re-election in the current Elections : Jonathan Hedges and Tim Williams, and also of Mark Stewart who has acted as Minute Secretary for the Council on a voluntary basis.

Next meeting provisionally scheduled for Tuesday, 14th August, at 7.30pm, subject to ratification by the new CC.