

# Applecross Community Council

## Minutes of Meeting Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2008.

**Present :** Murdo Finlayson            Ishbel Ferguson            Ruairaidh Cameron  
Gerry McPartlin            Alison Macleod            Ewen Gillies  
Cllr Audrey Sinclair  
Sue Grocock (Minutes Secretary)  
6 members of the public.

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### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

PC Joanna MacKinnon, Cllr Jean Urquhart

### 2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

Minutes of meeting held on 14th October 2008 adopted as an accurate record :

**Proposed :**            Ruairaidh Cameron

**Seconded :**        Gerry McPartlin

#### • **Previous minutes**

Alison said that a number of members of the public had remarked that the previous meeting minutes should have contained more information. She agreed with that view. Prior to publication the minutes are sent out for review to all community council members. They have the ability to feedback and make suggestions for change if they feel there are omissions or material changes required. The minutes secretary is very happy to make appropriate amendments.

#### • **Public toilet cleaning**

From the 1<sup>st</sup> November the Community Council took over responsibility for the winter opening of the toilets, they are being cleaned regularly.

**Action:** - Gerry to download a form to complete the application for a discretionary grant to assist with the cost of cleaning.

#### • **Meeting between Bryan Stout & Murdo to discuss road and road sign related issues.**

Murdo met with Bryan Stout here in Applecross to discuss road signs and other road related issues

**Sign at Tornapress** – Correct mileage for alternative route around North Coast to be re-instated.

**White lines on top of the Bealach** – the council have explained to the contractors that this is a priority however no firm date has been forthcoming for when this will be done.

#### **Crash Barriers**

The engineer has inspected the West side of the hill and identified two areas where it would be feasible & desirable to erect barriers. These are in stock and it is hoped that work will commence within the next fortnight.

#### **Signs for Cyclists**

Bryan does not believe that signs are required warning of the steep descent of the Bealach as this is self-evident.

The council do not have any appropriate signs telling cyclists to allow following traffic to pass, Bryan suggested that the two current

police "Allow Overtaking" signs be improved and two more added. This will give a total of four, two on either side. Whilst the Council is willing to fund these, as they are Police Notices they will require approval by Northern Constabulary.

**Action:** - Murdo to discuss with the police inspector in Portree.

#### **Ard Dubh junction**

Bryan has agreed to re-locate the Ard Dubh sign to the other side of the road, but advised that as policy is only to signpost turn-offs, he could not justify a sign to Toscaig at the junction.

**Action:** - Murdo to request that the village sign for Toscaig is re-instated.

#### **Smiddy Corner**

Bryan Stout has suggested that a dead end sign should be put up at the Home Farm/ Campsite/ Craite Barn spur to try and stop visitors taking the wrong route.

#### **Signs at the Post Office junction**

Bryan has taken photographs of these and feels that some can be re-located and rationalised. Murdo suggested that the large red sign there could be removed. It was suggested that a sign to the Applecross hall could be put up there.

**Action:** - Murdo to raise the hall sign with Bryan

#### **Road markings at the White gates**

Bryan agreed that white lines should be painted around the White Gate corner and a new chevron erected. He also noted that if the 'Applecross House' sign were more legible this would help.

#### **Shore Street**

Bryan will come back again to Applecross when he has given the following issues more thought: White lines in front of the houses to indicate residents' parking. Lining around the blind corner delineating the road and parking areas. Possible traffic calming measures. It was Bryan's view that Shore Street should be considered as a 20mph limit.

- **Telephone kiosks**

The Payphone at Toscaig and the others on the Coast along with many others threatened with closure in Highland Region have been saved thanks to a campaign by Highland Council.

- **Cycle Race website**

Alison has had no feedback as yet from the Cycle Race organisers about them updating their website.

**Action:** - Alison to chase

### **3. TREASURERS REPORT**

The account balance as at 28/10/08 is:

**General account** - £2807.58. Payments £500 to Applecross Community Trading Company (ACTC)

**Filling station account** - £608.25. Payment pending to Macleod & MacCallum of £587.50 which will leave a balance of £20.75 plus interest credited on 30/10/08 (about £1). It was agreed that the balance remaining should be transferred to the ACTC.

### **4. CORRESPONDENCE REPORT**

**For more info on the following please contact Murdo**

- Minutes were received from the North Applecross Woodland Company and Shildaig Community Council.
- Notification from Robbie Bain that the next ward forum will be held on 24/11 at Ledgowan Lodge at Achnasheen at 19:00. The meeting will take the

format of a panel discussion and Q&A session on the provision of services for children with additional support needs in the Ward. Members of the public are welcome. The ward forum in January will be focused on recycling.

- Notification from Archie MacLellan about a survey of the bridge into the Farm/ Campsite. The survey indicated that there was a significant amount of work required to upgrade the bridge before it could be used for access to new housing. The survey has been passed to HSCHT for review and comment on how this may affect plans for affordable housing sites.

**For more info on the following please contact Alison**

- A Letter from Richard Hartland who is head of Planning & Building standards at the Highland Council saying that he is available to come to a community council meeting. He is also planning to have some meetings over the winter to discuss the secondary legislation of the Planning etc (Scotland) Act 2006.
- Notification of Military Flying activity 17 – 27 November 2008.
- Letter from Chris Ward suggesting the removal of the following clause from the Community Council constitution “To ensure continuation of supply of motor fuels within Applecross, through the expeditious governance of “Applecross Filling Station”” It was agreed that this should be removed after the Community company takes over ownership of the filling station.

**For more info on the following please contact Ruaraidh**

- A letter from Skye & Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations extending an invitation to Applecross Community Council to join them. They offer a wide range of free or low cost services to organisations including help with identifying suitable sources of funding, access to training or awareness sessions etc. It was agreed that the Hall committee may wish to look at joining so Alison passed the information on to Ruaraidh.

## **5. HEALTH CARE PROVISION**

Alison has been asked as an individual to join a group to discuss healthcare provision within Applecross. It currently has the following people Melanie Meecham, Alison Phimister, Kerry MacLennan and Tracey Ligema from the NHS and Janice Cargill. Very few details are known about it at present or how it interacts with the current Out of Hours group. It was thought that there is a meeting planned on 24/11/08 with representatives of the ambulance and nursing services.

Gerry highlighted that the NHS has not yet committed all of the points raised in Muirnie Buchanan’s letter last month however there is an intent to ensure a continuation of service.

It was agreed that Murdo will write to John Farquhar Munro and Charles Kennedy about the situation in Applecross, he has already written to NHS Highland Managers.

Alison to request a letter of support from the Parent Council, Venture Trust, Applecross and District Healthcare Association, Playgroup, Applecross Community Company, Fishing community and Lunch Club and to ask if they would like to supply a representative to join a working group that may be set up in the future if it is required.

## 6. APPLECROSS FILLING STATION

The Transfer of Assets document has been signed and sent back to Douglas Graham.

The Assignment of Lease was signed at the meeting by Murdo, Gerry, Alison and Chris and will be sent to the Highland Council.

Congratulations were expressed to the Applecross Community Company for the publicity they had generated and the money that they have raised and all members of the Community Council would like to wish the Applecross Community Company every success with the filling station in the future.

Charles Kennedy has agreed to formally reopen the filling station on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November. Alison invited all of the community council members to come along.

## 7. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- Duncan and Kath Fraser – demolition of existing house in Toscaig (Hazel Brae) and re-building. Noted.

## 8. HERITAGE LOTTERY BID

The Applecross bid for the Heritage lottery fund has been successful, Applecross has been awarded £1m and can now move into the next phase which is due to take a year with the aim of developing projects and seeking matched funding for them. Funding of this year long development phase has already been earmarked and the £1m has been ring-fenced for release on successful completion of the development phase. For more information please contact Murdo Finlayson or Archie MacLellan.

## 9. AOCB

### • Street Lighting in Applecross

Murdo has been asked by a member of the public to see if the street lights could be turned off in the early hours of the morning when not many people are around, in order to save electricity.

**Action:** - Audrey to make enquiries with the Lighting Department of the Highland Council to see what can be done.

### • Road clearing

Alison raised a request from Judy that the Bealach be cleared when necessary even if it is at the weekend & there are overtime implications as she pays high business rates and people last weekend could not come to the Inn one day as the road was not passable. Ewen said that the road crew are called out by forecast regardless of day. The situation will be monitored but in the meantime Ian Hay could be contacted so that we can understand the current procedure.

**Action:** - Murdo to contact Ian Hay

### • Rubble at Camustiel

It has been noticed that house rubble has been dumped on the Shore Edge near Camustiel. This is noted with regret.

## 10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on the 9<sup>th</sup> **December 2008**.