

Applecross Community Council

Minutes of Meeting held on 13th April at 7.30pm

These minutes and past minutes of Community Council meetings are available at www.applecrosscommunity.org.uk

Present; Ali Macleod, Ali Brown, Donald MacBeath, Ewen Gillies, Janet MacDonald
Apologies; Councillor Audrey Sinclair, PC Joanna Mackinnon, Alison Macleod, Alison KilBride.

Matters Arising;

Having looked up the Core Paths for Wester Ross the only one in our area is Bealach na Ba Tops.

We would like to record a note of thanks to Robbie Bain and TECs for organising the removal of the remaining plastic bottles.

Minutes accepted, proposed Ewen and seconded Janet.

Financial report;

£450.00 was paid for cleaning the toilets

£50.00 was paid to the hall for rent.

£6.93 was paid to John McKeown. We would also like to note our appreciation of his work in keeping our website up-to-date.

Correspondence;

Planning received for porch No5 on the Street. Noted with no comment

Licence Application for the Applecross Campsite. Noted with no comment.

Dave Thompson, list MSP would like to attend one of our CC meetings. Ali M. will inform him of our dates.

There was an email enquiry as to the situation with the shop. Reply sent saying there was very little information available at present.

Invitation to attend Tim Daplyn's ordination at Courthill.

ALPS;

The Focus/Steering Group received an email from Archie following the Trust's Board meeting.

The Trust expressed concerns over the frontloading of the grants, the shortfall liabilities and the outvoting potential of the Partnership.

HLF clarified the first issue, stating grant claims will only be paid retrospectively so the problem will not arise.

The management board which will run the partnership came in for some scrutiny and HLF were asked to look at the following requested changes;

Make the legal responsibility of each non-Trust partner clearer.

Allow the Trust right of veto over any project that has more than HLF grant funding of 46%.

The chair of the Partnership should be fixed as the Administrator of the Trust.

A meeting of the Steering Group was to have been held on 12th April but was postponed as HLF was still considering the proposed changes to the Partnership agreement.

Ali M. to inquire as to the current status of the Clachan and Deer fence projects.

Filling Station;

An update of the works was given; D and S Forecourt Services were expected in next week to fit the new pumps. That would mean that petrol would be available again, as well as diesel, though still on a volunteer basis. It has been difficult to keep it open for 8 hours a

week as volunteers are busier now the season is starting. It has just been explained recently that the Trading Company must have an account with HSBC to allow merchant services, so that the card reader can be used. Setting up the account is taking some time due to bank indifference as we are a small operator and they do not appear overly interested in our business.

Post Meeting Note;

Ali attended a rural filling station forum at Cowan House in Inverness. It was mainly looking at the problems dealing with bio-diesel and bio-ethanol petrol. A legal limit of 3.5% is already in place and is set to rise. Water content of the tanks will now be critical as phase separation can take place if water is present, altering the octane level of the fuel and creating a sludge in the bottom of the tanks. Having had the tanks checked we know that there is no water present at the moment. A rigorous ongoing checking system will hopefully ensure that this remains the case.

Community Minibus;

Several members of the community had asked the council if they could find out what was happening with the replacement minibus. A letter was sent to the Hall chair inquiring and offering to help in any way.

Post meeting note;

Ali M went to the Hall committee meeting on the 20th. The chair stated that an HC grant of £28,000 had been approved and the committee were investigating which bus to purchase. As the school role is dropping to 11 next year it was planned to go for a twelve seater sometime in the school holidays. The wheelchair hoist/winch is optional and it is up to the community to install it. As there is not immediate need it will not be included. LEADER is providing £1,500 for training potential drivers.

Road Signage;

The weight restriction notices were put up on the 2nd April, the same day we received notification. We were promised 21 days notice so local businesses could liaise with their suppliers. This did not happen. TECs must communicate with the Community Council to help keep the community informed regarding the situation .

There is a problem on the Lochcarron side as the signs at the Kishorn yard turnoff are too late to give drivers of heavy vehicles any option to turn back. There needs to be a sign at Tornapress giving relevant information.

There has been a request for a sign warning that children may be playing in the area, to be put up before the Smiddy, as there are an increasing number of incidents of speeding cars coming into the area, in particular a BMW rally doing hand brake turns on the way round the campsite corner. They did not stop in Applecross so were not identified.

Ali M will contact Bryan Stout about both matters.

AOB;

There was a request to progress the toddlers play area.

Post meeting note;

Alison has said she will deal with this once the filling station is open and she has some time to spare.

Date of next meeting: 11th May. Agenda items to Alison M. by 4th May please.

Meeting closed 8.15pm