

## **Stromeferry and Achmore Community Council Update**

**The meeting of the 29<sup>th</sup> January 2013 was abandoned due to adverse weather conditions and power cuts.**

There was no quorum and no decisions were made. In lieu of minutes, here is an update detailing information received since the last meeting in November.

The next meeting will be held (weather and SSE permitting) on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February at 7:30 p.m. Achmore Hall.

### **1) Secretary's report**

#### **Communications received**

Weekly Highland Council Planning list – distributed to CC

Monthly SLCVO e-bulletin – distributed

Christmas Card – from The Rt Hon Charles Kennedy MP – picture on the card – Westminster in the background with 2 red phones boxes in the foreground, lots of snow all set against an early evening London skyline. Quite beautiful!

Press Release re: December landslip on A890 - distributed

Highland Council – Winter Resilience – Aid to Communities – letter 7/1/12

Scottish Government – Coping with Emergencies – Building Community Resilience – letter + information booklets – December 2012

Email from Margaret Arscott – Gritting materials to be dumped at roadsides & a skip.

NHS Highland Briefing Note No 6 January 2013 & Looking Forward – Distributed to CC

Email - Robbie Bain –Launch of 2013 MOD £3M Support Fund for Schools with Service Children

URS- Stromeferry Options Appraisal STAG pre – 2 meetings attended

Email – Robbie Bain - Press release - Options Appraisal report for A890 Stromeferry Bypass on target

Email – Robbie Bain – Information from Highland Small Communities Housing Trust.

Email – Robbie Bain – Invitation to City Transport Forum 4:30 - 6:30pm Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Feb, this is a briefing on the Kessock Bridge resurfacing work & River Ness Flood Alleviation Scheme, distributed to CC.

**If anyone would like copies any of the above documents please contact Mary at [mary.macbeth1@btinternet.com](mailto:mary.macbeth1@btinternet.com) or 01599 577 296.**

### **2) Distribution of minutes**

Several new email addresses were added to all three lists this month; Phil has given the Hall committee a test file to load into their circulation list.

### **3) TEC Services**

A response has been received from Alistair Dodds, the chief executive of the HC, regarding the HC's escalation / complaints procedure.

Margaret Arscott raised the issue of road side grit, Phil raised this with Sandy MacVarish, and stocks have been replenished.

### **4) TEC Services – A890**

Members of the CC have attended the A890 steering group meetings.

## **5) Scottish Water - Low pressure / no supply in Strome Ferry, Emergency procedures, Damage to surfaces in the Square and Achbeg Crescent**

Photographs of the problems were sent to Sandy who has responded to say there is nothing he can do to help get SW to repair the faults.

## **6) Tilhill and Braeintra / Fernaig Woodland**

We have received a response from Tilhill:-

We have been sent a proposed felling plan & a proposed planting plan. It is proposed that felling will start in the second half of this year. The plans will be put on the website.

The woodland will not have its name changed officially but Tilhill will refer to the property as Fernaig (Braeintra) Woodland. There are no plans to add additional fencing; the deer will be kept under control by intensified stalking.

The area within the existing fence has already been planted however last year someone propped the gate open which allowed deer into the area. The deer caused so much damage the Forestry Commission issued a warning letter which led to the gates being chained shut. 20,000 new trees have to be planted to replace those lost by the deer. Although the larger main gate will remain locked the pedestrian gate has been unlocked and will remain unlocked.

A feral sheep was also found on the hill and has been removed.

## **7) Broadband**

We chased Andrea Rutherford, who has responded to say an announcement regarding NGB & BT is due in the near future. She doesn't know when it will be issued.

We have 44 households signed up for the Community Broadband Scheme.

Hamish Howat-Hurst has very kindly offered his help.

The Objectives and the Statement of Requirements (SoR) have both been signed off and are now on the website.

The draft Feasibility Study has been issued.

Investigations regarding the power supply up to the TV repeater have started, so far they are inconclusive.

Some work has been done looking for a "donor" in Plockton.

## **8) Defibrillator for local emergencies**

Mary chased Lucky2BHere but still do not have a date.

## **9) Provision of a recycling centre at the Auchtertyre Business Park.**

Mary sent out chasing emails to our neighbouring CCs, all of those that responded are in favour of a local facility.

## **10) University of Highlands and Island – Launch of its Talking Science Community Project**

We are too late to be included in this year's line up.