

Stromeferry and Achmore Community Council

Notes of Informal Meeting held on 27th April @ 8 p.m. Achmore Hall

Present: B. Campbell, C. Begg, E Bird, P. Game, M. MacBeth, M. MacDonald, N. MacRae
Apologises: R Gibson, C. MacDonald

With the absence of Renee and Chris there were only three elected members present, not enough for a quorum so it was not possible to hold a formal meeting.

Chrissie Begg informed the meeting she had decided to step down and handed in her resignation. Neil thanked her for the many years service she had given the Community Council.

Chrissie's resignation means that there are now only four elected members on the Council and so the council is effectively dissolved until new elections can be held. Holding an election will take several weeks to organise and is unlikely to be complete by the time of the next scheduled meeting.

In the light of the above it was decided that the best way to proceed was to run through the current agenda highlighting urgent items that could not be left for two months. It should be possible to elect a new council and organise the next full meeting (probably at the end of June).

Phil volunteered to take **informal notes** of the discussions.

1. Re-siting of the re-cycling bins from the Square

George Speed (TEC services) is not happy with the proposed site at the junction to the main road. He is concerned about the danger of large Lorries having to manoeuvre at the junction of the main road and possibly reversing onto the main road. He has suggested use of the first large lay-by on the A890 (when leaving Achmore and turning right for Kyle). The lay-by is on the right hand side of the road and belongs to the forestry commission who are happy that it is used for the bins.

A note has been received from Wilfar Matheson asking why the bins need to be moved from the square.

Action: Item to be left until new CC is elected.

2. Review of Community Councils - First Phase – Boundary review.

Lizzie received confirmation that our changes have been accepted.

Action: Item closed

3. NHS

Neil received a letter inviting us to a meeting about community lead health run by the Well North Project set up by the Scottish Government.

Action: Mary to attend.

4. Broadband Speeds

Phil submitted our response to BIS regarding the Next Generation Fund.

The general election called prior to our letter being sent to Charles Kennedy. Technically at the moment we do not have an MP so it was decided to wait until the election was over before contacting our MP. We will then consider whether to contact John Farquhar Munro and / or other MPs and MSPs.

In the "wash-up" after the general election when parliaments business is wound up the Digital Britain bill was dropped!

Action: Phil to start compiling a list of contacts at other Exchange Activate CC ready to start to lobby the new government. Phil to write to our "new" MP.

5. C.C. Communication

Speedier production of minutes

There was some discussion about emailing / posting minutes for approval and the best method to produce and circulate minutes. Lizzie suggested we have a deadline for the production of minutes and another for the approval of minutes. Moira preferred minutes to be approved at the start of each meeting and if necessary draft minutes to be circulated. It was decided we would sent out minutes as soon as possible but review the procedure when the new CC is elected.

Action: "Minutes" to go out ASAP this month.

Distribution lists

It appears it may not be possible to have one centrally maintained list of distribution lists.

Action: To be left until new CC is elected

Website

Biz reported back that the Highland Council do not have facilities to host a website for us.

Lizzie has produced a paper on pros and cons of website set up; this was discussed at a separate meeting of all interested parties. It has been decided that there will be one website hosted by Spanglefish with three sections one for the CC, one for the FCT and one for the hall. Each will be updated independently.

The website is in the process of being set up and a separate email will be sent around once the initial data has been loaded.

Action: Phil to email all when the website is ready.

Fernaig Community Trust

At the last meeting it was suggested we improve communications with the Fernaig Trust by giving the FCT a copy of our minutes prior to their monthly meeting and ask that they do the same in return. (If necessary moving the meetings two weeks apart.) This to be dependant on the feasibility of us getting minutes out within two weeks.

Action: Suspended dependant on elections for a new CC and a trial being held.

7. TEC Services

Planning Schedule

An updated schedule was sent to George Speed.

George Speed has visited Stromeferry to note down the exact location of the two items added at the last meeting. Mary and Chris did not have time to update the schedule with GPS positioning data in April.

Action: Mary to co-ordinate updating spreadsheet with Chris to add GPS data.

Clearing the Braeintra Junction

Lizzie mentioned this to the FCT who will assist.

Action: Renee to coordinate volunteers to clear the sight lines.

Signs for viewpoint and refuse bins

Lizzie has spoken to Bruce and George. The signs will be erected by the Forestry Commission. There will not be any bins just a sign asking people to take their rubbish home with them.

Action: No further action until the new CC is elected.

8. Highland Council Budget

There will be a ward meeting to discuss the budget in Lochcarron on the 12th June, all are invited to attend.

Action: It is not yet decided who will attend from the CC.

Date of the next meeting TBA