

Minutes of Dornie & District Community Council AGM 26 November 2010

Present: Nina Shanks, Suzanne Meikle, Janice Nixon, Fay MacKenzie, Angus Peterkin, Shona MacLennan

In attendance: Councillor Biz Campbell, Mhairi Matheson

Apologies: Graham Hewitt, Mike Fordyce, Angus MacDonald, Kenny Fraser

1. Chairman's Report

The community council had been involved in a number of positive activities over the year including the planning for the new lighting at the Dornie road junction, the establishment of Dornie in Bloom, had contributed funds towards the Christmas Party and Senior Citizens' outing. The success of Kinlochshiel teams in the Balliemore Cup and the Junior Shinty were noted. On a more negative note, the chairman commented on the time spent on single issue complaints and the fact that there would be significant challenges due to budget cuts. This was likely to result in greater requirements for the community to provide services itself.

2. Annual Accounts

Suzanne presented the annual accounts which had been scrutinised by Bob Anderson. These showed a balance of £1,031.01 at the year end. Bob was thanked for his work in checking the accounts and the accounts were approved.

3. Election of office bearers

The office bearers were re-elected as previously.

4. Appointment of auditors

It was agreed to ask Bob Anderson again to scrutinise the accounts at the appropriate time.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm

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Minutes of previous meeting: These were approved by Nina and Suzanne.

Treasurer's Report: There was a balance of £1,792.52 in the account which would be reduced to £1,742.52 once outstanding cheques were cleared.

Matters Arising:

- 1) Community care minibus: Biz had spoken to Liz Featherstone about this and had raised the issue at a full Council meeting. There are 5 places allocated for Alzheimers Scotland and up to 7 other places. These may be fully utilised by people living in the new houses and so there may not be a requirement for a minibus.

Cattle Grid at Bundaloch

A member of the public had passed on a concern about the safety of livestock and the suggestion of installation of a cattle grid to prevent cattle and sheep wandering on to the main road. This was discussed and it was agreed that a cattle grid would not prevent access to the main road as livestock could access it via the shore.

AOCB

Census – the community council had been notified that there were opportunities for part-time work through the forthcoming census. Further information was available on the community council's noticeboard at the shop and on Highland Council website.

Dornie Lunch Club – the community was establishing a lunch club to provide the service as a result of Highland Council's withdrawal. It was agreed to give a £500 donation towards start-up costs.

Friends of Dr MacKinnon Memorial Hospital – a letter had been received requesting a donation towards the refurbishment costs. As a donation had been made to a local service it was agreed not to contribute on this occasion.

Energy Officer – a letter had been received from Lochalsh & Skye Housing Association offering a visit/meeting by the local Energy Officer. The officer can provide information on how to reduce energy consumption in homes and community buildings. The CC agreed to host an open meeting if there were interest in this.

Review of community care, Highland Council – there will be a council meeting in January when community care is reviewed.

Review of community councils – the 3rd phase of the review is being carried out. Further information is available on Highland Council website and closing date for responses is 31 January.

Well North – Mhairi Matheson gave a talk on a project to increase the health and wellbeing of people in the Highlands. As part of this there is a programme "Step it up" which aims to increase people's activity through walking groups.

Shona MacLennan left the meeting at this point as felt that she had an interest in the Carr Brae Road discussion.

Carr Brae road:

In his absence, the following report was received from Graham Hewitt

There was some flooding on the road at Carr Brae a few weeks ago and the state of the road was also questioned. Graham met with George Speed and a member of his team to discuss. It seems that the layby beside the gate where the cattle are being fed on the hill is an *ad hoc* construction by persons unknown from some time in the past and was not of the Council's making. The roadside ditch above the layby is the Council's responsibility, as is the ditch below, but since someone may have compromised the integrity of the drainage by building the layby the Council cannot undertake to effect repairs at that point, especially in these times of financial austerity. The ditch behind the layby, which takes water from the hill, is, in the Council's opinion the responsibility of the crofter and he is being contacted.

The remaining committee discussed in detail and decided that the CC would not take any action until the council and the crofter had explored all avenues to alleviate the problem.

Date of next meeting: Monday 31 Jan at 7.30pm