



**DUROR & KENTALLEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING 14th OCTOBER 2019
HELD IN KENTALLEN AND DUROR COMMUNITY CENTRE
AT 7.00PM**

Present: Sandy Stoddart (*Chairman*), Jonathan Baxter, Malcolm Knowlson, Jeannie Macleod (*ex officio*), Dave Shepton (*Vice Chairman*), Pat Young, Becky Coope (*Secretary*)

Apologies for absence: Chris Clay (*Treasurer*), Chris Pearman, PC Stephen Softly

Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

- **Primary School.** Andy MacNeill has been relentlessly pursuing matters and is making headway. The situation at the school seems to be improving. More teacher support hours have been allocated which is very welcome, however sadly this did not happen in time for the existing support to be retained. Sandy has spoken to Sheena, who is in charge of the Nursery at Ballachulish to try and ascertain whether, if there is no Nursery provision at Duror and children have to go to Ballachulish or Appin, this would make it less likely that they would return to Duror School at primary school age. Historically, this doesn't seem to be the situation.
- **Sustrans.** Jonathan and Becky and Sandy met with Paul and Jack from Sustrans regarding maintenance issues with existing sections of the cycle path and progress on the new section. Although there are still some issues concerning landowner agreements with the new section, Sustrans are confident that it will be finished by Christmas. Various maintenance issues were discussed - rotting fence posts, drains, potholes and weed/moss encroachment. Some of these may be resolved but there is not the budget in place to rectify all issues.
- **War Memorial Handrail.** Sandy has been in touch with David Lamont of Highland Council and requested that he inspects the handrail and confirms that it is suitable for being covered by HC insurance policy, as landowners of the site. He and Jonathan have also asked that HC install the last step on the path. This should be done by Christmas.
- **Community Council Elections**
The Elections have been postponed until 4th December. Sandy believes that 7 people have put their names forward for D&KCC. If that is the case then there will be no election here. As Chris Clay is standing down, a new Treasurer will be needed - Jonathan offered to take up that role. Sandy indicated that he will be happy to continue as Chair.
- **Planning**
Bealach Forest Plan: The CC have been invited to comment on this plan. Rob Coope looked over the plan and found a couple of areas of concern. The main problem is that much of the felling from the northern area of the forest will be extracted through Glen Duror and out along the cycle path/Achindarroch Road. As there are ongoing problems both with the Achindarroch Junction and the condition of the cycle path leading into the forest, the increase in heavy traffic is of concern. Sandy will respond to F&LS.

Andy & Sara MacNeill have re-submitted their plans for a yoga studio and house at South Cuil

Updates on Highland Council Matters

Sandy gave updates on various matters:

- **Tourism Levy Consultation** The CC has been asked to comment on the proposed Tourism Levy. As no-one present felt qualified to comment, Sandy will ask someone who is involved in tourism in the area to let him know if they have any concerns.
- **Call Box Consultation** This is not relevant as there are no working Call Boxes in this area.

AOCB

Community Mini-bus Project

Sandy has put his name forward as a Trustee for the new board on behalf of Duror and Kentallen. A trustee has to be appointed from each area that wishes to make use of a community mini-bus should the project be successful.

Association of South Lochaber Community Councils

Kevin Smith is standing down as Chair of this group and seeking a replacement. Jonathan proposed that a letter of thanks is written to Kevin. Sandy will do this.

Parking at St Adamnans Church

There have been some problems with cars parked outside St Adamnans on service days. Recently there was a report of cars blocking the pavement and forcing a pedestrian with a pushchair to walk on the road. There is a wide verge which could accommodate careful parking. This was thought to be a church matter not Community Council.

Belford Hospital Progress

Sandy reported that there is little progress with the project. There is a general sense of frustration with the situation.

Travellers' Homes in Kentallen

Jonathan again raised concerns about a rising number of vehicles parked at the travellers' homes in Kentallen. He will pursue this with Andrew Baxter.

Japanese Knotweed in 6-house development.

Dave reported that the Japanese Knotweed that was removed from the site for the 6-house scheme and placed on a plastic sheet off the building site has not been regularly sprayed as promised. The plants in the heap have flowered and it is feared may have seeded locally. This is a very serious matter as it can affect everyone's property. Sandy will contact the Small Communities Housing Trust in the first instance as the developer.

The meeting was closed at 8.05pm

Date of Next Meeting: The next meeting will on 11th November 2019 at 7pm.