



**DUROR & KENTALLEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
FIRST MEETING 9<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2020  
HELD IN KENTALLEN AND DUROR COMMUNITY CENTRE  
AT 7.00PM**

**Present:** Sandy Stoddart (*Chairman*), Rachel Shepton (*Vice Chairman*), Chris Pearman, Jeannie Macleod, Pat Young, Becky Coope.

**Apologies for absence:** Jonathan Baxter (*Treasurer*)

**In attendance:** Christine Ross, Tasha MacCallum-Miller, Ann Wyr

**Minutes of previous meeting**

The previous minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**Matters Arising**

- **Forest Plans.** Rob Coope spoke to FLS regarding the plan for Glen Duror not being available to view online. FLS confirmed that the plan will be available once it is finalised, in the meantime they had forwarded a copy of it to Rob which he passed on to Steve Bignall.
- **Notice Boards.** The firm that has been quoting for replacement notice boards have been caught up in the flooding down south. It was agreed to give them some more time to allow for this. In the meantime Chris will remove the damaged door from the playpark notice board, and a notice will be put up saying that a new board is being purchased.
- **FW2040.** Sandy attended the recent meeting in Fort William. He said a number of wide ranging suggestions had been put forward and considered. Whilst he felt that not a lot of things raised were of particular interest to residents in Duror and Kentallen directly, he did acknowledge that any improvements in Fort William would be of benefit to the community. He raised the issue of the lack of public transport connecting our villages to Fort William, but received an unsatisfactory reply. He had later been contacted by a reporter from the Oban Times, who wished to follow this up and a piece was published in the paper covering this. As a direct result of the article, Sandy was contacted by someone from Highland Council who deals with transport. He suggested funding for a community minibus could alleviate the situation and put her in touch with Donald Stewart. No-one had been able to attend the meeting regarding the minibus on Thursday last week, so Sandy will await feedback from that meeting.
- **VE Day commemoration.** Becky gave a brief outline of plans for a Family Fun Day on May 8th. Plans are at an early stage, and it was agreed that anything held should be a joint venture between the CC and Community Centre.
- **Village Tidy.** This will take place on April 4th. Jeannie asked for volunteers to hand out pickers etc and allocate areas to be covered at the Hall. Jonathan is purchasing pickers and more tabards. Disposable gloves will also be required. Sandy has contacted HC regarding road safety signs for the day to protect those collecting on the side of the main road. PC Softley has offered to supply these if necessary. Jeannie will contact HC regarding collection of the black bags after the event. Becky will arrange a poster to advertise the event. A Risk Assessment will be required - Sandy will follow this up.
- **Glen Duror Hydro Scheme.** A letter has been sent by the developers to all residents affected by the work. Tasha confirmed that everyone had been contacted that would be affected and they were happy with the situation - communication seems to have improved and this was welcomed.

**Notices From Highland Council**

**Community Resilience Plans** Sandy has received an e-mail regarding the formation of a CRP for Kentallen and Duror. These have already been formed in some villages and involve the formation of a group that can then establish a risk register and plan that can deliver an appropriate response in an emergency situation such as a flood, wild fire, major road accident etc. There was a broad discussion and it was felt that the villages already have a tight and inclusive network and would already be capable of dealing with any emergency situation should one occur. The formation of a specific group was felt to be unnecessary at this stage. Anyone who wishes to find out more about the scheme can visit <https://www.readyscotland.org/get-involved/>.

## **Planning**

**Eilean Balnagowan.** Sandy has submitted a response on behalf of K&DCC expressing concern at creeping development on the island. Plans for the agricultural shed have been passed by HC.

## **AOCB**

### **Signatories on Bank Account**

Jonathan proposes to add Rachel to the Bank Account as a signatory and to remove Chris Clay and John Connolly, who was still on the list. It was unanimously agreed to proceed with this.

### **Scramble Bikes in Forest**

Tasha raised concerns about this matter which had been raised at last month's meeting. She felt that criticism of youngsters was unfair as she was aware of some who do take their bikes into the forest, but they always behave responsibly towards other forest users, and indeed have been complimented on their behaviour by some visitors to the area. It was stressed that bikes travelling at speed on the cycle track and Achindarroch Road was the matter of most concern to others in the village. She was not sure who this would be, but would ask around. It was agreed that scramble bikes using the forest was a matter for FLS and not D&KCC.

### **Duror Primary School**

Tasha gave an update on the situation at the school, which was entirely positive. Both the new teacher, Mrs Stewart and the new Head, Mrs Burns are excellent and the whole atmosphere at the school has improved beyond measure. Sadly, Mrs Stewart has to move on to another post, but it is believed that she will be replaced by Mrs Burns' daughter who also has a good reputation. There is still concern about the lack of nursery provision in the village - with a large number of pre-school children, and it is feared that if they go to nurseries elsewhere they may not return to Duror Primary School.

### **Cycle Track Potholes**

Becky has been trying to ascertain who's responsibility it is to patch the holes in the section of cycle track running from Achindarroch Road towards the school. She has had confirmation from Sustrans that they cannot undertake any repairs.

### **Dog Mess on the Cycle Track**

Tasha and Ann raised the matter of dog mess on the cycle track running from Achindarroch Road towards the Hall. Ann currently clears this up, but said that the provision of a bin and bags may encourage dog walkers to clear up themselves. Sandy will look into acquiring a bin.

### **Community Facebook Page**

The current community Facebook Page is not easy to place posts on and consequently not widely used. Rachel would like to convert the page to a Group Page to make posting easier. It was agreed that she should proceed with this.

### **Builder's Sign at 6-house development**

Chris raised the matter of the builders advertising hoarding at the entrance to the houses. They have now been completed for years, but the sign is still there. It was agreed that Chris will contact the builders to have it removed. Jeannie also raised the matter of a spring which was re-routed at the time of the build and is now appearing in the grounds of St Adamnan's Church. It was noted that this was a problem created by the builders of the houses initially and therefore they should sort it. St Adamnan's will contact Susan Hunter regarding this.

### **Achindarroch Junction Development**

Ann asked for confirmation of Niall Maclean's plans for the land at the junction, she has concerns that any development shouldn't interfere with her campsite's safety escape routes which utilise 2 gates on the cycle track. Sandy suggested any plans were at a very early stage and that there would be further public meetings if things progressed.

### **Bench at Cuil Bay**

Tasha reported that the winter storms have caused a lot of erosion of the beach near the memorial bench at the west end of Cuil Bay and that the bench, which is much loved locally, may soon be in danger of being washed away. Sandy will ascertain who the landowner is and contact them to see if a plan can be formed to put some shore protection in place.

The meeting was closed at 8.25pm

**Date of Next Meeting:** The next meeting will on 13th April 2020 at 7pm.