

DUROR & KENTALLEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES FOR MEETING

Monday October 4th 2021 at 7pm via Zoom Meeting

Present: Alex Smith, Jonathan Baxter (acting Chairman), Chris Pearman, Pat Young, Paul McNicoll, Leslie Nicoll, Geoff Nix, Lis Robertson, Claire Howell, Richard Wilkie, Dicky Weir, Steve Bignell, Lea Thomson (secretary)

Apologies: Sara McNeill, Becky Coope, Jeannie Macleod, Stephen Softley

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 6th September 2021

- Approved by Jonathan, seconded by Chris.

2. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

- Duror Diggers - awaiting receipt from Rachel/Lottie for village flowers. Alex informed us that the receipt is lost, but Rachel has contacted the garage for a replacement receipt.
- Playground equipment. Alan Young and Jonathan are to write a letter to the Highland Council to request a grant. Chris queried if we are expected to do the work then claim it back? Jonathan will get that confirmed as part of the written application.
- Cuil Bay turning spaces. Geoff Nix proposed that we make a formal request to the Highland Council that they adopt at least one passing place on the route and mark it with a sign. The Committee agrees this is a good idea. Geoff will draft the letter and forward it to Jonathan to submit on behalf of the Council.
- Main Road Bench Refurbishment - Chris and Jonathan to act on this.
- Broadband - Geoff, Jonathan and Steve B to meet to sort out the OpenReach response. Geoff has received a formal response from Kate Forbes, confirming we won't be eligible for any vouchers or subsidy if we apply through a community-based system. However, we are on the list for the roll out that will occur sometime after 2021.
- No other matters

3. Treasurer's Report

- Monthly Treasurer's Report is in abeyance until new Chairman is appointed.
- In summary, the current account has a balance of £4,940.73. The deposit account has a balance of £3,795.18. There are two payments still to come in: the annual Highland Council grant and the Sustrans payment for the bench by the school.

4. Correspondence

- Email from Richard requesting action on road traffic safety and a neighbour who wishes to remain unnamed. This is covered later in the minutes.
- There have been numerous calls and emails regarding last month's fish farm presentation, including an email from Dave Crystal, who is a founder member of Loch Linnhe Fisherman's Association. This topic will be covered later in the minutes.

5. Planning

New submission:

- [Renewal of permission for house on land 60M SE Of Achindarroch Farm Duror](#)
- [Erection of house and erection of 2 chalets for holiday letting purposes | Land 100M West Of Invernahyle Duror](#)
 - no requests for feedback on either of these properties.

Awaiting decisions on:

- [Erection of 4 flats and associated works, Cameron Brae, Kentallen](#)
- [Erection of house next to Old Post Office, Cameron Brae, Kentallen](#) - this application has been denied.

Approved:

- [Erection of yoga studio and extension of house Camus South Cuil Duror Appin PA38 4DA](#)

6. Loch Linnhe Fish Farm

- Jonathan summarised the current position as follows: there was a presentation last month from Loch Long Salmon company. They emphasized at the time this was to "test the water" and a long way before their intention to submit planning. We were asked not to spread extra information at this stage, so the presentation was not distributed to the wider public, but only to those who attended the meeting. Loch Long Salmon took away with them our concerns about the position of the potential fish farm and the issues that the site would create for wildlife and existing users of the area. Since the meeting there Jonathan has received at least 4 emails from people who were not at the meeting requesting further information and lodging objections.
- Jonathan suggested it is too early in the process to be formally receiving objections, but instead opened the meeting to a general discussion. General consensus was that it would not be a good thing for the local or wider community, especially due to

the massive growth in size of the nearby Scottish Sea Farms site, which has just had an application approved for another 8 x 40m tanks.

7. Road Safety

- Richard presented to the meeting regarding the many accidents that occur on the Duror-Kentallen road, especially between the Ardchoille Bend and the primary school. Other comments were made about road safety, including Geoff Nix (who pointed out the sightlines to the main road are blocked by the bridge parapet when pulling out of the Cuil Bay road) and Chris (who commented on the speed of traffic through Duror).
- Jonathan noted the Community Council has lobbied before about this but without success. Chris suggested we should start lobbying again as this is obviously very dangerous. Lea has sent a copy of Richard's presentation to Stephen Softley, our police representative, and Richard has agreed to draft a letter to present to the Council.

8. COVID

- Jonathan has asked the Highland Council for permission to hold live meetings for the Community Council but has been denied. He will insist on a face to face meeting if required for contentious issues.

9. Community Council Membership

- Jonathan summarised: current permanent members are Jonathan, Steve, Pat and Chris. We must put a Chair and Vice Chair before November. Steve suggested that someone can act as a co-opted Chair or Vice Chair until formally voted onto the Committee if required.
- Alex and Claire were co-opted onto the Committee last month. They have voting rights but don't have rights to vote on new members. Kay Duffy, Dicky and Sara have both stated their interest in joining.
- Steve proposed Dicky Weir be co-opted onto the Committee. This was seconded by Chris.

10. Any Other Business

- No questions from committee Members and Ex-Officio Committee Members
- No questions from the Public

11. Date of Next Meeting

- Monday 8th November 2021