

STRATHPEFFER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Notes of meeting held on 9 January 2019 at 7:30 pm in Strathpeffer Community Centre

Date:	Wednesday 9 January 2019
Time:	19:30
Location:	Community Centre
Present (members):	Brian Mackenzie, William Deas, Gail Maclean, Val McGregor, Archie Macnab and Ron McAulay
Present (public):	Several members of the community
Apologies:	Peter Maclellan
Declaration of interest:	None
Appointment of Minute Secretary:	Ron McAulay

Agenda items		Actions
1.	<p>Minutes of last meeting:</p> <p>Approved.</p>	None.
2.	<p>Matters arising if not covered elsewhere on agenda:</p> <p>Proposed Housing Development on Land to the west of Kinellan Drive, Strathpeffer Ron had received a couple of updates in relation to this proposed housing development. Details are as follows:</p> <p>The planning permission has not yet been determined. Further work is underway by the developer to investigate how the proposed drainage arrangements for the site might affect the current drainage arrangements elsewhere in the village. A report will be available on their findings by around mid-February.</p> <p>The Highland Council has committed to working with Scottish Water to produce a Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP) for Strathpeffer which should consider the issue of dealing with surface water across the whole village. This SWMP will then be used to identify any capital works required to upgrade the existing infrastructure. With that information, Highland Council will then have to identify when funding can be found to carry out those works. As yet</p>	

	<p>there is no timescale as to when this SWMP work will be done however, Ron has written asking if they can provide us with a timescale.</p> <p>Ron agreed to send a copy of the email providing the information on the SWMP to the Strathpeffer Residents Association for their information given they are embarking on a project to assess the drainage issues associated with their own site.</p> <p>Pedestrian Crossing at entrance to Community Centre Ron also provided an update on progress with the removal of the zebra crossing markings on the speed bump at the entrance to the car park and the painting of more pedestrian markings directing people to cross the road further in to the car park area.</p> <p>While we had asked for the barriers to be extended further into the car park to help direct people along the route of the new painted directions, the Roads Dept at HC had advised that doing so would encourage people to walk outwith the barriers on the main road if they were simply walking westwards along the main road pavement. As a result they could not extend the barriers as we proposed. They will however, progress the painting works to place the markers on the pavement and remove the zebra crossing markings on the speed bump.</p>	Ron.
3.	<p>Police Report</p> <p>A copy of the latest Police report had been circulated prior to the meeting. There was nothing of any concern requiring any action by the CC and the report was noted.</p>	-
4.	<p>Village Community Plan</p> <p>An update was provided as follows:</p> <p>The consultant working on our behalf is also helping the Pavilion Steering Group to produce their business plan and application for funding to purchase the Pavilion building and gardens. The deadline for this application is the 25 January 2019 and it has been agreed with the consultant that they should devote their resources to making sure that application is made on time with the work on the Community Plan following on immediately afterwards.</p> <p>The deadline we have now set and agreed with the consultant is to have the Plan finished by the end of February/beginning of March.</p> <p>The next step in the process will involve a series of individual interviews with groups such as those identified in the minutes of our meeting held in August 2018 which includes the Community Council as an individual group. It was agreed that the consultant would be invited to our next meeting in February.</p> <p>It was noted that there would be a further public engagement/plan launch event in early March. A date has yet to be confirmed.</p> <p>Finally, it was noted that Catriona Knott of Local Energy Scotland, the organisation that is funding the work on the plan, will be attending our next Community Council meeting.</p>	Ron. All.
	<p>Christmas Lights</p> <p>It was noted that we had been able to display Christmas lights on the Christmas tree in the Square but the Christmas lights on the lighting poles had been missing. Our existing lights</p>	

5.	<p>for the poles had not been working properly and attempts were made to borrow spare pole mounted Christmas lights from Dingwall Community Council but unfortunately their spare lights were in a similar condition to our own and were therefore not used. However, it was acknowledged that Murray Mackay of Dingwall CC had been most helpful in trying to accommodate our request. Ron undertook to write to Dingwall CC thanking them for their help.</p> <p>Going forward, it was agreed that we would seek funding for the purchase of twelve new pole mounted lights. The funds sought would also include for the potential cost of making six new power connection points on a further six lighting poles. The funding application would also include for the erection and removal costs for the lights as it was now not certain that HC would be able to provide this service.</p> <p>It was agreed that we would ask HC to provide the additional six power connection points.</p> <p>It was noted that Dingwall CC now appeared to have an issue with the fixing points for their lights that are strung out across the main street. These fixing points are located on private buildings and it was suggested that they may be in need of some repair works.</p> <p>The fabricated Christmas tree located adjacent to the traffic lights in Dingwall was remarked upon and it was suggested that it may be worth writing to the manufacturer of the tree to see if they would be willing to make one for Strathpeffer. Ron agreed to write to the manufacturer.</p>	<p>Ron.</p> <p>Archie.</p> <p>Archie.</p> <p>Ron.</p>
6.	<p>Public Toilets</p> <p>Despite efforts on our behalf by Cllr Cockburn, this matter was not yet resolved. It was eventually agreed that we would leave the toilets shut for the current winter but revisit the matter in the summer. All agreed that the current situation whereby we had a volunteer willing to open and close the toilets during the winter, made the current closure of the toilets ridiculous.</p>	
7.	<p>Strathpeffer.org website - upgrade</p> <p>Ron reported back that he had been in discussion with an IT expert in the village about the current website and how we might fix the fragility issues and improve the information and presentation of the site. There was overall agreement to doing the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping the website but upgrading the software it operates on to rid it of the fragility issues, • Jazzing up the appearance of the website to make it more attractive to those viewing it, • Bringing all the information on the website up to date, • Updating the sections on food and drink which are currently empty, • Changing the diary section to be more tourist friendly e.g. what to do in Strathpeffer, • Introducing links to individual business and group facebook pages and websites, and • Creating a more user friendly shared diary system for the groups and clubs to share and use. <p>Ron undertook to speak with Paul Hunter and Rob Elliot as IT experts to obtain a better idea of any costs involved in doing this work. He will report back when he has more detailed costing information.</p>	<p>Ron</p>
8.	<p>Financial Position of the CC</p> <p>Archie gave an update on the financial status of the CC. After the payment of some outstanding accounts, there is approx. £300 in the bank account. He has arranged for the</p>	<p>Archie.</p>

	last year's accounts to be signed off and submitted to the HC which should allow the release of the annual allocation of funds for the present year.	
9.	<p>Any other business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A volunteer from within the community had proposed painting the benches in the Square brighter colours. After some discussion it was agreed that this would be a good idea. • Ron advised that the Peffery Way Association had received confirmation that their application for a further grant had been approved and if all goes to plan, they would be hoping to start work on phase 2 of the path (Fodderty to Dingwall) in the next month or two. The issue of signage encouraging dog walkers to take their dog mess home rather than leave it by the path or throw it over the fence was raised and Ron agreed to consider what might be done. It was noted that HC refused to install dog mess bins anymore as it was no longer their policy to do so. 	Ron.
10.	<p>Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 6 February 2019 at 7:30pm.</p>	All
Date: 10/1/19		