

Halkirk District Community Council

Minutes of HDCC meeting held on Wed 24th January 2024 held in Ross Institute, Halkirk at 700pm (held via Zoom)

PRESENT: Chairman Stuart Mills, Dave Busby, Linda Levack, Laura Coghill, Katrine Coghill, Declan Gunn

In attendance: Robert Falconer
Apologies: – Nicola Campbell, Cllr Ron Gunn,

1. Welcome

Stuart Mills welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Community Safety Report

No report since last meeting from Police Scotland.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th December were accepted as a true record.

Minor change in the Seminar Dave Busby had attended.

Approved: Linda Levack, Seconded: Dave Busby

4. Matters Arising from these Minutes

Benches – the state of the benches could be split into 3 categories

- Minor sand and paint
- Minor fix – sand and paint
- Replacement of worst benches. (Funding could be sought through Village Council for this)

Secretary would contact previous volunteers to find out if help can be provided.

Speed Signs – The 20mph speed Consultation was still available to comment and Secretary would circulate the link again so everyone could comment.

It was felt that it should be kept permanent but only in the school and busy areas, and not for low traffic areas. It was suggested to look at how other Community Councils in other parts of the country are dealing with this. Community councillors to continue to find local feeling on this.

Grit bins – Highland council were to provide list of where all the bins were positioned in Halkirk to see if these needed rearranged.

5. Treasurer's Report

Paid Village Council for Hire of Hall £64

Paid J Sudd £351.60 for Defib battery (Achlachan fund)

6. Village Warden's Report

Awaiting to hear from Highland Council on funding for this year before advertising for a new Village Officer.

Village Clean Up

Village Clean Up – weather has been too bad to continue and further dates will be discussed at next meeting for further campaign in February/March. We are still trying to get a core group and communication /group set up, list of equipment required and where to store.

Robert Falconer had contacted Dounreay regarding possibility of road sweeper
Possibility to apply to HDBF for equipment (walk along sweeper for sit on Mower)

Secretary would circulate list of equipment available for community councillors to borrow from Allans of Gillock.

7. Area Representatives Reports•

Forestry & SNH – Representative Linda Levack

- Roads

- Potholes at shop have had temporary fix
- No update from HC – the potholes on some roads were worse,
- Raymond Bremner due to visit Halkirk –
- SDM to send photos to HC

- Dounreay Stakeholders –

The minutes can be accessed from the Dounreay Stakeholder's Group website.

<http://www.dounreaystakeholdergroup.org/>


- Health – Representative Nicola Campbell

- Resilience group emails contain updated information on services and useful links

- Planning – Representative – Secretary

All emails from Planning are circulated weekly and any of interest picked out and brought to meeting. All planning applications can be accessed from the Highland.gov website.

Current applications

<u>Spittal Substation and HVDC Converter Station – New 400kv Substation & HVDC Converter Station To Connect To The Proposed New 400kv Overhead Line between Spittal & Beaully, The New Spittal To Peterhead HVDC Link, And The Existing Spittal 275/132kv Substation</u>	SSEN Transmission
<u>Erection cabin for short term letting</u> Land 40M SW Of Achens Cottage Brawlbin Scotsalder Halkirk 	Ms Kathleen McManus

Goticlay Windfarm Consulation	Action – SDM will prepare letter of objection.
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8. Achlachan Microfund Applications

- Scotscladder Hall – Blether & Bite - £300 – agreed (£150 future funding)

Fund is now low and Secretary will contact Foundation Scotland for further top up.

9. Correspondence

Eilidh Coll, Foundation Scotland	Annual SPR Halsary due diligence statement	Action: SDM – to talk to Foundation Scotland before signing
Highland Council	<p>I am no longer in the post of Ward Manager, if you could please remove me from the mailing list and forward this to Helen.ross@highland.gov.uk</p> <p>Helen is the Senior Manager for the North so will be allocating any/all future workstreams.</p> <p>Many thanks. Mack</p>	
Martin Goodwin	SSEN Transmission - Ground investigation works for Spittal to Peterhead connection	
Forestry Consultation Scheme	<p>Forest Management carried out by Scottish Woodlands Limited SA-FM/COC-010210 / SA-PEFC-FM-010210</p> <p>The deadline for comments is 04-Mar-2024.</p>	

10. Any Other Business

Defibrillator to Westerdale – Application successful and cheque has been deposited into bank. As Dave Busby is to co-ordinate this the easiest way is for HDCC to give a cheque for the amount to Dave to order the equipment and organise installation. Dave would then provide receipts for HDBF form to be returned.

Village Council update from Declan Gunn

- The Burns supper went well and was sell out
- Playpark – quotes for groundwork out
- Gala – discussions ongoing for this years gala.

11. Date of Next Meeting

- 13th February 2024

Further Dates for 2024

15th May 2024

26th June 2024 (inc AGM)

21st August 2024

30th October 2024

11th December 2024