

# Halkirk District Community Council

Minutes of HDCC meeting held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August 2024 held in Ross Institute, Halkirk at 7.15pm

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

In attendance: 2 Members of the Public attended.

Apologies:,- Cllr Matthew Reiss, Laura Coghill, Linda Levack,

## 1. Welcome

Vice Chairman Stuart Mills welcomed everyone to the meeting including two members of the public from the Village.

## 2. Community Safety Report

Police Scotland Community Engagement Report received from PC Staples .

Some reports had been made of speeding through the Village at nights.

## 3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024 were accepted as a true record. Proposed by Dave Busby, seconded by Declan Gunn

## 4. Matters Arising from these Minutes

Benches – Halkirk Football Club has offered to help in renovating the benches requiring some work. Secretary will contact the Football Club to try to arrange dates possibly mid September. Equipment /supplies can be bought beforehand through the Achlachan Fund. The Village Council has Quotes in for funding for two replacement benches.

Vacancies – there were still vacancies for Secretary and Treasurer – these are being covered by Katrine Coghill and Stuart Mills until appointments are made.

## 5. Treasurer's Report

- One invoice in from Halkirk Village Hall for hire of hall - £32.00
- Balance in bank £2959.50

## 6. Village Warden's Report

A new village officer has been appointed – Declan Gunn has met with him and they have a scope of work for the next few months. Funding will allow hours per week till end of September.

### Village Clean Up

A successful village clean up was held at the Cemetery on Sat 17<sup>th</sup> August 2024, it was attended by about 20 people from Halkirk and District. Equipment had been borrowed from Wick Paths Group and thanks went to them for the loan. Local firm JGC Engineering sponsored the leaflet printing and refreshments afterwards, the tea and cakes were a welcome sight at the end of the work – this also gave the group an opportunity to discuss ways of moving forward.

A further two dates are to be arranged, for these we will ask volunteers to bring their own equipment and look at applying for funding for some smaller equipment which could be held at the Ross Institute. A list of equipment required. Funding could include hire of hall and refreshments afterwards.

Dates suggested: Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2024 and Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2024. Secretary will put email round the group to see if this is agreeable and subsequently advertise.

## 7. Area Representatives Reports•

Forestry & SNH – Representative Linda Levack

- Trees are still being carted in lorries.

### • Roads

- 20mph – SDM would reply. See AOB.

### • 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.

- Mey BESS – objection to go in tomorrow – written by SDM
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- SDM has meeting with Edward Mountain tomorrow.

## 8. Achlachan Microfund Applications

- Application from Dave Busby for Village Officer to cover the costs for Scotscladder and possibly Spittal village which equates to approximately 6 hours per month for 4 months split between the two area. Agreed by all. £300 payment made.

## 9. Correspondence

Scottish Land Commission	Land Commission Public Meeting Thurso 2 september – now online	Meeting now online
Alistair Ferrier	Assoc Community Councils meeting tonight	Apologies sent
Allan Tait Thistle Windfarm	Public meetings Spittal 24 September	
Gillian Doig   Community Liaison Manager	Spittal to Peterhead High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) Link Project	Event dates Wed 11 Sep 11-1pm SPITTAL Wed 11 Sep 3-7pm WATTEN
SSEN Transmission	Ground Investigation works to start	
Foundation Scotland	SPR Halsary annual return	SDM to write to Eilidh Coll, Foundation Scotland
Highland Broadband	Marketing / survey?	Marketing
David Jury	off road walking/cycling route from Halkirk to Georgemas Junction or to connect to the walking paths at Sibster.	

## **10. Any Other Business**

- 20mph review

Chairman Stuart Mills to write to Highland Council that 30mph should remain with 20mph at schools.

### Windfarm applications websites

- A member of the public reported that he found the Halsary windfarm application website confusing – Dave Busby was interested and would bring to the next Halsary meeting.

## **11. Date of Next Meeting**

- 30 October 2024 (Dave Busby apologies)
- 11<sup>th</sup> December 2024