**West Loch Fyne Community Council**

**Minutes of Meeting Held 17.01.23 Minard Village Hall 7pm.**

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| **Council Members** | **Role** | **Email** | **Present at Meeting** |
| Dave Wilkinson | Convener | convener@westlochfynecc.co.uk | Yes |
| Jason Copestick | Vice Convener | jason@westlochfynecc.co.uk | Yes |
| Heather Rogan | Treasurer | treasurer@westlochfynecc.co.uk | Yes |
| Abbie McCrae | Secretary | Secretary@westlochfynecc.co.uk | Yes |
| Jen Deane | Member | jen@westlochfynecc.co.uk | Yes |
| Keith Potter | Member | keith@westlochfynecc.co.uk | Yes |
| Greg Neeson | Member | greg@westlochfynecc.co.uk | Apologies sent |

**Attendees:**

Jan Brown (JB) (AB Council), Victoria Winters (VW), John Hall (JH), Leonard Mcneill (LM), Willie Lamb (WB), Jean Smith (JS), Marion Lacey (ML), Paul Lomas (PL), Laura Skelton (LS), Mike Skelton (MS), Jane Mullen (JM), Andros Gavriel (AG), Fraser Bell (FB), Kirsten Rennie (KR) Margaret Moncur (MM).

**Apologies:**

Becs Barker, Brian Barker, Bob Dixon, Toni Callum.

**Welcome and Introductions:**

DW opened the meeting with a welcome and introductions from the newly formed Community Council. This is the first meeting of the new Council.

DW informed the meeting that Becs Barker has resigned from the CC and acknowledged the hard work that Bec’s has done on the CC website. Jen will now take over the website management.

DW explained that we can co-opt a replacement if anyone was interested.

The minutes form the last CC meeting were read and approved. All minutes can be found on the website.

**Convener’s Report**

DW updated on information from JS on the piece of land in Lochgair that Scottish Water have asked the community if they would like to purchase for £1.5K

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| ACTION 1: this will be taken to the Lochgair Association for review |

Crarae footpath – Minard to Crarae Garden footpath is not completed. VM and JH updated the meeting that the budget was approved, and all permissions form landowners gained at the end of November 2022. There have been concerns about the nesting of slow worms. It is understood that work will begin again in March on the footpath and the work on the drains and the drop kerbs requested in Minard.

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| ACTION 2: Update at next meeting |

Ambulance service – no update available. Currently the CC does not have a point of contact. JB has an upcoming meeting and will ask for a point of contact.

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| ACTION 3: JB to let the CC know if a point of contact is acquired. |

**Treasurer’s Report:**

HR thanked Jan Williams (previous treasurer) for her support with the handover.

HR explained that grant monies due to be given to the CC would be awarded when the current balance goes below £800.

Lots of applications for micro grants received. Some may be delayed due to the change if signatories on the bank account.

There are two types of grants available with application criteria, the micro grant and the Foundation Scotland grants that award larger amounts. (Full details of these are on the CC website.

**Micro Grant Applications:**

1. RM fitness – Boxercise equipment for classes in the village all for all ages and abilities. £250 awarded.
2. Minard Newsletter - £80 awarded for the next issue
3. Jen Deane – Jog lead training - £130 awarded
4. Heaters for Minard hall - £179.98 awarded
5. LGA scaffolding - £500 awarded
6. Fyne Friends parent and toddler group - £500 awarded

**Local Councilors Report:**

JB was the only local Councilor in attendance.

JB reported that there is a budget meeting on 23rd February and it’s likely that there will be cuts made but no idea where they will be. Council tax may rise.

JB happy to be contacted with any questions.

**Speeding Issues in Minard and Lochgair:**

JB has been in touch with the Police, and we are no further forward with any speed reduction measures. Due to the lack of accidents, we are unlikely to be prioritised.

Advised to note vehicles speeding and keep a log of dates, times and vehicle details which we can submit to the Police.

**Police Update:**

We have been contacted by PS Matthew Shaw with information on the new operating model. Physical Police presence can no longer be guaranteed but, when possible, Sgt David Abel will attend the meetings.

**Street Lighting in Lochgair:**

The CC has been asked to investigate getting the streetlights switched off permanently.

JB informed the meeting that the Council have a statutory duty for safety so the lights would not be considered optional and would stay on.

**Parking Charges at Forestry Sites**

Forestry Commission are introducing new parking charges at various locations including Ardcastle, Dunardry and Barnlagussan.

Local residents oppose this plan.

VW has met with Forestry as a representative of Heart of Argyll and will update on this issue at the next meeting.

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| ACTION 4: VW to provide updates |

**Date of Next Meeting:**

14th March 7pm Minard Village Hall

**AOCB:**

VW informed the meeting that on the 08/12/22 there was a fire in an outbuilding in Tullochgorm. As a result of the fire deficiencies in the fire hydrants has been identified. The water pressure is insufficient.

The resilience of remote communities was questioned. Answers are required from the Fire Authority and Scottish water.

MM agreed to find out who checks the fire hydrants and what they check.

JB agreed to contact Scottish water, the Fire and Rescue Service and the Council to gather further information.

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| ACTION 5: MM and JB to feedback to CC. |

ML informed the meeting that there have been vehicle incidents at the bridge area in Lochgair. Mainly the lorries hitting each other in the narrow stretch.

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| ACTION 6: CC to write to Transport Scotland about the issue |

HR informed the meeting that there have been 3 planning applications for Lochgair. Full details on the ABC website.

JB informed the meeting that 20 residents form Furnace have contacted her about a new windfarm. Plans have been changed and the proposed windfarm will be bigger than originally proposed. This may have implications for Minard.

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| ACTION 7: JD agreed to look into this and feedback. |

WL asked if anyone had been able to get a Smart Meter. It was agreed that due to poor signal Smart meters could be installed but may not function efficiently.

END.