

BERRIEDALE and DUNBEATH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting 1st October 2018

Members Present.

Neil Buchanan NB (Chairperson); John Gunn JG (Secretary); Bryan MacLeod BM; Francis Allan FA; Jenna Irvine JI; Fiona Donn FD.(Raymond Bremner RB)

Highland Council: There were none. **RB** sent notes attached to minutes.

Members of Public: There were none.

1/ Apologies: Magnus Henderson.

2/Financial Statement, as of 06.08.2018

Current Account Balance	£42.26	
Income During the Month	£0.00	
Expenditure during month	£0.00	
Balance	£42.26	
Development Account Balance	£27,325.26	
Expenditure during month		
K Gunn (Bulbs micro grant)	£250.00	
AOC Archaeology	£22,920.00	Outstanding
Income During the Month	£2.71	Interest
Balance	£4,157.97	
of which Micro Grant money		
of which Flower Planters money	<u>£2,500.00</u>	
of which Broch money	-£1,820.00	
Balance	£3,477.97	
Village Warden Account Balance	£313.91	
Expenditure During Month	£0.00	
Income During the Month	£0.00	
Balance	£313.91	
Total Assets	£3,834.18	
Dunbeath Christmas Lights Fund	05/04/17	
Opening Balance	£5097.25	
Balance	£5097.25	

3/ Financial; **NB** presented Draft Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st March 2018, after an explanation to members they were accepted awaiting Independent Examiners Certificate to be signed. (on going)

4/ Minutes of meeting 3rd September 2018 was circulated and proposed by Bryan Macleod seconded by Neil Buchanan.

5/Caithness Community Partnership - No representative attended the meeting and no update of progress received. Comments were passed around about what is happening if anything. we believe Andrew Dick SFRS has moved on and the new fire Boss comes from Inverness.

On a note from Councillor **Raymond Bremner** he said Eann Sinclair has taken over the chair as Roy Kirk has moved to another job, he believes there is to be a meeting in the Strathpeffer Pavilion on 16 November 2018 which he is hoping to attend, Lauren Simpson is now the new CNSRP point of [contact- lauren.simpson@hient.co.uk](mailto:contact-lauren.simpson@hient.co.uk).

6/ Police Report; No representative attended the meeting and no report received. **RB** has requested an update from Inspector Iain MacLelland and Marlene MacDonald who were at the Caithness Committee.

7/Matters Arising; **RB** stated that he had brought up the Achorn Bridge with Mr Mackenzie from the roads department with a view to get it repaired no work has been undertaken to date.

8/John O Groats trail – a e-mail showing proposed direction signs were passed around there were some comments as to the size of the signs some members thought smaller signs would be more appropriate, members did not think the proposed sign on the Lamp-post beside the War memorial in Dunbeath was the right place for a directional sign.

9/Phone Box John Irvine to get spare parts to complete Box. Latest news is he the spare parts hopefully will see it in place later this year.(on going)

10/Dunbeath Broch – **NB** stated that he had organised a £10,000 loan from the Highland Council until the Grants come in, he also stated that most of the work had been completed on the Broch and there was some extra walls to be renovated.

11/Berriedale Braes Realignment; no word of work commencing. **RB** requested a update from Tommy Deans Bear Scotland. Archaeologists are currently on site surveying.

12/Bowl Micro Grants; there were none.

13/Old Police House; **NB** had contacted Pentland Housing but no response at this time.

14/Footpath on old Brae; Councillor Raymond Bremner to look into the problem and brought the matter up with Jonathan Gunn from the roads department no further progress. **RB** still waiting response after 3 months from Graham MacKenzie roads.

15/ Flower Planters and Tubs; **JG** stated that he has submitted a funding application to Tesco Bags and waiting information to get an application into Bowl for funding.

16/Community Council Funding; quite a discussion with **RB** about this problem matter to be brought up at Association of Community Councils seems the way forward, **RB** suggested the C/C apply to the Highland Council Discretionary fund for the deficit in the funding.

17/Badfern Wind Farm, **NB** presented a dossier on how he thought the Company should be set up and run if the wind farm goes ahead, there was quite a discussion on different matters no decision was made as to accept this proposal. Magnus Henderson asked the question if the wind farm was to go ahead would the money be controlled by the C/C or a company or panel set up to organise the finance **NB** stated that he would hope a company would be set

up with a panel to organise the finances independent of other organisations. (on going) **NB** to have a meeting with Wind Farm Company on 10 October 2018.

18/Future Plans; Frank Sutherland gave a brief update on the two public meetings held in the Dunbeath Heritage Centre he explained there was now a Steering Group set-up comprising 10 people of which there were three Community Councillors. He had looked at getting a Local Survey done to find out what the community wants to get involved in. **NB** stated that an application for £5000 had been submitted to Bowl and approved to help set up the youth group. **NB** also had a meeting with Matt Dent the Highland Council footpath officer they visited the post office path, coopers roadie and the path that leads up to Portormin Head Matt Dent suggested the coopers roadie required lazy steps and drainage cleaned, the post office path required drains cleaned before surfacing. Matt also suggested we do not touch the path to Portormin Head and leave it to the J.O.G Trail to organise.(on going)

19/ Correspondence : **JG** passed around a letter he received from Highland Council Area Planning about the Renovation of Derelict Property at Market Hill Dunbeath explaining his staff had visited the site and requested a Planning Application. (on going) **RB** requested a update from Area Planning Manager Dyfydd Jones on what is happening as work is progressing.

20/AOCB; **NB** read out a e-mail from the Dunbeath Centre asking if the C/C were willing to hold a meeting there so that they could show Members and community their refurbishment as the members were not quorate **NB** asked that it be held over until the next meeting. **NB** read out the e-mail carried over from the last meeting, **FA** stated that the hall is the place to hold meetings and the centre was not built to take other activities away from the hall. The members agreed.

Magnus Henderson suggested the Police should have some sort of Telephone System among the Farmers and Crofters to locate the amount of stolen equipment taken from our area. **FD** stated that the NFU has a scheme in place informing people of stolen property.

NB read out a letter from a concerned resident from Dunbeath about why the Christmas Lights Container had not been painted or screened, letter was noted as it was not signed.

NB read out and filled in a questionnaire from Highland Community Councils Scheme Review 2018/19 initial Engagement members to complete after **NB** circulate completed form.

JG circulated the planning consultation response to Moray West Offshore Wind Farm 18/03309/S36 it was agreed to support the project but were very concerned why there was no Community benefit as the Visual Impact would be catastrophic especially at night.

NB read out a letter from Moray West asking for a meeting, members suggested that the whole Caithness coastal membership should get together and meet them. **JG** to organise.

21/Date of Next Meeting: 5th November 2018 in Dunbeath Hall

22/Update on Community wind turbines at Knockinnon- Magnus Henderson not present no update.

23/Micro Grant Applications; There was none.

FA wished a letter of complaint to go to Stagecoach about the state of the Buses used to transport school children to the High School in Wick. **FA** also brought up the state of the A9

at Tormore Dunbeath road keeps breaking up **BM** to see into this problem.