

BERRIEDALE and DUNBEATH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting 4th March 2019

Members Present.

Neil Buchanan NB (Chairperson); John Gunn JG (Secretary): Bryan MacLeod BM; Francis Allan FA: Jenna Irvine JI: Donna Matheson DM,

Highland Council: Councillor Raymond Bremner.

Members of Public: Julie Marker, Caithness Voluntary Group, Frank Sutherland.

1/ Apologies: Fiona Donn, Magnus Henderson, Michelle Johnstone.

2/ Minutes of meeting 7th January 2019 was circulated and proposed by Francis Allan seconded by Bryan MacLeod.

3/ Financial Statement, as of 04.03.2019

Current Account Balance	£425.91		
Expenditure during month	£50.00	Association Membership	Small Lottery
	£152.00	Outstanding room hire	
Balance	£223.91		

Development Account Balance	£13,169.65		
Expenditure during month	£650.00	Plinth at Broch	
Balance	£420.00	Outstanding Gate at Broch	
Income During the Month			
Balance	£12,099.65		

which Micro Grant money			
of which Flower Planters money	<u>£2,500.00</u>		
of which Broch money	£4,960.00		
Youth Group	£1,000.00		
Balance	£3,639.65		

Village Warden Account Balance	£314.00		
Expenditure			
Village Officer			
Income			
Association			
Interest			
Balance	£314.00		

Total Assets	£4,177.56		
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Dunbeath Christmas Lights Fund	05/04/18		
Opening Balance	£5097.25		
Expenditure	£1,939.66		
Balance	£3,210.44		

4/ **NB** introduced Julie Marker Development Officer C.V.G Aspiring Communities (Rural) to give an update on what was happening to Caithness Community Partnership Julie said the whole set up

was changing to locate the Communities needs, her role was to feed information into Local Plans also improve Broadband look into employment for married people, see if it was possible to set up baby sitters, Affordable housing was one of the points that was discussed. There was also reference made to meetings of the Caithness Community Partnership being held during day time majority of our Community Council work and would not be able to attend day time meetings.

5/Police Report; **JG** stated that he had not received a report this month.

6/Matters Arising; **RB** stated that he had brought up the Achorn Bridge and would be looked at it later in the year.

7/John O Groats trail: **NB** read out an e-mail from Jim Bunting John O Groats Trail Ranger and agreed to ask him to attend a meeting when it was suitable for members.

8/ Phone Box John Irvine to get spare parts to complete Box. Latest news is he the spare parts hopefully will see it in place this year. Seems the trust would like to shift the agreed site. (on going)

9/ Dunbeath Broch: **NB** stated work was progressing very slowly on the Plinth and the Seat at Heritage Centre.

10/ Berriedale Braes Realignment; Main Contractor is to be R J MacLeod Planning application in for Office and Construction Compounds North of Strathview House Berriedale. **NB** stated they were looking to employ a Community Liaison Officer. There was Trial Small Scale Rock Blasting on Tuesday 26 February 2019.

11/ Bowl Micro Grants; Two applications received and will be discussed at end of meeting.

12 / Footpath on old Brae; Carried over from previous meetings, (on going)

13/ Flower Planters and Tubs; **JG** stated that the C/C was awarded a Grant of £6,000.00 from Caithness Beatrice Community Fund and had ordered the Tubs and Planters. **RB** said that the Community Payback organisation was looking for work.

14/ Community Council Funding; **RB** stated there was a extra £10,000.00 in the pot this year **NB** asked if there was a form to fill in to get this extra money **RB** to investigate when this money would become available.

15/ Dunbeath Wind Farm, (Culvid) no correspondence. It was noted that an Anemometer mast has been applied for Planning Permission.

16/ Future Plans; Frank Sutherland asked why was it stated in the minutes that there was no response from the development trust **BM** said they had only had one meeting and still setting up the organisation. **NB** proposed C/C should move forward with Feasibility Study/Development Plan/Vision for Dunbeath and employ a consultant, **NB** had quotes from Alan Jones Associates that he e-mailed all members. **NB** also stated that Alan Jones Associates has done a Study in Brora it was displayed in Northern Times. **NB** stated we now own Dunbeath.org and Berriedale.org he also suggested we look at the two web sites he passed around. **NB** also thought the Dunbeath Strath could be better sign posted with

interpretive panels pointing out various places. **NB** was also looking at a project involving Auchencraig /Badbea/ Old Berriedale Cemetery and Berriedale church. **RB** stated that the new nucleus archive was a great place to get old records of cemeteries and locations. **NB** said the new proposals for Community Councils allowed for 2 14-18 year olds to be members with full voting rights. **RB** commented that where this had been done in Wick the older people were struggling to come to terms with their ideas. **NB** asked **JI** to speak to youth group.

17/ Carried on from previous meetings: Renovation of Derelict property at Market Hill Dunbeath **RB** stated he had various meetings with Dayfydd Jones Area Planning and Building Standards Manager and they were hoping to resolve the unauthorised development.

18/GDPR **NB** is to organise a form for individuals to complete so that we comply with the legislation. (on going)

19/ **NB** Brought up a item that was discussed at the Association of Community Councils about the state of the roads and car parks, members thought the matter should be raised with their Local Councillor **RB** stated there was to be 1.5 million spent on road repairs after the winter reliance has been completed.

20/ Restoration and Repairs to Proposed Brochs **RB** suggested this should be raised at The Association of Community Councils.

21/**RB** informed members there are various ways to report the state of the roads and potholes these are <https://www.highland.gov.uk/info20005/roads> and pavements/96/road faults or a popular web address for reporting problems: <https://www.fixmystreet.com/> or ring report a problem on 01349 886 606.

22/ **JG** stated he was looking into getting costs for signs showing where the Defibrillators were situated in Berriedale and Dunbeath. (on going)

23/It was noted that the school had done a beach clean and **JG** was to send a letter of thanks and congratulations. It was decided to organise a community litter pick for April 13th. **JI** to post on facebook.

24/Date of Next Meeting: 1st April 2019

25/Update on Community wind turbines at Knockinnon as Magnus Henderson was not at meeting no update.

Members of Public and Councillor retired from meeting.

26/Micro Grants: First application from Carol Grant Dunbeath Primary School for £250.00 to be used to help with transport costs in attending various events as part of 2019 Caithness Science03 festival. The council had informed the school no more spending on transport therefore the school would not have been able to attend as all the lectures were in Lybster School. Although against the policy of the Community Council because of the exceptional circumstances the application was agreed.

Second application was from Dunbeath Centre Via Anne Sutherland to assist with the purchase of a new cleaner (hoover), **JG** retired from the meeting and was informed on his return that the application was approved.