

# **BERRIEDALE and DUNBEATH COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

## **Minutes of Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020**

Members Present,

Neil Buchanan NB (Chairperson); John Gunn JG Secretary: FD: Bryan MacLeod  
BM: Donna Mathieson DM: Jenna Irvine JI:

Highland Councillor: Nicola Sinclair NS

Members of Public: Charles Allsop. Ranald MacAuslan.

1/Apologies; Francis Allan, Fiona Donn.

2/Minutes of meeting proposed by Bryan MacLeod seconded by Donna Mathieson.

### **3/ Financial Statement, as of 03.02.2020**

Current Account balance	£938.00
Income	
Interest	£0.27

Expenditure  
Association

Balance	£938.27
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Development Account balance	£5,080.53
Expenditure during month	
AOC Archaeology	£1,800.00
Dunbeath Surgery	£90.33
Telephone Box	£533.83

Income During Month

Current Account	
Interest	£1.16

Balance	£2,657.53
of which Micro Grant money	-£681.30
of which Flower pot money	£1,103.25
of which Broch money	-£3,989.59
Web Sites	£2,150.00
Youth Group	£1,955.40
Balance	£2,119.77

Village Warden Account balance	£314.13
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Expenditure

Income During Month

Interest	£0.04
ACC	£1,200.00
Balance	£1,514.17

Total Assets £4,571.94

**Dunbeath Christmas Lights Fund 05/04/19**

Balance £2,823.78

4/Caithness Community Partnership: Meeting held in Dunbeath Centre on Wednesday 20 November at 7.30. **NB** attending. Meeting was cancelled. **NB** stated that (CVG) Caithness Voluntary Group are seeking funding to employ Development Officers.

5/Police Report; none to hand.

6/ Matters Arising; **NS** stated that she had brought up the Achorn Bridge and it had been added to the list where a Design /method statement would be prepared **NS** added it to her list for Meeting with Roads. (on going)

7/ John O Groats trail: No further progress.

8/ Phone Box, A letter was sent to the Dunbeath Preservation Trust about the siting of the phone box outside the Lady's toilet a reply was received from Mr Ranold MacAuslan for the error in not considering the Lady's toilet along with a new position marked on a plan this was discussed with all present and they wished the Phone Box to be sited 2ft away from the wall down at the edge of the tarmacadam this was marked on the plan and **JG** was to write and confirm the new proposed site. **Ranald MacAuslan** asked if this matter could be carried forward as the Dunbeath Preservation Trust are going through a Project Development Plan at the moment.

9/Dunbeath Broch: **NB** Showed photos of the proposed panel to be fixed on plinth in the spring when the weather will be better. **NB** passed around the Leaflet that had been produced. **NB** stated some one had removed the sign stating not to walk on top of Broch.**BM** said that the sign about the Royal Engineers repairing the bridge had also been removed.

10/ Berriedale Braes Realignment; Main Contractor statement work is well on schedule.

11/ Bowl Micro Grants; No application received this month. Neil Buchanan and John Gunn to remain as members of the Caithness Beatrice Community Fund.

12/ Footpath on old Brae; Carried over from previous meetings, (on going) **NS** to bring matter up with Roads. **NS** gave an update the holes were supposed to be filled.(on going)

13/ Dunbeath Wind Farm **NB** circulated ideas for setting up organisation to administer organisation.It has currently been submitted for planning and we should get the reference number shortly.

14/ Future Plans; **BM**, Proposals are moving very slowly in setting up the development trust..

15/ Carried on from previous meetings: Renovation of Derelict property at Market Hill

Dunbeath (on going) **NS** to chase up and give response to members.  
16/ Defibrillator and Toilet signs were all erected.

17/Dunbeath Strath Project. Work in progress (on going)

18/Berriedale Broadband it would appear that Open reach is full of excuses about the progress of better Broadband connections in Borgue and Berriedale. **NB** stated it would be 2021 before any progress would be made despite all the blustering officials were having in the press about everyone having a reasonable Broadband Service.

19/ **NB** Suggested that we run a 2020 community event like the queen's jubilee. He had approached Fiona Morrison and she had said it would fit the BOWL funding criteria. The Vote was 4 to 2 in favour of proceeding provided other organisations are prepared to contribute **NB** also stated that the Berriedale Church, Dunbeath Fire Brigade, Berriedale Hall and Dunbeath Heritage Centre were willing to take part in organising this event.

20/Date of Next Meeting: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020

21/Update on Community wind turbines at Knockinnon. Magnus Henderson stated that a new Section 42 application has been submitted for non-compliance of condition 18 of Planning permission 13/04194/FUL and he was hopeful of progress being made to resolve outstanding matters. Members had to reply to a consultation on this application they decided to take a neutral position.

**AOCB, JG** Stated he had been into Wick service point and left request for a Street sign in Knockglass Road and no through road in Knockglass Road also a no through road Dunbeath Village. **NS** was also to bring up this matter. **JG** stated he received a e-mail from Roads they were taking matters in hand. **DM** also brought up the lack of signs on the Newport road with articulated delivery wagons coming up the road and having to reverse back down the road as they cannot get turned matter to be brought up with roads.

**Ranald MacAuslan** gave a talk on the Dunbeath Preservation Trust way forward with HIE involvement to look at better using their property to create a viable income in the community, and employ more local people. Report to be presented to the public mid March. He also said that the AGM would be on March 31<sup>st</sup> and that the public would be invited to attend. It was his intention that the Trust should be converted from a type1 SCIO to a type2 SCIO. The talk was very informative.

**JG** brought up that he thought the C/C should have their own computer as it is using a lot of space on our own laptops plus windows 7 is on longer being supported by Microsoft no decision was made, **NS** stated all of the Highland council laptops had just been replaced.