

BERRIEDALE and DUNBEATH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held virtual on 7th June 2021

Members Present, Neil Buchanan NB (Chairperson) John Gunn JAG Secretary, Francis Allan FA, Fiona Donn FD, Bryan MacLeod BM, Donna Mathieson DM.

Highland Councillors, William Mackay.

Members Present, Neil Buchanan NB (Chairperson) John Gunn JAG Secretary, Francis Allan FA, Fiona Donn FD, Bryan MacLeod BM, Donna Mathieson DM.

Apologies, Rebecca Davies (Police)

Minutes of Meeting held virtual on 7th December 2020

A.G.M.

1/ Apologies: Councillor Nicola Sinclair.

2/ Minutes of AGM meeting 3rd June 2019 Proposed by Francis Allan seconded by Donna Mathieson.

3/ Chairman's Report. The flower project had been completed successfully and was much appreciated by locals and visitors. The broch project had been completed bar the signs and it was thought that around 2,000 people had visited it during the summer and the interpretation panel had been much appreciated. The Coronavirus pandemic had seriously impacted the community council's ability to deliver projects.

4/ Financial report NB presented Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st March 2020 No comments received.

5/ Election of Office bearers had to be Postponed as there were no one to take the Chair.

Minutes of Meeting held virtual on 15 February 2021

Members Present, Neil Buchanan NB (Chairperson) John Gunn JG Secretary, Francis Allan FA, Fiona Donn FD, Bryan MacLeod BM, Donna Mathieson DM.

Highland Councillors, Nicola Sinclair and William Mackay.

NB, asked Nicola Sinclair to take the chair for the election of Office bearers,

Election of office bearers,

Chairperson, Neil Buchanan Proposed by Fiona Donn Seconded by Bryan Macleod,

Vice Chair, Bryan MacLeod Proposed Francis Allan seconded by Fiona Donn,

Treasurer, Fiona Donn Proposed by Neil Buchanan Seconded by Francis Allan,

Secretary, John Gunn Proposed by Neil Buchanan Seconded by Fiona Donn,
NB resumed the chair and thanked Nicola for conducting the election of office bearers

Minutes of Meeting held virtual on 29 March 2021

Minutes of A.G.M meetings held on 7 December 2020 and 15 February 2021

Proposed by Donna Mathieson Seconded by Bryan Macleod.

Apologies, Rebecca Davies (Police)

NB asked Councillor, Willie Mackay to take the chair for the election of office bearers.

Election of office bearers,

Chairperson: Neil Buchanan Proposed by Bryan Macleod Seconded by Donna Mathieson.

Vice Chairperson: Bryan Macleod Proposed by Francis Allan Seconded by Fiona Donn.

Treasurer: Donna Mathieson Proposed by Neil Buchanan Seconded by Francis Allan.

Secretary: John A Gunn Proposed by Neil Buchanan Seconded by Donna Mathieson.

NB Thanked Willie Mackay for conducting the proceedings. **NB** resumed the Chair and conducted the meeting.

Chairman's Report: Nothing happened due to covid.

Financial Statement: no comment.

1/ Minutes of Regular meeting 29 March 2021 was proposed by **DM** Seconded by **BM**

2/ Financial Statement, 07.06.2021

Current Account Balance	£1.267.08
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Income

Interest	£1.00
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Covid Grant (Bowl)

Highland Council Grant	
Expenditure	
Secretary	£350.00
Zurich Insurance	£86.00
Balance	£832.08
Development Account Balance	£12.377.25
Expenditure	
Microgrant CVG	£1.000.00
Greens Nurseries	£346.38
Income During Month	
Interest	£0.73
Balance	£11.031.60
Of which Micro Grant money	
Of which Flower pot money	£563.75
Of which Broch money	£1.724.00
Web Sites	£2.150.00
Youth Group	£1.955.00
Balance	£4.638.45
Village Warden Account Balance	£120.90
Interest	£0.04
Balance	£120.94
Total Assets	£11.984.62

3/ Police **JAG** circulated Report no Incidents.

4/ Caithness Community Partnership: Meeting held in Dunbeath Centre on Wednesday 20 November at 7.30. **NB** stated that (CVG) Caithness Voluntary

Group are seeking funding to employ Development Officer Willie Mackay said they had a Development Officer in place he would report who it is (ongoing)

5/ Matters Arising; **NB** stated that the roads in the local area were in a terrible state of repair and that there was now a Caithness Spreadsheet of road problems Willie Mackay to update (ongoing)

6/ John O Groats trail: No further progress. News Letter was Circulated.

7/ 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 Ranald MacAuslan this matter is on hold at moment. **NB** stated he was to start putting local adverts in Box.

8/ Dunbeath Broch: **NB** stated that he still had to submit an application for road signs and other signs to do with the Broch. (on going). Otherwise, the project was complete.

9/ Berriedale Braes Realignment; Main Contractor statement work is well on schedule. **JAG** brought up that vehicles were going up the footpath and making a mess of the path while trying to turn at the cemetery end **BM** to look into problem and bring it up with the relevant authorities (on going)

10// Bowl Micro Grants: there were two Micro Grants applied for both applications were approved. £500 each

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

12/ Bad Fearn Wind Farm Braemore Road Dunbeath. Awaiting Planning Decision.

13/ Future Plans; **NB** stated that the chairperson was not decided yet for Development Trust. (on going)

14// Carried on from previous meetings: Renovation of Derelict property at Market Hill Dunbeath (on going) Councillor **Willie Mackay** offered to have a meeting with Aidan Brennan enforcement officer North, Planning Manager Dyfid Jones and the developer. Aidan Brennan stated that the work requires Planning Permission and a Building Warrant. **NB** stated that the residents in that area had received a letter informing them that the road was being closed. The Highland Council and Dunbeath Estate were informed of the problem.

Councillor **Willie Mackay** stated that he tried to get the enforcement officer to a meeting the answer was that due to Covid he could not travel out with his area Willie Mackay stated it was now a civil matter (on going)

15/ Dunbeath Strath Project. **NB** stated that there is work in progress (on going)

16/ Berriedale Broadband it would appear that Open reach is full of excuses about the progress of better Broadband connections in Borgue and Berriedale Councillor Nicola Sinclair said Councillor Karle Rosie from Thurso was a good contact to get things moving. **NB** stated he had not been able to get in touch with Councillor Karle Rosie. (ongoing)

17/ Date of Next Meeting 2nd August 2021

18/ Village Leaflet and Web Site: **NB** had sent the write up to the developer but still had to send the pictures. He hoped to make the leaflet from the web site information (on going). **NB**'s daughter has done an online app for the Dunbeath Strath Heritage Trail and members that have seen it commented that this may be the way forward to put all the information about the villages on mobile phones. **NB** pointed out that programming mobile apps is time consuming. A QR code is now up and accessible from PN Stores.

19/ Update on Community wind turbines at Knockinnon. Magnus Henderson no one present at meeting. (on going)

20/Community Council Laptop **FD** stated she has the laptop and would forward on to **NB** to install necessary files, Members also had problems logging into the G-Mail address.

21/ **JG** brought up the provision of charging points for electric vehicles in Dunbeath matter in hand with EV Management part of Highland Council we are on the list there is no timescale for this project.

22/ **NB** had submitted applications to BOWL and C&NSF for the Strath Booklet and said that the Community Council needed to sort its future applications out as the BOWL fund will soon be closing and we can only submit one application at a time.

23/ Playpark in Portormin Road Dunbeath. The community council agreed that a sub group should be created with **FD** as chairperson to manage the project.

AOCB, **NB** stated he received £500.00 from Highland Council to make the

village a brighter place after Covid. He thought it would be a good idea to plant trees around the Community as we already had plenty of flowers. Members were asked to come up with ideas as to where we could plant them.

24/ Willie Mackay stated the Saturday Bus run to Wick was back on for a short period. It is a case of either use it or lose it.

23/Due to pressure of work Fiona Donn decided to resign from the Community Council with immediate effect Members thanked her for her contribution and said that she will be missed.