



# **Berriedale & Dunbeath**

## COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held in Dunbeath Hall  
on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023 at 7.30pm

**1) Welcome, Apologies & Conflict of Interest:**

- a) **Present:** Angus MacInnes, Francis Allan, Jenna Irvine, Donna Mathieson, Trevor Filshie, Neil Buchanan, Anson MacAuslan
- b) **Members of the public:** Michael Sutherland, Winifred Sutherland, John Gunn, Jeanna Larsen, E. Macdonald, Anne MacBeath, James MacBeath, Iain Fraser, Victor Cormack
- c) **Apologies:** N/A

**2) Opening Remarks:** Angus MacInnes introduced himself as the chairman of Berriedale and Dunbeath Community Council and thanked everyone for attending this month's meeting. Angus thanked Neil Buchanan for being Chairman of the community Council for several years and for remaining on the Community Council.

**3) Action Log:** See separate action log sheet.

**4) Approval of Minutes:** Minutes were proposed by Anson and seconded by Trevor.

**5) Police:** Jenna had received an email from Police Scotland stating that each Community Council had been allocated a dedicated person. Stuart Cormack has been allocated to BDCC.

- a) **Police Report:** No police report has been received for this month's meeting.
- b) **A9 speed limit/no overtaking:** Bear Scotland are going to carry out a detailed engineering assessment in the winter. No further update today.
- c) Neil has placed the order for the illuminated speed sign. A map was circulated to show of the proposed site, this would be on the grass area adjacent from Laburnum House. Prior to Mr Threipland's passing, he agreed the Speed sign can be put up and required for a legal document in place to protect the Estate.

**6) Communities & Place:**

- a) **Playpark:** Jenna stated that there is no further progress currently being made towards the playpark. Dunbeath Community Centre (DCC) were in the final stages of finalising the lease. Sadly, Mr Threipland passed away. This will be progressed in due course.
- b) **Bus Service:** No update.
- c) **Flowerpot Project:** All flowerpots have been completed for this year – this will be removed until next February 2024.
- d) **Dunbeath Strath:** The work on the path has been completed up to the first kissing gate and the work on the Mill pond has been completed. It was stated that there is gorse falling onto the path and this would need to be cleared. Everyone was updated that the Community Payback Scheme usually cut the overgrown paths along the strath and the Community Council take responsibility in organising this. It was said that the Strath is popular with dog walkers and many dogs are not kept on a lead, and there is a lot of used poop bags left hanging on branches. The Community Council will look into getting a sign made requesting dogs to be kept on a lead and that the dog waste bin is used at the Mill carpark. \*
- e) **Glass Recycling Bins:** It was stated that these bins are full and not yet been emptied. This is occurring on a regular basis. The Community Council will monitor this and contact the contractor. \*

## 7) Education & Learning:

**Dunbeath Nursery Closure:** A meeting with the Community Council, Parent Teacher Council and members of the public was held last week to agree on a plan of action for moving forward. As a result of that meeting a newspaper article was published. A petition has now been started and will be submitted along with a letter from the Community Council. The Community Council will work closely with PTC to fight for Dunbeath Nursery to remain open.

## 8) Health & Social Care: N/A

## 9) Infrastructure, Environment & Economy:

- a) **Highland Council Road repair:** The conditions of the roads in Berriedale and Dunbeath maintained by the Highland Council are in a poor state. There has been no indication from the Highland Council of when repair work will be scheduled. Trevor communicated with Jamie Stone, MP which resulted in Trevor being sent a copy of the scheduled road repairs to be carried out in Caithness. There is one stretch of road of Dunbeath-Mulbuie on the list. It

\* = Task added to action log

was stated that it is good to see roads in Caithness now being repaired, however it is unfortunate that Berriedale and Dunbeath are not included. It was said that the village road of Latheronwheel has had potholes filled in recently.

**b) Harbour Wall Dunbeath:** The blocks of the small wall separating the carpark and harbour in front of the toilets is crumbling. The wall is to be repaired but no date available at present.

**c) Planning Applications:** No planning applications have been made for our area in the latest reports received.

**i. Phone mast Berriedale:** There are 2 applications in for masts 1 on the Glutt road and the other on Conacraig. Anson said someone is looking to put a mast up 400m from an existing mast in Berriedale. It is looking unlikely that one mast for all will be considered. We will continue to express our views through planning department.

**ii. Proposed Pylons:** There was a detailed discussion about the pylons and it was agreed that Jenna will proceed at contacting everyone who has shown an interest of being on the working group. A contact sheet was circulated for members of the public to leave contact details.

**d) Berriedale Broadband:** No update

**10) Performance & Governance:**

**a) Website:** There has been no further updates re the website.

**11) Property & Housing:**

**a) Affordable Housing:** No updates.

**12) Resources and Finance:**

**a) Financial Statement:** No changes

**b) Financial Statement Xmas Lights:** John Gunn stated £350 was collected from the donation box located at Dunbeath Harbour for the Flower Project Fund. £86.50 has been used to purchase flowers for this year. Donna has been given the financial statements for the Xmas Lights Committee.

**c) Future Funding Streams:** Known funding sources are Halsary Windfarm and Crown Estate fund for coastal communities.

**d) Correspondence:** None

**13) Any Other Business:**

\* = Task added to action log

- a. The original email address can not be accessed by all community council members. A new email address will be made and details circulated to all members.
- b. Angus suggested that the subject areas on the agenda has an allocated community council member to follow up on correspondence and delivering updates – this requires further discussions.

**14) Date of next meeting:** 7<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30pm in Dunbeath Community Centre

## ACTION LOG

Action	By Whom	Date Added	Update from meeting
Set up Pylon Working Group	Angus MacInnes/Jenna Irvine	03.07.23	
Check what has been issued about the closure of Dunbeath Nursery	Andrew Jarvine		
Explore sign options for Dunbeath Strath re dogs on lead and dog poo bags.	To be allocated	03/07/2023	
Monitor glass recycling bins and contact contractor if not emptied	All	03/07/2023	

\* = Task added to action log