



Berriedale & Dunbeath

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held in Dunbeath Hall
on 7th August 2023 at 7.30pm

1) Welcome, Apologies & Conflict of Interest:

- a) Present:** Angus MacInnes (Chair), Francis Allan (Vice-Chair), Jenna Irvine (Secretary), Donna Mathieson (Treasurer), Trevor Filshie, Anson MacAuslan
- b) Members of the public:** Frank Sutherland, John Gunn, Anne Macbeath, James Macbeath, Winifred Sutherland, Davina Taylor, Michael Sutherland, Lynn Parker, Andrew Bailey, Jeanne Larsen
- c) Apologies:** Neil Buchanan
- d) Conflict of Interest:** None declared

2) Opening Remarks: Angus MacInnes opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for attending.

3) Action Log: See separate action log sheet.

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

5) Police:

- a) Police Report:** No police report has been received for this month's meeting. Jenna has been communicating with allocated officer Stuart Cormack. Due to staff shortages and illness a report was unable to be prepared for this meeting. PC Cormack sends his apologies for September's meeting due to being on nightshift. He has expressed eagerness to attend future meetings when possible and is contactable if any issues arise.
- b) A9 speed limit/no overtaking:** Bear Scotland are going to carry out a detailed engineering assessment in the winter. No further update, Jenna to follow this up.
- c) Speed display sign:** The speed display sign has been ordered and the proposed site is along the A9 outside Laburnum House. Neil was not present to provide an update.

6) Communities & Place:

- a) **Dunbeath Playpark:** It was stated that there has been no further updates until the lease situation is resolved.
- b) **Bus Service:** No update.
- c) **Dunbeath Strath:** The strath path is still overgrown; this needs to be followed up with Matt Dent and Community Payback Scheme. Dunbeath Strath is popular with dog walkers and as previously highlighted, 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 enquire about getting a sign made requesting dogs to be kept on a lead and that the dog waste bin is used at the Mill carpark. No update available.
- d) **Glass Recycling Bins:** The glass recycling bins have not yet been emptied. Jenna will contact Kenny Gow, Waste Operations North, Highland Council.*
- e) **Phone box – Dunbeath Harbour:** The location of the phone box is to be discussed with Dunbeath Preservation Trust. *

7) Education & Learning:

Dunbeath Nursery Closure: Andrew stated he had attended a meeting with Highland Council local managers and other ward members. He was informed the closure was due to low numbers and that mileage will be paid to travelling parents at 25p per mile. It was highlighted that having no local nursery does not make the area appealing for families to live in. The Highland Council had written to Dunbeath Parent Council apologising for not following processes. The petition has been submitted. It was stated that for the nursery to close officially, a consultation would rightfully need to be held by the Highland Council. It was hoped the new Chief Executive would make positive changes within the organisation. Andrew is going to request a FOI on saving per child.

8) Health & Social Care:

- a) **Dunbeath & District Centre:** Angus stated that Dunbeath and District Centre have asked the Community Council for a letter of support for the need of the centre to have an Operations Manager. There were no objections to this. Angus will respond to this.*

9) Infrastructure, Environment & Economy:

- a) **Highland Council Road repair:** The road conditions continue to deteriorate within the local area. There is no update on when repairs will be carried out

* = Task added to action log

by the Highland Council.

- 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 forward for planning. Another 3 wish to have a masts. We will continue to express our views through planning department.
- d) Pylons:** A meeting has been held with the Pylon Working Group and contact has been made with Communities before Power Companies and a proposed meeting with them on 14th, 15th, 21st or 22nd August. Then plans for a public meeting will be arranged. Angus to liaise with Pylon Working Group regarding proposed meeting. Jenna to make links with Facebook group. *
- e) Berriedale Broadband:** It was stated that a property in Ramscaigs has had fibre broadband connected to their door. Various suggestions were brought forward however they entailed a high cost or the area wasn't eligible.

10) Performance & Governance:

- a) Website:** There has been no further updates re the website.
- b) Email:** Angus has made a new email address for the community council. He will circulate the login details to all members. *

11) Property & Housing:

- a) Affordable Housing:** No updates.

12) Resources and Finance:

- a) Financial Statement:** No changes this month. The accounts have been approved. It is being looked into getting a barcoded pay in book to enable banking at Dunbeath Post Office.
- b) Financial Statement Xmas Lights:** No update this month.
- c) Future Funding Streams:** Known funding sources are Halsary Windfarm and Crown Estate fund for coastal communities.

- d) Correspondence:** None

13) Any Other Business:

- a. A member of the public highlighted that there is children using small motorbikes in the football field. This had been witnessed twice since March. They enquired if this was allowed. It was discussed that this is not Highland Council land and not a Community Council matter.
- b. It was stated that it was felt there is too many donation boxes in the Dunbeath Harbour area. It is thought there is around 5 in total. It was suggested for the organisations involved to have a group discussion.

14) Date of next meeting: 4th September 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	Completed
Check what has been issued about the closure of Dunbeath Nursery	Andrew Jarvine		Update received from Andrew
Explore sign options for Dunbeath Strath re dogs on lead and dog poo bags.	To be allocated	03/07/2023	Ongoing
Monitor glass recycling bins and contact contractor if not emptied	Jenna	03/07/2023	Ongoing
Double white line criteria assessment to be followed up	Jenna	07/08/2023	
Maintenance of overgrowth on Dunbeath Strath – contact Matt Dent	Jenna	07/08/2023	
A letter of support to DCC for Operations Manager	Angus MacInnes	07/08/2023	
Arrange proposed meeting with Communities before Power Companies and working group	Angus MacInnes	07/08/2023	
Jenna to connect BDCC facebook page with Communities before PC page	Jenna Irvine	07/08/2023	
Circulate email address login to all members	Angus MacInnes	07/08/2023	

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