



Berriedale & Dunbeath

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of election of office bearers for new Community Council
held in Dunbeath Community Centre
on 6th November 2023 at 7.30pm

Election of office bearers for new community council.

Highland Council Councillor Andrew Jarvie chaired the meeting to appoint a chairperson.

There were eight vacant spaces for Berriedale and Dunbeath Community Council. Seven candidates applied and were successful.

The members – Angus MacInnes, Donna Mathieson, Francis Allan, Graham Martin-Royle, Jenna Irvine, Neil Buchanan, Trevor Filshie

- Chairperson – Angus MacInnes – Proposed by Donna Mathieson, seconded by Jenna Irvine

Angus accepted this role and chaired to appoint the remaining office bearers.

- Vice-Chairperson – Francis Allan – Proposed by Angus MacInnes, seconded by Trevor Filshie
- Secretary – Jenna Irvine – Proposed by Angus MacInnes, seconded by Francis Allan
- Treasurer – Donna Mathieson – Proposed by Angus MacInnes, seconded by Francis Allan

Minutes of meeting held in Dunbeath Community Centre
on 6th November 2023 at 7.45pm

1) Welcome, Apologies & Conflict of Interest:

- a) Present:** Angus MacInnes (Chairperson), Francis Allan (Vice-Chair), Jenna Irvine (Secretary), Donna Mathieson (Treasurer), Trevor Filshie, Neil Buchanan, Graham Martin-Royle.
- b) Members of the public:** Lynn Parker, Frank Sutherland, John Gunn, Sue Steven, Anson MacAuslan
- c) Apologies:** Stuart Cormack (Police Scotland)
- d) Conflict of Interest:** Neil declared a conflict of interest with the Pylon discussion due to being a member of LLCDT.

2) Opening Remarks: Angus welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance. Angus welcomed Graham to the Community Council and all other members introduced themselves.

3) Action Log: See separate action log sheet.

4) Approval of Minutes: Due to the minutes not being approved in September, this was done tonight.

Minutes of September 2023 meeting – Approved by Trevor Filshie, seconded by Donna Mathieson

Minutes of October 2023 meeting - Approved by Trevor Filshie, seconded by Donna Mathieson

5) Police:

a) Police Report: Angus read through the received police report to all present.

b) A9 speed limit/no overtaking: Bear Scotland are going to carry out a detailed engineering assessment in the winter. Still awaiting a reply.

c) Speed display sign: The speed sign has been received. This cannot be installed due to the current situation with Dunbeath Estate, as permission is needed to install.

d) Rural Security: Angus will contact Police Scotland for advice.

6) Communities & Place:

a) Dunbeath Playpark: It was stated that funding is still being applied for this project. Dunbeath Community Centre now has a solicitor to communicate with Dunbeath Estate to try and resolve the situation with the lease to allow funding to be released.

b) Bus Service: No update available.

c) Dunbeath Strath: The Community Council will look at options for signage. The maintenance of the grass cutting was discussed. Neil advised that the Community Council will need to contact the Community Payback team in April and August to arrange grass cutting. Matt Dent will maintain the areas that Community Payback do not cut.

d) Phone box – Dunbeath Harbour: The relocation of the phone box was discussed with pros and cons. It was decided that the phone box is to remain where it is situated.

e) Glass Recycling Bins: The bottle banks in Dunbeath have been emptied recently. This item will remain on the agenda for one more month.

7) Education & Learning:

Dunbeath Nursery Closure: There was no representative from Dunbeath Primary Parent Council to provide an update. It was highlighted that there is a

PTA meeting tomorrow. Angus will make contact with the secretary for an update on this. There was discussion around the education being received recently in Dunbeath Primary School. The children can have 3-4 different teachers per week.

8) Health & Social Care:

9) Infrastructure, Environment & Economy:

- a) **Highland Council Road repair:** There is still repairs to be made to many roads within the local area – Portormin Road junction; from Portormin Road junction, up the Old Brae, along by the Church, along Neil Gunn Road; the entrance to The Village (shop road); parts of The Village road; Braemore road. These will continue to be reported to the Highland Council. The safety barrier at the junction of Portormin Road is still to be repaired. This will continue to be highlighted.
- b) **Harbour Wall Dunbeath:** There has been no reply from Highland Council - Jenna will continue to make contact for an update.
- c) **Dunbeath Breakwater Dolos** – It was thought that after recent storms that more dolos are needed. This will be looked into by the Community Council.
- d) **Planning Applications:** No planning applications have been made for our area in the latest reports received.
- e) **Knockinnon Windfarm:** Information was previously circulated to community council members where this shows 2 wind turbines (previously 3) and higher than previous. The original idea was for there to be 3 wind turbines and the community would benefit from the profit of one of there. There is to be further discussions regarding this.
- f) **Phone mast Berriedale:** There are 2 masts to be built and there is a 3rd mast being discussed. Welbeck Estate are disputing the 3rd mast. The Community Council are going to enquire why they are not consulted prior to the planning application.
- g) **Pylons:** Neil Buchanan left the room due to conflict of interest.
 - There was a lengthy discussion surrounding this topic. Angus has spoken with Martin Goodwin, Community Liaison Manager from SSEN. Martin is willing to attend a public meeting and has requested a virtual meeting with Angus to set an agenda for the public meeting. Martin advised that the report is due to be available late Nov/early Dec. It was discussed and agreed that due to the time of year and the report not yet available, that Angus will postpone the agenda meeting until the report has been published and distributed to all. It was suggested that Angus will propose a public meeting for early 2024. This will allow time for the report to be looked at and give time for discussions and questions to be prepared.

- There is a Pylon meeting in Helmsdale on the 8th December which Angus will be attending.

h) Dunbeath Bridge – noise pollution: Information from a letter was read to all present.

- Diack & MacAuley have been appointed to undertake the work on site
- One of the new joints is called Polyflex and only one has ever been installed in the UK before – this joint is new and supposed to be quiet
- When the joint is installed, it will be temperature dependant. They need to make sure that when the joint is installed that it fits and works properly due to the expansion and shrinkage of the bridge with different temperatures, this will be carefully monitored.
- Due to steep incline on the south side of the bridge, the new polyflex joint can't be used here.

i) Berriedale Broadband: No update of when improvements will be made.

j) Berriedale beach foot bridge: Anson advised that in recent storms, damages were made to the footbridge. Welbeck Estate will undertake repairs.

10) Performance & Governance:

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

b) IOC/Data Protection: This is ongoing.

11) Property & Housing:

a) Affordable Housing: No updates.

12) Resources and Finance:

a) Financial Statement: Financial statement circulated – no changes. Neil discovered that BOWL have not paid all grants received – this is being followed up.

b) Financial Statement Xmas Lights: No update received. Jenna has not yet made contact with the secretary of the Xmas Lights Committee. She is awaiting a reply from the Highland Council for the information required each month from sub committees.

c) Future Funding Streams: No update.

13) Correspondence:

- Neil stated he had contacted the Highland Council regarding the village officer funding. It was advised that there is Highland Council meeting on 6th December and hope for details on this to be available.

14) Any Other Business:

- Francis advised that it appears that the yearly village hall grant has been stopped and there was no access to the application form on the Highland Council website this year.

* = Task added to action log

ACTION LOG

Action	By Whom	Date Added	Update from meeting
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	Ongoing
IOC/Date Protection	Angus	04/09/2023	Ongoing
Contact Xmas Lights Committee for monthly updates	Jenna	04/09/2023	Ongoing
Maintenance of overgrowth on Dunbeath Strath – Angus to contact CPS Apr & Aug 2024.	Angus	06/11/2023	
All BDCC member to log in to new email address	All members	06/11/2023	
Contact Highland Council re road repairs and barrier repair	Jenna	06/11/2023	
Discuss with Neil regarding old email transfer	Angus	06/11/2023	
Contact Dunbeath PTA for update	Angus	06/11/2023	
Monitor and further discussions around harbour dolos.	All members	06/11/2023	
BOWL funds – follow up payments	Neil	06/11/2023	

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