



Berriedale & Dunbeath

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held in Dunbeath Community Centre
on 4th December 2023 at 7.30pm

1) Welcome, Apologies & Conflict of Interest:

a) Present: Angus MacInnes (Chairperson), Francis Allan (Vice-Chairperson), Jenna Irvine (Secretary), Donna Mathieson (Treasurer), Neil Buchanan, Trevor Filshie, Graham Martin-Royal

b) Members of the public: Lynn Parker, Michael Sutherland, John Gunn, Anne Macbeath

c) Apologies: Stuart Cormack (Police Scotland), Andrew Jarvie (Cllr)

d) Conflict of Interest: Neil Buchanan – Pylons.

2) Opening Remarks: Angus welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance.

3) Action Log: See separate action log sheet.

4) Approval of Minutes: There was no date of next meeting on the minutes – to be amended. Minutes were approved by Francis and seconded by Trevor.

5) Police:

a) Police Report: A police report had been received officer Stuart Cormack. This was read out by Angus. One comment was made regarding road kill left on the road, it was explained this was not the responsibility of Police Scotland and advised to contact BEAR Scotland.

b) A9 speed limit/no overtaking: No update

c) Speed display sign: Discussions were had regarding another site for the sign. BEAR Scotland is to be contacted regarding installation of the on the other side of the junction at Laburnum House.

d) Rural Security: No update.

6) Communities & Place:

a) Dunbeath Playpark: No further update available.

b) Bus Service: It was stated that there is no buses to Wick over the weekend. Angus will make contact with the Highland Council to join the HC bus user

group. This action will be removed from the agenda until further information is available.

- c) **Dunbeath Strath:** The Community Council is still to look into signage for dog fouling and dogs off leads. Angus or Jenna will make contact with the Community Payback scheme in Spring regarding maintenance of the overgrowth.
- d) **Glass Recycling Bins:** There has been no further issues regarding the glass recycling bins being full. This will be removed from the agenda.

7) Education & Learning:

Dunbeath Nursery Closure: Angus was not invited to the PTA meeting last month due to this being the AGM. The situation of the closure should be reviewed in March 2024. The Community Council will ask PTA for information and will contact the Highland Council regarding this early 2024.

8) Health & Social Care:

It was stated that Dunbeath & District Centre will be closed for the festivities. There will be contact details released for emergencies and food.

9) Infrastructure, Environment & Economy:

- a) **Highland Council Road repair:** No update from the Highland Council. Will continue to email to highlight roads in need of repair and ask for signage for the Braemore Road.
- b) **Harbour Wall Dunbeath:** No update - Jenna will continue to make contact with the Highland Council regarding this.
- c) **Harbour Dolos:** Due to recent storms, there is a gap in the dolos at Dunbeath harbour and some of the gabion baskets at the slip have been damaged/washed away. The Highland Council is to be contacted.
- d) **Planning Applications:** One application for planning permission. The old café on Portormin Road to change to residential use. No comments.
- e) **Knockinnon Windfarm:** No update available.
- f) **Phone masts Braemore/Berriedale:** No update available.
- g) **Pylons:** There has been a subgroup meeting regarding an update from SSEN. The report was published late last week which is a lengthy document. A proposal for a meeting on the 29th January 2024 – this would allow time to look at the report and prepare questions. SSEN would like engagement on where pylons are to be situated in the proposed corridor. It is hoped there would be a meeting with SSEN and the Community Council prior to the meeting on the 29th. Helmsdale is hosting a public meeting with various elected members, MP's, MSP's and the Highland Council. It was discussed by some present that if the Community Council status of objection can't stop

the Pylons/redirect, does the community explore and at what point is community benefit explored.

- h) Dunbeath Bridge – noise pollution:** No update available.
- i) Berriedale Broadband:** No update – to be removed from agenda.

10) Performance & Governance:

- a) Website:** Neil has made minor changes. The website will continue to be update accordingly and this will be removed from the agenda.
- b) IOC/Data Protection:** Angus has discussed this with the Highland Council and this is not something we need to undertake.
- c)**

11) Property & Housing:

- a) Affordable Housing:** No updates.

12) Resources and Finance:

- a) Financial Statement:** Donna circulated the financial statement – no changes.
- b) BOWL funding:** Neil has a meeting with David Shearer this week to discuss missing payments.
- c) Financial Statement Xmas Lights:** Jenna is still to receive a reply regarding this.
- d) Future Funding Streams:** Foundation Scotland website is helpful to look at regarding grants. It was stated that Stroupster Windfarm is open to applications from other areas.
- e) Correspondence:** None

13) Any Other Business: None.

14) Date of next meeting: Monday 8th January 2024 at 7.30pm in Dunbeath Community Centre.

Public meeting closed at 8.45pm.

ACTION LOG

Action	By Whom	Date Added	Update from meeting
Explore sign options for Dunbeath Strath re dogs on lead and dog poo bags.	Jenna	03/07/2023	Ongoing
Double white line criteria assessment to be followed up	Jenna	07/08/2023	Ongoing
Contact Xmas Lights Committee for monthly updates	Jenna	04/09/2023	On hold
Maintenance of overgrowth on Dunbeath Strath – Angus to contact CPS Apr & Aug 2024.	Angus	06/11/2023	On hold to Spring 2024
Contact Highland Council re road repairs and barrier repair	Jenna	06/11/2023	Ongoing
Discuss with Neil regarding old email transfer	Neil	06/11/2023	Ongoing
Contact Dunbeath PTA for update	Angus	06/11/2023	Ongoing
Monitor and further discussions around harbour dolos.	Angus	06/11/2023	
BOWL funds – follow up payments	Neil	06/11/2023	
Contact BEAR Scotland regarding site for speed sign	Neil	04.12.2023	

* = Task added to action log