



Berriedale & Dunbeath

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held in Berriedale Portland Hall on 1st April 2024 at 7.30pm

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

- a) **Present:** Francis Allan (Vice-Chairperson), Jenna Irvine (Secretary), Donna Mathieson (Treasurer), Neil Buchanan, Graham Martin-Royle
- b) **Members of the public:** Sue Steven, Davina Taylor, Michael Sutherland, John Gunn
- c) **Apologies:** Angus MacInnes, Trevor Filshie, Stuart Cormack (Police Scotland)
- d) **Conflict of Interest:** Neil Buchanan – Pylons.

2) **Opening Remarks:** Francis opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for their attendance.

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

4) **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes were approved by Neil and seconded by Martin.

5) **Police:**

- a) **Police Report:** A police report had been received officer Stuart Cormack. This was circulated and read out by Francis.
 - 1 x Call of male haven fallen in his address in Dunbeath and unable to get up, entry gained and medical attention given
 - 3 x calls of broken down vehicles in Berridale area (1 x uplifted by Police as it was causing an obstruction)
 - 1 x call of erratic driving, Berridale southbound, no vehicle registration provided and no trace of vehicle
 - 1 x call of careless driving at Berridale – Fixed penalty issued to driver for careless driving
 - 1 x Counter call at Wick of dangerous driving at Rams Craigs – Enquiries ongoing and report very likely to be submitted to PF
 - 1 x disqualified driver with no insurance detected in Dunbeath during proactive patrol, vehicle seized, and report submitted to procurator Fiscal
 - 1 x call of debris on the road at Berridale – Dealt with by Bear Scotland
 - Other incidents responded to:- 2 x information calls for helicopter operating in area on 4th and 7th March. 1 x 999 call requesting Ambulance for medical matter, no Police attendance required.
- b) **A9 speed limit/no overtaking:** BEAR Scotland was contacted and have advised that Transport Scotland is to be contacted for an update. *Jenna to email Transport Scotland again
- c) **Speed display sign:** Neil is still awaiting a response from BEAR Scotland re advice of location of sign. *
- d) **Rural Security:** No update.

6) **Communities & Place:**

- a) **Dunbeath Playpark:** A letter of intent has been provided to Dunbeath Community Centre regarding the lease from Dunbeath Estate and been sent to funders.
- b) **Dunbeath Strath:** It has been agreed that 5 signs each for dog fouling and please keep dogs on leads is needed. Three for the Strath walk, one for Portormin Road footbridge and one for Portormin Beach. *Jenna to get final prices.
- c) **Coopers Path:** No update available.

* = Task added to action log

7) Education & Learning:

Dunbeath Nursery Closure: A member of the PTA informed Jenna that the Highland Council will be arranging a meeting with the parents who have enrolled children to Dunbeath Nursery, a date is unknown. It is known that there is one child enrolled who does not drive and would be unable to take their child to Lybster.

8) Health & Social Care:

9) Infrastructure, Environment & Economy:

a) **Planning Applications:** No planning applications.

b) **Highland Council Road repair, Braemore Road, Portormin Road Barrier & Concrete Bus Shelter:**

Reply received from Tracey Urry on 5th March 2024

- Road repairs- once budget has been agreed and capital works list reviewed following the last of the winter weather, we will be sent update of roads which will be resurfaced and repaired.
- Braemore Road – They can put up uneven road surface signs. Several sections of this road has been identified as needing resurfaced, depending on the reviewed priorities of the capital works list, some may be done this year. They will be there fairly soon to carry out temporary repairs.
- Barrier – These works should take place within the next 4-6 weeks.
- Concrete bus shelter – It is planned to demolish when replacing barrier and other works within village.

c) **Harbour Wall, Dolos & Gabion Baskets:** Reply received from Tracey Urry on 5th March 2024

- Small Harbour Wall – The low blockwork between the road and harbour is the responsibility of the roads department. It is planned to fix this at the same time as the Portormin Road barrier.
- Dolos & Gabion Baskets – Harbour department have requested a quote from GMR Henderson.

d) **Knockinnon Windfarm:** No update available. Further discussion re submitting an interest in community benefit to be discussed.

e) **Phone masts Braemore/Berriedale:** Email from Anson MacAuslan, Welbeck Estate stating there is currently a mast being built at Connacreag. There is no further update regarding the mast near Achnahavish but this has been through planning. Welbeck have been approached about another site, out the Governuisgeach Road, awaiting for this to come to planning. There are other areas within the Highlands where this situation has been happening and people are writing to planning and seeing results.

f) **Pylons:** No update from Pylon Group. Neil proposed for the Community Council to have a private discussion regarding the Pylons regarding moving on and discuss community benefit if they are to go ahead. Graham and Neil felt this is needed urgently. Francis will contact Angus to inform and discuss when this would be.

g) **Dunbeath Bridge – noise pollution:** No update.

h) **Land Drains:** The Highland Council replied on 5th March 2024 to state they would look into this and report back.

10) Performance & Governance:

a) **Requirements for sub-committees:** Community Council North and East Support team replied with some relevant information. *Jenna will contact the Xmas Lights Committee with this information. Further discussions will need to be had once all the information has been read.

- If a sub committee has separate accounts these need to be included in the main CC annual accounts, with an update provided at each meeting.
- The COMMUNITY COUNCIL may establish sub-committees and appoint Community Councillors and associate members to serve on these committees. The COMMUNITY COUNCIL shall determine the composition, terms of reference, duration, duties and powers of any sub-committee. The decision to set up a subcommittee, it's remit and any agreed decision making powers given to it must be agreed and recorded in the CC minute. A note of subcommittee decisions must be circulated at the following CC meeting.
While a person or persons not members and not eligible to be members of the Community Council may be appointed as having special expertise relevant to the purposes of the committee, such external member shall not have voting rights.

b) Email addresses: Neil will look into setting up an automatic reply with the new email address.

11) Property & Housing:

12) Resources and Finance:

a) Financial Statement: Due to technical problems Donna was unable to print the financial statement for circulation.

b) Future Funding Streams: No update.

c) Correspondence:

13) Correspondence: Jenna received a reply from the Highland Council about the uncompleted works on the footpath adjacent to the footbridge on Portormin Road. This has been forwarded to the Rads Department.

14) Any other Business:

- Bus shelter at Newport needs repaired
- Dunbeath sign on south side of Dunbeath bridge has blown down
- John Gunn received £300 donation for flowers

15) Date of next meeting: Monday 6th May 2024 at 7.30pm in Dunbeath Community Centre.

Public meeting closed at 8.45pm.

ACTION LOG

Action	By Whom	Date Added/Updated	Update from meeting
Maintenance of overgrowth on Dunbeath Strath – Angus to contact CPS Apr & Aug 2024.	Angus	06/11/2023	On hold to Spring 2024
Contact Rachel Youngson re debris along A9 footpath	Jenna	08/01/2024	Ongoing
Contact ward manager re Dunbeath Primary & Nursery petition	Angus	08/01/2024	Awaiting contact details of new ward manager
Ask BEAR Scotland for advice re location of speed device	Neil	04/03/2024	Ongoing
Neil to obtain quote from GMR Henderson for Coopers Path	Neil	04/03/2024	
Set auto reply on old email to advise of new email	Neil	04/03/2024	
Contact BEAR Scotland re bus stop lighting	Jenna	04/03/2024	
Jenna to contact Xmas Lights committee with info received	Jenna	01/04/2024	
Jenna to continue to reach Transport Scotland re suggested extra chevrons	Jenna	01/04/2024	
Enquire about repairs to Newport bus shelter	Jenna	01/04/2024	
Report Dunbeath sign down on south side of Dunbeath bridge A9	Jenna	01/04/2024	
Get final price for 5 of each no dog fouling and dogs on lead signs	Jenna	01/04/2024	

* = Task added to action log