



Berriedale & Dunbeath

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held in Dunbeath Community Centre on 6th May 2024 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, Graham Martin-Royle
- b) **Members of the public:** L. Parker, J. Larsen, M. Sutherland, C. Mackenzie, W. Sutherland, M. Adams, Sue Steven, J. A. Gunn, Andrew Bailey, A. Ellington, K. Bailey, Iain Fraser, Anne Macbeath
- c) **Apologies:** Donna Mathieson (Treasurer), Trevor Filshie, Stuart Cormack (Police Scotland)
- d) **Conflict of Interest:** Neil Buchanan – Pylons.

2) **Opening Remarks:** Angus welcomed all to the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.

- Angus informed all that Trevor Filshie has resigned from Berriedale and Dunbeath Community Council. A thanks was made to Trevor for his time and well wishes for the future.
- A complaint has been received regarding a community council member. This has been shared with Angus and Francis. This is ongoing.
- Issues with the community council email address should be resolved by next month's meeting.
- Bank signatories should be resolved by the next meeting.
- Angus reminded everyone that the public are welcome to attend all meetings. It was stated that even though there may be disagreements during discussions, that community council members and members of the public are to remain polite and respectful.

3) **Approval of Minutes:** It was noted by J. Gunn that it wasn't noted in the minutes from last month that it was to be requested to be recorded that there was no confidence in the Highland Council and asked who our local Councillor is, as it is thought this has rotated. Minutes were approved by Neil and seconded by Martin.

4) **Police:**

- a) **Police Report:** A police report had been received officer Stuart Cormack. This was circulated to everyone present.
- b) **A9 speed limit/no overtaking:** Jenna has sent another email – no reply.
- c) **Speed display sign:** Neil is still awaiting a response from BEAR Scotland re advice of location of sign.
- d) **Rural Security:** No update. This is to be removed from agenda and re added when there is an update from Police Scotland

5) **Communities & Place:**

- a) **Dunbeath Playpark:** It is believed the order has been placed for the new play equipment and Dunbeath Community Centre will be making payment this week for 50% as requested by the supplier. A congratulations was given to all of those involved in this project.
- b) **Dunbeath Strath:** Jenna to send CC members the prices received. *
- c) **Coopers Path:** No update available from GMR Henderson. Concerns raised by members of the public not wanting a gravel path. It was agreed that the Community Council will write to the new Estate owners to request permission and to investigate who would be liable for insurance. *

* = Task added to action log

d) Phone box & interpretive panels at Dunbeath Harbour:

- Dunbeath Preservation Trust (DPT) has contacted the Community Council to request the phone box is moved to the original agreed site, the wall by the boat shed. DPT offered if BDCC is unable to move this that the DPT would welcome the transfer of ownership of the phone box and they would move this to the planned site. It was agreed that BDCC would be responsible for moving this and will liaise with DPT regarding this.
- DPT gave permission previously for BDCC to install interpretive panels on DPT ground at Dunbeath Harbour, they would approve lay-out, wording, general appearance and siting prior to construction and installation. Neil updated that he is still working on the information and wording for these, the delay is due to the research of history that is being done by himself. He stated the funding of £8250 has already been received and if there is any shortfall of costings due to the delay that he would cover these costs.

6) Education & Learning:

Dunbeath Nursery Closure: Angus updated that there is suspicion that Dunbeath Nursery is to be mothballed. The PTA has been in touch to confirm the community council area boundaries and school catchment areas. A discussion was taken and confirmed these have always been different. Jenna updated that the Highland Council have had meetings with the families who have enrolled for Dunbeath Nursery for August 2024. HC took record of all their views and the families are awaiting feedback.

7) Health & Social Care:

8) Infrastructure, Environment & Economy:

a) Planning Applications: One planning application **Ref No. 24/01158/FUL**. Proposed erection of a 20metre-high lattice tower supporting radio antennas, transmission dishes and ancillary equipment along with equipment cabinets, solar arrays and ancillary development including a new access track, all for the purpose of telecommunications. It was agreed by all for BDCC to object to this as there has recently been a tower installed in the area which would be suitable for all organisations to share instead of there being multiple towers.

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

Braemore Road – No uneven road surface signs have been put in place or any works started. It was stated that Royal Mail and couriers no longer deliver to addresses on this road. Jenna to email HC and inform and update with this information.

Barrier – Workmen have been seen on site – it is hoped work begins soon.

Concrete bus shelter – Views of this being a site for storing sand during winter has been shared with HC. No update of when works will commence.

Portormin Road footpath – No reply from HC and no works complete.

c) Harbour Wall, Dolos & Gabion Baskets:

Small Harbour Wall – Work has begun.

Dolos & Gabion Baskets – No update.

d) Knockinnon Windfarm: No update available.

e) Phone masts Braemore/Berriedale: See information in planning applications.

f) Pylons: Lynn updated everyone that a meeting with OFGEM has been arranged. FOI has been requested re battery storage in area. Waiting for Nature Scotland and RSPB reports. Some members of Pylon Group attended a debate at Holyrood and felt there was good progress.

- Martin asked for information regarding the Pylon sub group, their remit, who are the members, when and where are the meetings, if these are advertised. If was confirmed that all public meetings have been advertised. To be a member of the group, an individual needs to request this via the subgroup due to data protection.

g) Dunbeath Bridge – noise pollution: Works are in progress.

h) Land Drains: No update or knowledge of HC looking into this.

i) Newport Bus Shelter: and Bus Shelter Lighting: No reply

j) Dunbeath Sign, south end of bridge A9: No reply

9) Performance & Governance:

a) Requirements for sub-committees: Both Xmas Lights Committee and Pylon Group will need to follow the below. Jenna will make contact with XLC. Francis has agreed to be a member of XLC.

- 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: Hope to have this resolved soon.

10) Property & Housing:

11) Resources and Finance:

a) Financial Statement: No financial statement available. Village officer role has disappeared. Bill of £1100 was submitted, £500 received.

b) Future Funding Streams: No update.

c) Correspondence:

12) 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.

13) Any other Business:

- Kerbing on Old Brae to be highlighted to HC to be fixed.
- Donation boxes have been replaced at Dunbeath Harbour.

14) Action Log: See attached sheet.

15) Date of next meeting: AGM Monday 3rd June 2024 at 7.30pm in Dunbeath Community Centre.

Public meeting closed at 9.15pm.

* = Task added to action log

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	06/05/2024	On hold
Set auto reply on old email to advise of new email	Neil	04/03/2024	
Jenna to contact Xmas Lights committee with info received	Jenna	06/05/2024	
Jenna to continue to reach Transport Scotland re suggested extra chevrons	Jenna	01/04/2024	
Enquire about repairs to Newport bus shelter and bus shelter lighting	Jenna	01/04/2024	No reply
Report Dunbeath sign down on south side of Dunbeath bridge A9	Jenna	01/04/2024	No reply
Send committee prices for dog signage	Jenna	06/05/2024	
Ask Dunbeath Estate for permission re Coopers Path repairs	Jenna	06/05/2024	
Enquire about BDCC Councillor	Jenna/Angus	06/05/2024	

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