

Maryburgh Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 25th January 2017 at 7.30pm

Present: - Morris Colven (MC) Jenny MacLennan (JM) Tom Thomas (TT) Liz Sinclair (LS), and Cllr A. Maclean, Cllr G. Mackenzie, Cllr. M. Paterson

Also present :- Jim Attwood (Conon CC) John Linley and Mhairi Mackenzie (RCHS Public)

Apologies for non attendance were tendered by Andrew Matheson, Andrew Steel, Jamie Dunsmore, Cllr A. Mackinnon and Martin Turner (Police Scotland).

1. Chairperson's Remarks.

The Chairman welcomed all present, wishing everyone a belated Happy New Year and accepted apologies on behalf of those unable to attend.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed and adopted. Proposed by Tom Thomas, seconded by Liz Sinclair.

3. Matters Arising

a) Maryburgh Roundabout (Newsletter).

LS updated the meeting regarding the 'new' Roundabout (February - Edition 2) newsletter which will be distributed to all households, which will consist of a colour front and back page and new sections in monochrome inside which should be of interest to readers. The cost per 600 copies is £180, offset by advertising revenue generated by the publication. Those who advertised in the December issue are to be contacted for payment to be met, with the intention that all future advertisements are to be paid for in advance of any publication. Jenny to contact MAC treasurer Jane Menzies to confirm to which date invoices have been sent out.

b) MAC update Next asset board meeting is 7th of February. Jenny and Jamie have been in contact with Colin from SKK to finish the business plan to present to the council before the 7th. Colin is working pro bono now as we have exhausted our major funding.

c) Website.

Work on making access to hall bookings easier is still ongoing. There has been an increase in hall bookings during the last month (55) in part due to it being easier to secure the hall via the online booking option.

d) The Leanaig Centre.

Jim Attwood (Conon CC) stated the importance of Maryburgh being involved in future meetings regarding the centre as it is for the entire local community not purely for Conon residents. The last meeting was held on 19th January, although no representative from Maryburgh was in a position to attend. Jim also reported that the maintenance contract for the next two years would be undertaken by Highlife Highland. Usage of the centre will be limited for an as yet unspecified period, due to ongoing problems with the heating system.

The next Leanaig Centre Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday 20th April, where a place is 'reserved' for any MCC member available and wishing to attend.

4. Financial Report.

JD was unable to attend due to work commitments, but had distributed the current account figures and balance to all committee members prior to the meeting.

5. Correspondence

Four items of correspondence were received by the Secretary, all of which were further distributed to members prior to this meeting.

- i) Details on Planning changes
- ii) Community Council empowerment
- iii) Details on participation in community training for cycle clubs
- iv) Participatory Budget Meeting in the Leanaig Centre on Sat 11th March from 10:00 – 13:00. Any group or cause can apply and 'bid' for an amount (up to £2000 per application) from a £20,000 total allocated to the fund. (£15K from the Scottish Government and £5K from Highland Council Discretionary budget.) Applications for funding require written submission by 24th Feb (Forms available from Highland Council/Ward Manager) and an attendance in person by the claimant(s) on the day of the event to outline why they should be considered for payment by way of a short explanation of why the funding was required is all that is needed. All those present at the meeting will vote either for or against each request for funding which is made.

6. Police Report.

No representative from Police Scotland was in attendance. Angela reported that David Ogilvie had stated that they(the police) were not aware of our meeting dates. Morris has been in continual correspondence with our nominated rep , of whom we are now on the third one since Eddie Mackenzie.

7. New Business.

No new business matters were raised.

8. AOCB.

a). Outstanding Payments

Mhairi Mackenzie (Ross and Cromarty Heritage Society) stated that telephone and internet bills totalling £185.18 (MAC £164.92 & MCC £20.26) were overdue and required immediate payment. The Secretary would liaise with the Treasurer to ensure this was undertaken promptly.

b). Co-opted Community Council Member

Mr John Linley was voted for by members regarding becoming a 'co-optee' member of the Maryburgh Community Council. The vote was unanimously in his favour. Welcome aboard John and thank you for taking an interest in the local community. The Community Council are sure your contribution will be invaluable.

c). Grass Cutting in the community

Grass cutting services for communal/public areas in the area will this year not be contracted out as in previous years. A dedicated 'in house' Highland Council core team supplemented by approximately 70 seasonal workers would be responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of designated areas.

9. Date of next meeting.

Wednesday 22nd February 2017 at 7.30 pm in the Portacabin