



## **Minutes of meeting to be held at 7.30pm at Polnicol Hall on 16.01.2020**

- 1. Present:** Tom Anderson (chair) **TA**, Marion Macleod (Secretary) **MM**, Rita M Fenton (Treasurer) **RMF**, Isabell McLaughlan **IM**, Ron Ferguson **RF** HCllr Derek Louden **DL**, HCllr Fiona Robertson **FR**

**Public in attendance:** Elizabeth Ross, Alister Fenton

- 2. Apologies:** Sandra MacDonald (Vice Chair) Angie Cox **CC** and HCllr Alasdair Rhind

- 3. Police Report:** No Police in attendance but apologies and report received from CC liaison Officer:

- Between 21/11/2019 and 15/01/2019/2019 police had cause to deal with no calls in the Kilmuir and Logie Easter area – No reports of Vandalism, Drug Offences, Disorder/Assault, Domestic Offences, Theft by Shop Lifting or Road Traffic Offences.
- No matters for the Police were raised.

- 4. Minutes of the meeting held on 21.11. 2019 at Polnicol Hall:** Approved by **RMF** and seconded by **IM**

- 5. Matters arising from the minutes:**

- Update on Tree Felling in Milton – **DL** had been advised that a Survey had not been undertaken by Albyn but **IM** advised that a survey had been undertaken by a third party and their findings were to be passed to Forestry Commission. Still no response from Albyn to KALECC or **DL** regarding this.
- Tain Bypass – **DL** advised that Richard Perry (Transport Scotland) had spoken to the one individual who objected to the proposal to reduce the speed limit from 60mph to 50mph, and they have now withdrawn their objection and the matter is now with BEAR Scotland.
- Discussions are ongoing between HCllrs and HC as to why the road resurfacing works have not been undertaken in Milton as promised. HCllrs to continue to chase HC regarding this.

- CC members agreed that if a CC meeting was not held on a particular month, the next meeting would be held at the venue missed (if available), ensuring that both the Mercat Centre & Polnicol Hall are used equally. Previously each venue was booked for certain months of the year, meaning that if a meeting was cancelled one venue missed out over the course of a year.
- Fly Tipping in Milton (as raised by Albyn Forum) – **DL** still looking into this

## 6. Reports by Highland Councillors:

- HCllrs reported on the changes to Committee Structure, with some Committees being split, such as Care, Learning and Housing now being three individual Committees
- These changes mean more committees for Councillors to attend
- Change of committees were introduced by Councillors and not the Chief Executive. CC members expressed their concerns that the committees had previously been amalgamated to create efficiencies and wondered what impact on costs this decision would have.
- HCllrs reported that the cost of this new structures to be in the region of £56,000. CC members were dismayed at these costs.
- Area Committees have also been split into smaller areas – including Easter Ross which was part of a much larger area committee comprising more wards but will now only be an Easter Ross Area Committee. Hcllrs present felt that their Area Committee were stronger and had a greater voice as part of a larger area committee
- HCllrs also advised that HC will revert to printing all Committee documents for each councillor attending, rather than have each councillor reading through the documents on an electronic device. Concerns were raised by HCllrs present and CC members about the cost of this given the financial savings required by HC and also, the lack of regard for the impact this would have on the environment.
- New Chief Executive has made changes to the management Structure within HC – with more lower level management roles who oversee smaller services.
- **DL** noted that the new Recycling rules regarding Trailers could have unintended consequences, with community clean ups being unable to use large trailers to take fly tipped waste collect to Recycling Centres

**7. Financial Accounts** - £1982.14 (Which includes a payment of £427.00 due to HC for the Milton Christmas Lights) **MM** to contact HC again for Invoice to make payment.

## 8. Community Council Issues:

- Co-option of new CC member – All CC members in attendance agreed to Co-opt Ron Ferguson

- CC Members Contact details – Details provided to **MM** by CC members present and these will be forwarded to HC. **MM** to contact members who were not present at the meeting to get details.
- Bus Shelter – Barbaraville – People from Highland Park have approached **TA** asking why there is no Bus Shelter on the opposite side of the road for those traveling by bus going south to Invergordon/Alness etc. **DL** has contacted HC who advised that Barbaraville has now been added to the list of areas awaiting a Bus Shelter, but these are only allocated when budgets allow.

## **9. Planning and Licensing**

- Consultee Access for Planning Consultations – Secretary email address to be provided to HC for use via the Consultee Access Account and **MM** to continue to respond on behalf of KALECC.
- 20/00045/FUL – KALECC have had no contact from members of the public regarding this application and KALECC have no objections. **MM** to follow up.

## **10. Mental Health & Wellbeing:**

- Event to be held in the Spring (Date to be confirmed) – joint event with Schools, Police, Community groups etc

## **11. Correspondence**

- Letter of thanks from Milton Improvement Group for the Beinn Tharsuinn funding which enabled them to purchase a Strimmer.
- Update from Men Shed (via email) as unable to attend the meeting. The Festive Fun Event organised by the Milton Community Woodland Group and the Men Shed went very well with many people attending (Including Santa on a Fire Engine), with hot snacks, kids' activities and carol singing on offer. The Men Shed are taking part in the Youth Philanthropy Initiative again this year – with Pupils from Invergordon Academy undertaking the interviews. The Men Shed are also making a replica rowing boat as a play feature for Milton Primary school, and groups of kids are attending the community cabin to make wooden bird boxes.

## **12. Any Other Business**

**13. Date of the next meeting:** 20/02/2020 at the Mercat Centre @ 7.30pm

## **14. Beinn Tharsuinn Fund application**