



## **Minutes of meeting held at Mercat centre on the 15 February 2018 at 7.30**

**1. Present** Tom Anderson (chair) Rita M Fenton (Treasurer) Marion Macleod (secretary)  
Ron Ferguson CC, Charles Robb CC, HCllr Derek Loudon, Isabell McLaughlan CC, Andrew Newdick CC

**Public in attendance**, Elizabeth Ross, Alistair Fenton, David Chambers, Colin Graham, Colin Dodds, D Ogivie, A Ogivie, A Ross, S Smith, M Smith, A MacLeod, J Cheyne, P Cheyne, S Illet, D Illet, C Gordon, J Mackie?, J Russell, C Bowman, LA Cain, PC Sutherland, PC Alexander

**2. Apologies** Sandra MacDonald (Vice chair)

### **Presentation of proposed bridge at Delney by Network Rail**

Craig Bowman and Lesley Ann Cain gave a presentation of proposed rail bridge, to be sited near the current Delny crossing. After a nationwide study of the railways the RAIB study showed that Delny had the likelihood of having an accident at the current crossing. Since the barriers have been installed no incidents have been reported by NR drivers.

Slide show given highlighted

- 1)Background
- 2)Proposal
- 3)Supporting info
- 4)Timescales

1) RAIB safety committee nationwide survey of crossing flagged Delny as a potential accident area.

2) Showed new road bridge, route of road and temporary usage of land during construction. The proposed new road is 581 meters long and 5.5 meters wide 6.7 meters high with a 1:20 gradient (slope) there is a single track road either side of bridge from 40 meters, as the current road is now, with a single carriage way on the incline, over the bridge itself and the decline. Turning space for business and houses turning are to be incorporated as well as passing places. There is wide access on the North and South road tie in also. Footpath over bridge will be created and there is enough height for the bridge to be modified with electric if NR upgrade the line to electric in the future. NR will put no weight restriction on the bridge, this comes under Highland council.

3) NR will submit a number of supporting reports and documents for planners and the public. These include: flooding, Ecological/environment, transport and statement of consultation. Finance and funding by NR will also have to consider if there is value for money/cost effective to constructing bridge. Money for the bridge comes from a separate funding department set aside for bridges and level crossings, by NR and doesn't come out of money used for track improvement or updates.

4) Timescale for above, from Planning, is 2018 until Dec 2020. Construction will be approximately 9 months, weather permitting. Building will be 9-5pm Monday to Friday.

**Q and A** One question was raised concerning Balnagown housing development once bridge is constructed. LAC stated that this was a separate issue and had no bearing on the bridge proposal. A road from development could be added at a later date. One resident asked why he hadn't been informed about bridge, despite his property being adjacent to the proposed site. LAC stated that this was a draft/pre planning document shown and the meeting was for information about proposed bridge. LAC stated that once all the pre planning checks had been made, NR may decide that value for money may not be met with constructing a bridge and the bridge may not be built at all. An email is being provided by LAC to be used as a contact by residents and KALECC. TA and MM to follow up.

KALECC would like to thank Leslie Ann Cain and Craig Bowman for their time and presentation on behalf of Network Rail.

**3. Police Report** since the last meeting no crimes or significant incidents have been reported. Following concerns about uninsured and untaxed vehicles in Drovers way, Milton a joint visit was made by housing and highland Council enforcement officers. This resulted in the owner of 7 vehicles being reported for no insurance and no road tax offences. 7 people have been charged with speeding on the B817 at Milton. Speeds ranging from 42mph-56mph in a 30mph limit.

We were informed by officers that the Inverness control room has been closed and all calls will be answered by Glasgow or Bliston Glen, then despatched to the control room in Dundee. Officers from North Division will be initially located in the Dundee ACR to help resolve any issues about lack of knowledge and places/ mispronunciations of places etc. The police officers spoke highly of the new system and were positive about its implementation. KALECC thanked the officers for their time.

#### **4. Minutes of meeting held at Polnicol Hall 18.01.18**

Minutes approved by Ron Ferguson CC, seconded by Rita M Fenton CC.

**5. Matters arising from minutes.** Pavements in Arabella, HCllr DL to follow up. 30MPH clarification HCllr to follow up. Planning has been responded to. Correspondence, RMF has received a thank you letter from Rock Challenge and has been approved.

**6. Reports by Highland councillors** – HCllr Derek Loudon in attendance. HCllr has briefly outlined budget set by administration. There is little to say because it had only been decided earlier today (15.02.18) It does look likely that most Community councils will have their budgets cut/reduced by up to 50%. It is disappointing and most HCllr's voted against the proposal. TA and MM to respond. Not many organisations and charities applied for the Community cash event in Tain and Easter Ross.

**7. Financial accounts** - £1590.71net in KALECC Account

**8. Community council issues.** MM received a tourism infrastructure questionnaire to be passed on to CC's. One of the problems highlighted was the closure of public toilets, after budget cuts and the effects of this on tourist to our beaches, villages and towns. Especially those not on the N500 route.

**9. Planning and licensing issues** No objections to proposed planning of holiday development at Delny house.

**10. Correspondence.** RMF confirmed letter has been received from Rock challenge group and approved. RMF to follow up.

**11. AOB** RMF gave report from Port authority meeting held on 31, 01, 18

1. Proposals to build a manufacturing plant at Nigg Energy Park for offshore wind components
2. The continued uncertainty surrounding the future of the Nigg Oil Terminal
3. A decision that we understand has been taken by Bannerman Co. Ltd. not to accept cruise vessels at the Admiralty Pier until at least August 2018. As a result, the ships will all be accommodated on Port of Cromarty Firth-owned facilities. (There are 93 ships and 170,000 passengers scheduled for 2018, up from 91 ships and 150,000 passengers in 2017.)

Port-owned Facilities:

4. The Port has two new Board members; Hugh Mitchell and Stewart Ralston
5. Three rigs have been stopped from leaving the Port by SEPA under the Trans frontier Shipment of Waste Regulations
6. The Port is celebrating 40 years of welcoming rigs for inspection, repair and maintenance on the 15th February 2018
7. We also celebrate 40 years of welcoming cruise ships in June
8. The Port has secured the remaining permit required to undertake decommissioning work and, just last week, we were successful in securing our first project.
9. The increasing activity means that we will have a congestion problem and, as a result, we are proceeding with the Phase IV new berth development. The pre-application consultation for this £23million project was opened last week and there will be a **public exhibition at the Port Offices on Tuesday 27th March from 9am to 8pm.**
10. The Port's journey towards achieving economic, social and environmental sustainability continues. We are proud of our progress to date and will be taking further actions on this journey in 2018.

**12. Date of next meeting:** 15 March 2018 in Polnicol hall at 7.30

**13. Beinn Tharsuinn Fund Applications** Himalayan world challenge expedition grant was refused on the grounds it was not inclusive enough and that most children were fundraising their trip money themselves by holding raffles and stalls etc. RMF to follow up.

Meeting concluded 8.55

*Angie Cox Minutes Secretary, Kilmuir and Logie Easter Community Council*

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