



Minutes of meeting on the 18.01.24 at 19.30 via Zoom call

Meeting commenced at 19.30

1. Present Tom Anderson **TA**, Rita Fenton **RMF**, Sandra MacDonald **SM**, Beverly Wells **BW**, Allan McLeod **AM**, HCllr Derek Loudon **DL**, HCllr Alasdair Rhind **AR**, HCllr Maureen Ross **MR**.

TA thanked everyone for attending and to **BW** and **AM** for arranging the meeting with thanks to **DL** for facilitating the zoom meeting.

2. Apologies None

3. Police Report **AM** contacted Police Scotland and is awaiting a report and will circulate once received. **AM** added that Police Scotland had agreed to issue the reports quarterly. The contact at Police Scotland is PC Adam Crichton.

4. Minutes of meeting on 04.12.23 Minutes approved by 1st **RMF**, 2nd **SM**

5. Matters arising from minutes. **TA** noted that a reporter for the Scottish Government was to visit the application site for the Fearn AD Plant. **TA** noted that the chalet previously discussed in Arabella was nice but looked a bit out of place. There has been no change with regards to the roadside boulders near the new chalet. **AM** and **BW** thought that there may not be possible to move but **TA** and **RMF** advised their understanding was that fences and obstructions need to be a certain distance back from the public road. **RMF** is awaiting a response from **DL**. **AM** to contact community payback to confirm if they could clear paths.

6. Reports by Highland Councillors. **DL** most of his work is currently on the budget looking at over two thousand survey responses from the public with ideas on public spending. Some positive changes ahead but it is a difficult exercise and the public will hold councillors to it. The first year is the hardest and to get this one done and out of the way to make future years easier but it is a difficult budget with a few more weeks to go. Dec 2023 Meeting of the full council that was adjourned on the lead up to Christmas and revisited the remaining items at the start of 2024. It is a very difficult time to be in the council and there is no dressing it up in the next while we are going to be in a bit of difficulty financially. There are positives in there and there are options to generate an income for the council. **AR** and **MR** made no report in this part of the meeting. **TA** queried the Planning Committee and if the Cable Factory was approved and **AR** confirmed that it was approved with conditions.

7. Annual accounts Current balance of £1649.92 confirmed by **RMF**

8. Community Council issues. **TA** advised that he had reviewed social media guidance. **BW** mentioned the cost of the website and possibility of using an alternative host to save money. **AM** and **BW** discussed the issues surrounding social media and website as a resource. **MR** mentioned that most community council have websites and is the foundation for lots of community councils. **MR** suggested the discretionary budget may help with funding. **BW** agreed to become an administrator for KALECC facebook page and **AM** was going to arrange for this to be setup. **TA** mentioned following THC guidance for social media activity. **MR** sent **BW** a link to Tarbat website for information.

9. Planning and Licensing. Planning applications were discussed, and it was agreed no action was required. Discussion on Hydrogen production was raised. **DL** is in favour of wind power being used to produce hydrogen. It saves money to use power that would otherwise not be used. **BW** advised that distillery wastewater was being used in hydrogen production. **TA** queried if there any other planning and licensing issued to from councillors.

10. Mental Health and wellbeing **AM** to contact Helen Ross to ensure we are aware of activity with respect to mental health and wellbeing.

11. Correspondence. In response to the query from a member of the Milton community regarding snow clearing equipment (snow shovels etc) **DL** is awaiting a response from the Roads department . **AR** advised that there is a snow plough that visits the villages. **AR** commented that THC staff are working very hard to clear the paths and roads. **AR** commented that the roads will also have deteriorated after the snow melts. **BW** advised of the national centre for resilience for assistance against national hazards. Up to £500 for community councils and is to provide a link via email.

12. AOB. **BW** advised that THC had confirmed that Public Transport department was responsible for bus shelters and that the Tarbat Bus Shelter was on a list to be replaced. **TA** congratulated **BW** on the pursuing the bus shelter issue with the council. **BW** wanted to refer council members and councillors to the Scottish Community Councils website for training free, relating to village halls etc. and could be worth sharing with other community councils. **BW** advised that the PoCF had funding available for upto £15,000 and was to forward the application form. **RF** to upload to the KALECC website. **DL** explained that whilst on a bus journey from Invergordon to Tain he witnessed children from the Tarbat area leaving the bus and having to walk on the grass verge along the public road before crossing the road which was unsafe especially at night. **DL** suggested that if KALECC could secure PoCF funding for a path at the bust stop that THC match funding could help improve safety in this area. **AM** and **BW** to review application forms. **AM** explained that the THC streetlighting department had advised that a small change to the electrical supply for the Milton Village Xmas tree was needed. **AM** and **SM** to discuss and arrange in advance of Xmas 2024.

13. Date of next meeting. 15.02.24 at 19.30 at Polnicol Hall.

14. Beinn Tharsuinn. **AM** reported that Milton Primary School had emailed Thanks and receipts for their 2023 Panto trip that was very much enjoyed and appreciated by all.

TA thanked everyone for their attendance and time.

Meeting concluded 20.35

Allan Mcleod Secretary, Kilmuir and Logie Easter Community Council