

HELDON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held 06 April 2021 via Zoom

Chairman	Mr J Montford – Dallas	
Treasurer	Lyndsay Smailes – Pluscarden	
Secretary		
	Mrs A Masson – Alves	Mr W Duncan – Fogwatt
	Mrs M Evans – Duffus	Mrs D Kelly – Alves
	Mr K Milne – Miltonduff	Mr C Souter – Miltonduff
	Mr P Austin – Roseisle	
Attendee	Councillor Ryan Edwards	
Apologies	Mrs S Hodder – Pluscarden	
	Ms J Kirby – Miltonduff	
	Mr N Sutherland – Dallas	

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received From Ms Jo Kirby, Mrs Sally Hodder and Mr N Sutherland.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 23 February 2021 were approved.

Proposed: Mrs L Smailes Seconded: Mr W Duncan

3. MATTERS ARISING

a) Cloddach Bridge: the trees are still lodged under the bridge. It has been looked at and the conclusion was that there is minimal risk of flooding. Nothing further has been done.

b) Rural Broadband: There was discussion as to whether the SSE money recently offered could be used to improve rural broadband. Communication in rural areas for elderly people is specifically mentioned. We would need to state how many households are affected. Councillor Edwards has emailed Mark Dames, Head of Policy, BT Regions, and Head of Public Affairs, BT Scotland, but has not so far received a reply. It was felt that we should also communicate with Mr Dames but first we need to establish the extent of the problem and have some specific information to give him. It was decided that some research would be done as to how many households are involved and then an email would be sent.

c) Fence at Millbuies: Lands and Parks has looked at this and spoken to the access managers. This is ongoing but the work will be carried out.

d) Foths Bridge: work will start on a design later this month. Construction work will begin in August and continue for eight weeks.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence had been circulated to all members.

a) Dog ownership: members were asked to make sure that the correspondence and poster are circulated.

b) Speeding in the Community: there was some discussion on the feedback from the earlier meeting on this topic. Communities can now purchase Smiley Faces. If they are not bought from the Council will planning permission be withheld? More prominent signs were felt to be effective. If these are bought from the Council, would the Council carry out the installation? Councillor Edwards will check these points. The topic is on the next JCC agenda.

5. PLANNING

All planning applications had been circulated. There were no issues.

6. FINANCE REPORT

The Treasurer submitted her report. Payment has been made for the Mosstowie 'Faces of the Fallen' project and for the resurfacing of the Duffus Hall car park. The Wind Farm money for the Alves footpath has not yet come in.

Roths 1 £21,591.46

Roths 2 £15,671.92

HCC £ 1,133.42

Balance: £38,396.80

7. AOCB – to include area reports

- a) Roseisle AGM: this was attended and encouragement given for more members to become involved with HCC.
- b) Gorse bushes in Roseisle: the gorse needs attention on the blind corner where the road meets the Elgin to Duffus road.
- c) Mountain bikers: concern was expressed about the number of mountain bikers in the woods around Pluscarden. Trails are being created which end at walking tracks and also, even more worryingly, at the road. This is a very dangerous situation and there have already been a few near misses. There is also an unofficial car park which has been created and some cars are also parking on the road, which is an added danger. The events are organised online. Councillor Edwards will take this forward.
- d) A lady at Birkenhill has asked whether there is any money still available from the Flood Alleviation scheme as her garden has a problem with water. This will be followed up.
- e) Alves Playpark: it was confirmed that as this is owned by the Council it is not possible to access funding for it.
- f) Alves school playground: water is a problem as it is coming up through the drains. There was a request to pass on thanks to the Roads Department for clearing the footpath.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Date and time of next meeting:

Tuesday 18 May 2021 at 7.30 pm via Zoom