

HELDON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held 08 August 2021 via Zoom

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

The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Mrs L Smailes (Treasurer), Mrs S Hodder, Mr P Austin, Mr C Souter, Mr K Milne and Mr M Brown.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 28 June 2021 were approved.

Proposed: Mrs D Kelly Seconded: Mrs A Masson

3. MATTERS ARISING

a) Changes in cost of rural signposting: Councillor Edwards will follow this up.

b) Cloddach Bridge: local councillors have been asked to approve the change in weight restriction from 7.5 tonnes to 3 tonnes and a height restriction of 2 metres. At 7.5 tonnes a fire appliance can cross but not at 3 tonnes. Using other roads means a six-mile diversion and concern was expressed that all directions to emergency vehicles are now given from a centre in Aberdeen where local changes and new routes might not be so well known. These restrictions are set for eighteen months but what will happen at the end of this period? The question was raised as to whether these steps will safeguard the bridge and this concern has been forwarded to the relevant department but as yet no reply has been received. As things stand at the moment there are no plans to close the bridge and every effort must be made to keep it open. Councillor Edwards will follow up this matter and report back to us.

c) Foths Bridge: there are no changes to the planned timetable which will run from late August until early in the Autumn.

d) Village Halls: so far there has been no further information from the Federation but the change in regulations means that Halls should now be able to open. Some Community Councils have moved

their meetings back as face-to-face but it is up to each individual Hall to decide how to move forward.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence had been circulated to all members.

a) Community Council Election publicity: we have paid our £150.

b) Local democracy reporter: a local reporter has been appointed and has requested access to Community Council meetings. Reports will be submitted to the local press. While it was felt that we would be generally happy with this it was pointed out that not all matters were appropriate for reporting in the local press and this should be borne in mind. We will reply and give the dates of future meetings once these have been set.

5. FINANCE REPORT

The Treasurer had submitted her report in her absence.

Balance of funds:

Roths 1	£ 37,475.46
Roths 2	£ 7,018.65
HCC	£ 1,335.52
Total:	£ 45,829.63

Some of the allocated funding is still unspent which can make it difficult for the Treasurer. No applications have been received as yet for the next round of Roth's 1 funding but four community organisations have requested forms. It is imperative that people are aware that this funding is available so more information will be posted on the Heldon CC Facebook page and on local community Facebook pages.

The difficulty with the payment for the Alves footpath has been resolved. There have been changes to the regulations around VAT and this new information has to be recorded. Community Councils are not registered for VAT but there is no legal question as to who is responsible and Moray Council is happy to take responsibility in this case.

6. PLANNING ISSUES

All planning details had been circulated and there were no issues.

7. AOCB – to include area reports

- Some verges have been cut but only to a limited distance. Verges need cutting from Crofts of Buinach to Dallas.
- It was thought that schools are no longer allowing bowlers to use the premises but it was not clear whether this was a Council decision or whether it was up to individual schools. If this was the case then it would have a considerable impact on bowling in Moray as there could well be an insufficient number of teams to run competitions. Concern was raised as to whether this same ban could affect all community activities.
- The problem of vegetation at the sides of the Spynie to Duffus road and Brumley Brae was raised again. Councillor Edwards indicated that some work had been carried out very recently. Cutting back of the gorse and other bushes is usually carried out in the Autumn. The Council has only a small budget for this and priority is given to road junctions.

- Members were reminded that applications for Community Councillors must be received by the end of September. Investigation will be made as to whether electronic forms are available. If so, these will be circulated.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Date and time of next meeting:

Finance meeting: Tuesday 14 September 2021 at 7.30 pm

Final meeting of this Community Council session: Tuesday 21 September 2021 at 7.30 pm

It is likely that both of the above meetings will be in Miltonduff Hall.