

PORTKNOCKIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 13TH OCTOBER, 2014

Present: Alan Beresford, Cathleen Harper, Angela Mair, Gladys McKenzie, Kerry Reid (chaired meeting in Fraser's absence), Tony Barnes, Cllr. Ron Shepherd and Cllr. Gary Coull.

1. Apologies

Fraser Weir

2. Minutes

Proposed by Alan Beresford and Seconded by Gladys McKenzie.

3. Matters Arising

Nothing

4. Threatened School Closure

Alan Beresford advised that the 3rd of November was D-day for the decision on the school closures. Alan advised that the Portknockie Action Group were gathering evidence on the threatened closure and merger of schools and the Group are writing to local groups to ask for their support. The Action Group are also contacting groups that use the school and feedback will be sent back to the local councillors prior to the meeting on the 3rd of November. Cllr. Coull advised that the 3rd of November was the day that they enter the next phase of negotiations and investigate all the options available. The Consultation has not taken into account the Rural Schools Act and this should be pointed out and referred to. The Pre-School provision and effect on the community will all require to be taken into account. Alan has advised that options must be looked at to continue to improve the school and its usage. If press coverage, etc is required by the Action Group it was agreed that the Community Council will contribute towards these costs. Both Cllr. Coull and Cllr. Shepherd advised that they will not be voting for the merger plans.

5. Police Matters

No Community Warden Report. Two Police Officers attended and advised that there were no crimes in the Portknockie area. Advised of a website that is in operation called Ask the Scottish Police. This website will answer Police related/legal based issues. It's a simple and straightforward legal database, maintained in Scotland, with almost 800 frequently asked questions and answers and is available for everyone to use. The website address is www.askthe.scottish.police.uk

6. Matters for Elected Members

A pot hole on Bridge Street in the middle of the road outside Joyce and Iain's was reported as was a blocked drain on Bridge Street. The Councillors were also asked to check the maximum height a boundary wall can be built, the height of a new wall was questioned and the Councillors were asked to check the height and also whether or not planning would have been required.

7. Correspondence

A letter was received from the Portknockie Action Group asking for the Community Council's support in the fight to keep the school open.

8. Treasurer's Report

Balance held in the bank - £1,192.59.

9. AOCB

Gladys advised that the Community Association are to be purchasing new xmas lights this year. It was agreed that the Community Council would make a donation of £800.00 to the Community Association towards the cost of the new lights. The xmas light switch on will probably be on Saturday, 29th November however we will await confirmation of this date from the Community Association.

The meeting was closed at 7.45 pm.

Next meeting will be held in the Snug at the McBoyle Hall on Monday, 10th November at 7 pm.