

EILEAN A CHEO WARD FORUM

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON: MONDAY 13th JUNE 2016 AT TIGH NA SGIRE, PORTREE

PRESENT: Cllr Drew Millar (Chair); Cllr John Gordon; Cllr Ian Renwick; Willie MacKinnon, Ward Manager; Moira Scobbie, Waternish CC; Bill Edgar, Portree & Braes CC; Peter Martin, Uig CC; Judith Wallace, Sconser CC; Christina MacLennan, Struan CC; Simon Gilkes, Staffin CC; Maureen Webster, Minginish CC; Anne Gillies, Raasay CC; Mike Taylor, Kyleakin CC; Maressa Munro, Dunvegan CC; Calum Macleod, Broadford & Strath CC; Sgt Andrew Shaw, Police Scotland; Stuart Robertson, HIE Director of Digital Highlands & Islands; Hugh Gardner, Amenities Manager Highland Council; Meg Gillies, SLCVO; Jo-Anne Ford, SLCVO.

APOLOGIES:

IN ATTENDANCE: Mike Russell, WHFP; Jessie Donaldson, Minginish CC; Nick Duffill; Alasdair Nicolson, Community Broadband Scotland; Mrs Gilkes; David Ashford.

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION	LEAD
1	Welcome, introductions & apologies	Cllr Millar as Chair opened the meeting and welcomed those present, intimating how pleased he was to see such a positive attendance from Community Councils.	
2	Action Note of Previous Meeting	<p>Action note of last meeting agreed as an accurate record.</p> <p>Portree & Braes Community Council queried the following point from the notes asking if a General Practitioner was not appointed who would have the say to reconsider advertising under a permanent contract, NHS Highland or is it part of the Scottish Government Directive that would allow this.</p> <p><i>“If not successful in attracting a General Dental Practitioner Dr Lyons indicated that re-consideration of permanent contracts may be possible.”</i></p> <p>WM to put query to Dr John Lyon.</p>	WM
3	Police Scotland – Update from Sergeant Andrew Shaw	<p>Rural crimes and dishonesty:</p> <p>Serious assaults up by 2 from 2014/15 to 4 2015/16.</p> <p>Common theft decreased by 26% over the past year.</p>	

		<p>Shop lifting has also seen a decrease over the same period. House breaking has remained at the same level, 3 recorded. Carrying of knives has also remained the same, recorded as 2. Breach of the peace has been 50% higher. Drink driving figures show a total of 13 for the period.</p> <p>Staffing: A couple of vacancies at present. Summer secondments - selection process should be complete in near future.</p> <p>Questions: Peter Martin: What should be done to encourage walkers on roads to wear hi-viz jackets? Sgt AS: ultimately it is up to members of the public to take responsibility and follow the highway code, however, the Police take the opportunity to promote road safety whenever they can, cycle training in schools, social media, local radio etc.</p> <p>Mike Taylor: The Kyleakin & Kyclerhea CC have complained about boy racers in Kyleakin, what is being done to stop it? Sgt AS: happy to have an off table discussion, it is helpful if it can be reported at the time and a record of the time of the incident and details of the vehicle registration submitted with any complaint .</p> <p>Bill Edgar: Any comment on the Skye Live event held at the KGV Playing Field? Sgt AS: It was adequately resourced and additional costs were met by the festival Organisers.</p>	
	<p>Next Generation Broadband – Phase 1 Update</p>	<p>Stuart Robertson, Director of Digital Highlands & Islands briefed the forum on the attached presentation and answered questions from the floor:</p>  <p>Digital Broadband Skye Ward Forum Jur</p>	
	<p>Grounds Maintenance Contracts – Community Engagement</p>	<p>Hugh Gardner attended to outline the process for grounds maintenance contracts from April 2017 and the opportunity for Community Councils to identify priorities within their Area and potentially for Community Interest Groups to become involved in the delivery of grounds maintenance.</p> <p>WM had sent all Community Council secretaries a copy of the current grounds maintenance maps (A1 size) and a disc containing the pdf files of the maps that can be used to zoom in on the ground maintenance localities in their Area, for CCs to consider in advance of the Forum. Not all CCs had held meetings since receiving a copy of the maps/pdf files to consider the opportunities.</p>	

		<p>Hugh answered questions from the floor and it was agreed that WM would send an email to all CCs inviting them to submit a note of interest relating to the opportunities by reply to his email before the end of July 2016. WM would collate all the notes of interest and forward to Hugh for him to set up meetings with interested parties before the end of September 2016.</p>	WM
4	<p>Public Question & Answer Session</p>	<p>The following question was submitted by Portree & Braes Community Council:</p> <p><i>“Following upon the May meeting of the Portree & Braes Community Council, where there was discussion of the non-appointment of a Traffic Warden for Portree for the coming season. Given the recent good weather & substantial influx of visitors with associated problems of traffic jams & bad parking throughout the village, the Community Council strongly urge the Local Committee to reconsider the decision not to appoint a Traffic Warden this year.</i></p> <p><i>We are aware that Police Scotland will deal with such problems if available, however, given that locally they are operationally stretched & may not be readily available to resolve an immediate problem.”</i></p> <p>Response from Cllr Millar on behalf of the Local Members:</p> <p><i>“I don’t know who supplied you with the information to enable your discussion, nevertheless, I can assure you that the Local Committee and by that I mean the 4 Elected Members for Eilean a’ Cheò had no part in any decision not to appoint a Traffic Warden.</i></p> <p><i>Police Scotland was responsible for the appointment of Traffic Wardens, however, the former Chief Constable, through no consultation, decided to do without Traffic Wardens.</i></p> <p><i>The law is going through the deregulation process and the decriminalisation of parking enforcement is not likely to take effect on Skye until October 2016.</i></p> <p><i>However, just last week, I had a discussion with the Director of Community Services regarding traffic issues in Portree in particular. As a result of the conversation, I expect to hear from the Council Officer whose remit this will come under in the near future, to discuss how best a solution can be reached.</i></p> <p><i>At this moment in time the Council does not have a budget with which to employ Traffic Wardens.”</i></p> <p>Bill Edgar asked if the appointed person following the decriminalisation of parking enforcement would have the legal power to issue parking tickets.</p> <p>Cllr Millar confirmed that this would be the case.</p>	DM

		<p>Mike Taylor raised the following issues/complaints on behalf of Kyleakin & Kylerhea Community Council:</p> <p>Misinformation that the Community Council had been given in relation to ownership of some land in Kyleakin.</p> <p>WM explained that with the departure of the Legal Services staff locally, following Voluntary Redundancy, it was taking longer to establish the facts regarding some land ownership and that the Service who provided the initial response had done so with the information that they had to hand. A full response would be provided to the Community Council ASAP.</p> <p>Mike went on to complain that the Kyleakin & Kylerhea Community Council had been unsuccessful in receiving any funding from the Ward Discretionary Fund for a Danger Strong Current sign to be erected on the foreshore at Kyleakin close to the Skye Bridge.</p>	WM
5	Date of next Forum	<p>12th September 2016</p> <p>Items requested for consideration: Business Development Information – Business Gateway, HIE, Federation for Small Businesses NHS Highland – Update on NHH Services/Redesign of Health & Social Care</p> <p>Before closing the meeting the Chair congratulated Jessie Donaldson on being included in the Queen’s Birthday honours list, receiving the BEM for voluntary services to the community of Skye.</p> <p>He also thanked Meg Gillies for all the work she had undertaken in her role with the SLCVO and wished Jo Ford all the best when she takes over from Meg.</p>	WM