

Tiree Community Council

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| Date | 1 st March 2017 |
| Time | 7.30pm |
| Venue | An Talla |
| Present | Councillors Present: John MacAskill, John Holliday, Ian Gillies, Jessie Gray Trust Staff Present: Louise Reid |

1. Welcome and apologies.

- The Chair welcomed all present, apologies were received from **Rosemary Omand, Donnie Campbell, Rhoda Meek, and Aisling Milne.**

2. Correspondence

- Police Scotland Report
 - The monthly Police Scotland report was circulated and discussed.
 - There was a total of five incidents last month with no trends and no actions occurring.
 - It was noted that the penalty for using a mobile phone in the car has increased. An offender will now face a fine of £200, and 6 points on their licence. A new driver will lose their licence completely.
- Annual Survey/ Review of Scheme
 - Argyll and Bute Council have published a survey regarding the Governance and Law support that Community Councils receive from the Council. The general view was satisfactory. The closing date for the survey is 17th April and this can be filled out online. It was agreed to draft a response and circulate for approval before submitting. **IG to action.**
 - It was also noted that the national elections for all Community Councils is due to take place, a timescale for this has yet to be set.
 - All present agreed to continue their role for another 6 months if asked to do so by the new A & B Council. This is to enable all CC elections to take place on the same date in October.
- Other
 - Dr Slater has been in touch regarding the importance of a high quality 4G signal for the islands emergency services.
 - The Emergency Response plan for Tiree has been circulated. There were no concerns noted.

3. Previous Minutes and Matters Arising

- The Screen Machine has been in touch regarding the upcoming refit of the mobile cinema, they are using this time of inactivity to make some useful contacts. **RM to action. C/FWD**
- Tiree Flag Committee has met twice. The competition date has not yet been set, however it is hoped to unveil the finalists at the agricultural show. The committee is welcoming any new members and the committee will choose the final entries for the public to vote on.

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- The response to the complaint received from Mr & Mrs Larg was sent to Argyll and Bute Council for comment. After the suggested amendments were made the letter was sent to the complainant. There has been no reply from Mr & Mrs Larg.
- It was noted that the Head teacher of Tiree High School was unable to attend this meeting, however is keen to support the Community Council and hopes to attend a future meeting.
- Police Mortuary. At present the Police Scotland Lease on the current mortuary premises is under negotiation and it has been 'renovated' recently. It was agreed to hold off writing to Police Scotland regarding the mortuary for the time being.
- Video conference Managing Conflict training took place with other Community Councils. It was very beneficial to chat to other groups as all face similar issues with planning etc. It was suggested these talks take place more regularly.
- The minutes of the private agenda meeting were also circulated and discussed. It was noted that all private and public meeting minutes are available to view on the website.
- There being no other matters arising the minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by *JMA* and seconded by *IG*.

4. Pier View

- At present, it is proving difficult to ascertain who the contaminated land at Pier View belongs to. West Highland Housing Association, Scottish Water, MacLeod Construction etc. are not claiming responsibility for clearing up the mess. There is security fencing belonging to the builders still lying around and the manhole cover on the septic tank has not been repaired.
- It was noted a letter to Roddy McCuish has been drafted and suggested this be sent after approval.
- It was agreed Alan Millar would write to TCC again to outline the issues in the Pier View area.
- It was also suggested a Search of Titles may clear up the ownership issue. It was noted that there may be a small cost incurred. ***IG agreed to investigate and assist AM with this issue.***
- *A number of comments were received from the public:*
 - ***The electricity company have checked the box with exposed cables and have confirmed that it is not live.***
 - ***It's unknown who the land belongs to, however the materials on the land are believed to belong to MacLeod Construction.***
 - ***It was noted there is another area of concern towards the back of the scheme, where fencing materials have also been left behind.***
 - ***It was suggested that a more senior member of TCC assist with this issue.***
 - ***Even although the cables are not active, this is unacceptable and is still a health and safety issue***

5. Island Communications

- 4G Projects

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- It was noted that EE have submitted a planning permission application for a mast near Garaphail. This mast would largely benefit the emergency services.
- The Community Mast proposed to be placed at Beinn Gott will supply the island with both O2 and Vodafone Signal. This project is also at the planning permission stage.
- Vodafone have also submitted a planning permission application to refurbish the mast at Ben Hough. This would strengthen the signal hugely.
- Fibre Optic
 - It was noted that there are still some members of the community have connectivity issues with BT. ***RMO is investigating this.***
 - BT is also carrying out some work on the island at present. It is thought there is a new box being placed in Scarinish so that there is potential for people who are connected directly to the exchange to benefit from the fibre optic roll out.

6. Education

- No Update except HT's apologies.

7. Future Political Strategy

- There are a number of regular consultations taking place and TCC is trying to determine whether to become more or less involved in the consultations, or to pick a specific focus.
- Some progress has taken place regarding the political strategy in the form of meetings with Humza Yousaf and other political influences.
- It was noted however that Fergus Ewing is attending a meeting on Tiree in May and Tiree Community Council were not informed of this. TCC expressed disappointment at this.
- It was agreed to invite Fergus Ewing (copy letter to Mike Russell) to a public or private meeting to discuss crofting issues like croft housing issues being faced by locals owning croft land but unable to build etc. ***IG***
- There was concern expressed that there may be a threat to the Crofters' Office in Tiree - another point for discussion with Fergus Ewing.
- It was commented by the public that it is beneficial to try and make as many contacts as possible.

8. The Crown Estate in Scotland

- **AM** is working on a response to the Crown Estate Consolation discussed at the previous meeting.
- The consultation is important as the seabed ownership could affect such things as moorings, pontoons and other fishing or recreational projects which may occur in the future.
- It was noted that if the seabed were to be owned by Tiree, the revenue from moorings etc. would be fed into the community, however if it were to be owned by the Scottish Government, this could not be guaranteed.

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- After speaking to Western Isles Council for advice, it was found Western Isles Council are very confident in their plan for the future. It was suggested to chat to other councils for some advice.
- It was suggested that Tiree and Coll are missing out by not having a dedicated Councillor and representation should be made to David Stewart and the Boundaries Commission to try to amend this situation. **IG**
- *A number of comments were received form the public*
 - *To take ownership of the seabed is a great responsibility. If an issue were to arise, we would need to ensure that Tiree has the expertise to deal with it.*
 - *It might be possible to negotiate the revenue side of ownership whilst allowing Scottish Government ownership of the strategical planning aspect.*
 - *To submit a response would show engagement and interest on behalf of Tiree's Community.*
 - *The opportunity to input into this may not come again in the future, the potential of Tiree owning its own seabed should be investigated at least.*

9. AOCB

- Còmhlà Thiriodh?
 - **IG** gave a brief update on the first meeting of the Working Group which took place this month. It is hoped that the full minutes will be published to keep the community informed.
 - As yet TCC have not been asked to be involved.
- AOCB
 - **JH** suggested at the end of every meeting the public be asked if there is anything they would like on the next agenda. This was agreed by all present.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 9.00PM, the date of the next meeting will be 5th April.

ACTION POINTS

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| 1. | Draft response to Survey on Governance and Law | IG |
| 2. | Search of Title - Pier View | IG |
| 3. | Letter to Fergus Ewing (copy in Mike Russell) | IG |
| 4. | Lobby David Stewart & Boundaries Commission re Reinstating a dedicated Tiree & Coll councillor | IG |
| 5. | Letter to Roddy McCuish re Pier View | IG & AM |
| 6. | Response to Crown Estate | AM |
| 7. | Liaise with Screen Machine | RM |
| 8. | Investigate Fibre Optic loss of speed issues | RO |