

**MINUTES OF ZOOM MEETING OF INVERARITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 8 MARCH 2021 AT 7.30 PM**

1) **PRESENT:** Elizabeth Steuart Fotheringham (Chair); Carole Short (Secretary); Louise Nicoll (Treasurer); June Richardson; Scott Nicoll; Joanna Anderson; Duncan Gourlay; Councillors Julie Bell and Angus MacMillan Douglas; Mr & Mrs McNicoll (Members of our Community)

APOLOGIES: Sandra Hood (Headteacher); Provost R Proctor; Heather Anne Low

2) **BANKING PROCEDURES**

Angus Council brought in new rules governing how Community Councils spend their yearly Grant. This started at the beginning of the 2020 Financial year. As our CC already had funds before this came into being, the decision was made by Angus Council that we should retain these funds and they can be used as we see fit, as we had done in the past. We also had to start using on-line banking with our account. Louise is not sure how to show these different monies in our yearly audit and it was still not clear after we had sought advice from Angus Council. It was **agreed** that Louise would take advice from the accountant who normally carries out our yearly audit of our accounts. The account also holds monies which we received from our Participatory Budgeting Grants which are allocated for various projects in our area, i.e. defibrillator and ancillary equipment; litter picking items for use by the community/school. All these purchases have been delayed by Covid restrictions.

3) **EAST COAST 132Kv UPGRADE (SSEN)**

This matter has been brought to our attention by members of our community who may be affected by this project depending on which route SSEN propose to take. Apparently, it does not come under the control of local planning rather it is matter for the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit.

Elizabeth our Chair took part in the first on-line chat/consultation event on 25 February 2020 with the final consulting on alignment options taking place in Autumn 2021. After discussion it was **agreed** that we as a Community Council write to SSEN Community Liaison Manager detailing concerns which have been raised. This letter must be received by them by 12 March 2021 at the latest and the review of these responses will be considered by May 2021 and the proposed route decision taken then.

Below are links which may be helpful to you and should anyone require any further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

<https://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/media/5270/figure-1-corridor-and-route-options.pdf>

https://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/media/5262/east-coast-132kv-overhead-line-brechin-to-tealing_final.pdf

4) **PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING**

Secretary reported that she had contact Angus Council informing them that because of Covid restrictions we had not been able to process the order for the defibrillator and ancillary equipment, training etc. in time for their deadline. Secretary also advised that as things appear to be opening up a little, she will now go ahead with ordering the Litter picking Equipment which we had also received a grant for from the above budget.

5) AOCB

- a) Secretary advised that she had received an email from Sandra Hood with an update on proposed school activities when the school opens full time on Monday 15 March 2021. Quote “On return to school, there will be a focus on literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing activities such as circle times around our fire pit, outdoor learning and play based learning. We have also purchased ‘Accelerated Reader’ which will support the children engaging more in reading using books from our library. We have an additional teacher (to support recovery from Covid’19 Restrictions) once a week who happens to be a mountain leader trained. She has started to take the children in small groups on local walks mid-week. We would be very interested in any local walks that members are aware of that require very little time on roads, thank you. We’ve also applied for our Green Eco Flag so hope to be successful in this and display it soon.”
- b) Louise and Scott advised that there were some bad potholes around the Bonnyton/Happas areas. **Agreed** that Scott would send Secretary map references and she would contact Douglas Hill at Roads Department. Angus McMillan Douglas asked that he should be copied into the email.
- c) It was agreed that we should hold an AGM on 21 April 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20