Minutes Holm Community Council

Tuesday 4th March 2014

1. **Apologies –** Councillors Christie, Parr and Slater.

   Present – Julia Brook, Jim Hardie, Jim McDairmid, Mary Matheson, Andy Maxtone, Robert Phillips, Councillor Donald, Katherine Mackenzie.

2. **Minutes of last meeting –** (4th February 2014) one item regarding community councillor training amended on the master copy and people in attendance notified, otherwise the minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting – proposed **JH** seconded by **JM.**

   It was noted that this and future meetings would be recorded for ease of transcribing - a policy for use of dictaphone is being worked on for next meeting (**AM**).

3. **Matters arising –** Training event for community councillors attended by **JB** – excellent reference material on council's website. Discussion on renewed emphasis on consultation and involvement with community councils, however this is taking place on line. Not everyone has access to PC's. Council have said they will look at this. Information on planning process and consultation, planners talked about the importance of community councillor's role in planning applications. Discussion took place regarding planning process. Many resources from council are in the form of web links which when opened are enormous documents. It would be useful if someone within the council would identify salient point in a summary format.

   Bus timetables will be referred to next meeting

   Traffic lights in Castle Road are now much improved – allowing more time for traffic to flow.

4. **Finance -** £3615.45 in statement of account. Discussion took place regarding what and how to organise a Christmas event for elderly residents. Need to have some ideas for next meeting.

5. **Police report –** no police present. No issues raised

6. **Correspondence –** letter received from Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland regarding review of local government councillor numbers. Letter is notification of consultation with Councils, the consultation regarding numbers will be open to the public from April for a period of 12 weeks.

   Local Energy Scotland – letter received introducing a free and impartial service through which groups can access the Scottish Governments Community and Renewable energy Scheme which provides grants and loan funding to community groups to enable them to become involved with renewable.

Letter received from 5th Year Royal Academy pupil thanking the community council for their donation (£500) towards project (IRA / Blythswoods) in Romania.

Public liability insurance received for the community council.

Email communication from individual members of Highland Council seeking support regarding the closures of Service Points. Although not an issue for Holm residents community council in principle support retention of Service Points and will write to chief executive accordingly.

7. **Any other competent business –** thoughts required regarding perhaps having guest speakers and / or inviting people who have received funds from the community council to come along to meetings to talk about how they have used the money.

Date of next meeting (AGM) 6th May 2014.