

Morvern Community Council Notes
Tuesday March 21st 2023 at 7pm

Present: A Tordoff, A Robertson, D Taylor, H Laidlaw, Councillor Angus Macdonald, J Cameron and two members of the public
Apologies: M Gemmill

1. AR welcomed everyone to the meeting. No declarations of interest noted.
2. Corran Ferry. New traffic management scheme starting over the Easter Holidays. HL will be attending the next Corran planning group meeting at the end of this month following collaborative community council response to current [operational challenges](#) . A member of the public stated that in future, community councils MUST be consulted first before changes are made. - this has not been the case to date and HC should not solely use social media as has been the case thus far. Local communities could help Highland Council in planning for this situation. It was felt that the Highland council had not used the local elected bodies for consultation which is a neglect of duty. Meeting discussed things that would help - updating twitter /facebook pages more regularly especially when queues are bad, install temporary webcams(accessed via HC website) at either side of the narrows. It was also felt that police presence is required to ensure those waiting for the ferry are marshalled correctly and ensure cars can turn safely preventing potential chaos and accidents. The risk to life on the A82 in this situation if not managed correctly is high.. Priority should be given to health staff (living either side of the Corran narrows) and patients needing to go for urgent hospital appointments. Morvern residents are encouraged to check Corran Ferry Twitter/facebook page and updated [webpage](https://www.highland.gov.uk/homepage/62/corran_ferry).https://www.highland.gov.uk/homepage/62/corran_ferry

Councillor Macdonald joined the meeting and reported back from Highland Council that suggestions for preferred times for locals, preferential stickers were overturned due to queueing. He reported that marshalling will be delivered through a private security company. MV Corran is awaiting one part and there are no suitable ferries in Scotland that are available at short notice. Cllr Macdonald stated he would go back to ensure that there is police presence certainly at the outset and to feed back our wishes that an experienced private company is commissioned. Cllr Macdonald noted all ideas raised at the meeting to feed back.

- a. Hospital Transport - TF not present to update. Teresa Bolton stated that if patients contact the surgery the number for hospital transport can be passed on.
 - b. Housing - awaiting response from Hugh Raven. To be deferred to the next meeting. MCDC is continuing to pursue plans for new housing.
 - c. School update - no update this month. JC gave an overview of declining School numbers to Cllr Macdonald. Highland Council projected numbers far exceed (estimated to be 15) the local calculated numbers (4/5 in Aug 2024).
3. Primary care update and making of promotional film - AT spoke to NHS Highland Manager today (Acharacle based) and in light of potential interest all agreed to postpone making the film for now. NHS Highland ensured that we would be kept informed. Discussion held about making a film to promote the area, along with its purpose and it was thought that making a film to promote the area and in particular the school might be helpful in the coming months. All agreed to await the outcome of GP recruitment before pursuing a film.
 4. Village Maintenance. Work being led by Tom and Morven. AR updated the meeting on the village maintenance plan. MCDC have agreed to pay for upkeep of land owned by MCDC e.g. Hazel Woods, around hub and pontoon area probably as a separate contract. AR to meet with MCT trustees to explore funding and there is an intention to

write to businesses to sponsor the work. An EOI has been prepared and is due to be issued potentially splitting the village maintenance work into 2 halves for the season, including tidying up trees later in the season. Reflections on strong divergence of opinion locally on cutting and keeping neat verges/road safety/line of sight/capacity of drains to carry water etc versus a pure environmentally sensitive cutting and longer grass were discussed. AR acknowledged these opinions and is seeking to take forward the work with due consideration to points raised. Highland Council has been written to with regard to their own responsibilities and we are awaiting a response. requires following up - **ACTION MG**. Councillors agreed to send out the EOI (which has no grass cutting until June) and fund £1K towards the work and in the short term risk funding £3k pending MCT and business funding.

5. Planning applications - TF
6. MCDC Update - HL updated meeting regarding ongoing recruitment for the marina, new community website is underway.
7. AGM - date set at 12th June. 10th April meeting cancelled due to holiday.
8. Treasurer's Report. See below
9. AR has been in touch with PAS re Local Place plan (action from last meeting) and will report back to next meeting.

MCC Treasurer's report for period		£
Opening Balance at:	06/02/2023	£8,944.37
INCOME		£0.00
EXPENDITURE		£0.00
Closing Balance at:	20/03/2023	£8,944.37

2023 Meeting dates

8th May
 12th June - including AGM
 10th July (possibly no meeting due to summer hols)
 14th Aug
 11th Sept
 9th October
 13th November
 11th December