

16th December 2023

Elphin, Ledmore, Knockan Community Association Limited (ELKCAL) application to buy the Elphin Community Hall from The Highland Council via Community Asset Transfer.

I wish to express my unreserved support for this initiative.

ELKAL have worked hard to use the Hall in the best interests of all who live in their community.

The activities and services delivered in the Hall have become essential elements of infrastructure, supporting individuals, families and businesses in this small, rural community. Those who live in neighbouring areas and visitors to the Highlands have also benefitted from what is offered in Elphin Hall.

These are examples of what has been and is provided in the Hall,

- Weekly Craft Circle
- Toddler Group
- Weekly Craft and Food Markets, during the summer season
- Yoga classes
- Music nights and dances
- in conjunction with the Geopark, a weekend of displays and talks about cave systems in Assynt
- Birthday parties
- Funeral wakes
- Annual celebrations: Christmas, Burns Night, Hogmanay and Chicken Day!
- Music tuition for some of the younger members of our community
- Community Council Meetings
- Polling station for elections

To build on what has already been achieved and to meet the needs of more people, ELKAL would like to make changes to the to the hall layout, heating and facilities.

Ownership of the property was decided to be the best route to progress these positive plans so, in July 2022, the CAT application was made.

I hope that the CAT process will soon move forward, enabling ELKAL to action their plans.

Best regards

REDACTED BY THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

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