

EILEAN A CHEO WARD FORUM

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON: MONDAY 14th MARCH 2016 AT TIGH NA SGIRE, PORTREE

PRESENT: Cllr Drew Millar (Chair); Cllr John Gordon; Cllr Ian Renwick; Willie MacKinnon, Ward Manager; Isobel MacLeod, Skeabost & District CC; Moira Scobbie, Waternish CC; Bill Edgar, Portree & Braes CC; Peter Martin, Uig CC; Judith Wallace, Sconser CC; Christina MacLennan, Struan CC; Simon Gilkes; Staffin CC; Jessie Donaldson, Minginish CC; Inspector Lynda Allan, Police Scotland; John Lyon, Clinical Dental Director NHS Highland; David Livingstone, Highland Council Admin.



APOLOGIES: Cllr Hamish Fraser; Alistair Jupp, Scottish Fire & Rescue Service.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mike Russell, WHFP, Tim Moore, Christine Moore, Mr & Mrs Stewart, Roger Liley Portree & Braes CC, Maureen Webster Minginish CC

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION	LEAD
1	Welcome, introductions & apologies	Cllr Millar as Chair opened the meeting and welcomed those present. Apologies – Please see above	
2	Action Note of Previous Meeting	Action note of last meeting agreed as an accurate record.	
3	Dr John Lyon Clinical Dental Director NHS Highland	Agenda order changed to allow Dr John Lyon to address meeting. Been in post 6 weeks. Present to deliver update on Portree Dental Services and to invite questions. There has been a pressure on recruitment, with one dentist on sick leave and one leaving the area for a permanent contract in Uist. Can only appoint to a one-year fixed term post, due to Scottish Government directive. Fixed term posts recruitment has been tried in Portree without success. Currently there are two locums in place in Portree, with an advert being placed 15 th March in the British Dental Journal. A General Dental Practitioner position is being recruited to improve the skill mix with Dental Therapists and Locums.	

	<p>Government to provide funding, with assurance that there will be a full time SDA grant. Already there have been expressions of interest, with one visiting Portree.</p> <p>Jessie Donaldson, Minginish CC raised points from a letter of complaint she had received from a resident re waiting list for Portree – would she be able to go to Kyle? This would then result in the individual being taken off the Portree list.</p> <p>Letter passed to Dr Lyon.</p> <p>Peter Martin, Uig CC raised query re priority of patients. Children under two years old are given priority, whilst pensioners are not a priority.</p> <p>Dr Lyon confirmed the priority was to treat those two and under, whilst pensioners can choose from a wider range including emergency treatment.</p> <p>Cllr John Gordon - letters issued from NHS Highland regarding patients registering in Kyle were not clear that this would mean them coming off the North Skye register; Dr Lyon agreed that the letter did not make this clear.</p> <p>Dr Lyon re-stated that the target is to set up a full time practice in Portree.</p> <p>Public Questions</p> <p>Christine Moore – Stated that it is the wrong approach to have to complain to be prioritised for treatment and without permanent dental facilities in Portree, a day off work may be required to obtain treatment. She asked how long it would take to get a General Dentist Practitioner in post.</p> <p>Dr Lyon replied that from advert it is usually approximately 6 months before a candidate starts.</p> <p>Tim Moore: Direction seems to have a general practitioner, using tax payers' money and facility.</p> <p>Dr Lyon replied the practitioner will be an NHS committed dental practice, providing 80% NHS work. New dentist would pay rent and practice in Portree.</p> <p>Cllr Millar: Priority is to get a dentist, move is a positive, not a negative. There is also a huge problem attracting professional staff to the area in general.</p> <p>If not successful in attracting a General Dental Practitioner Dr Lyons indicated that re-consideration of permanent contracts may be possible.</p> <p>Peter Martin, Uig CC:</p>	<p>Dr Lyon</p>
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		<p>Questioned the lack of provision of dental hygienist?</p> <p>Dr Lyon: Dental therapist post is currently being advertised – looking for a skills mix.</p>	
4	<p>Police Scotland – Update from Inspector Lynda Allan</p>	<p>Introduction Quiet period over Road safety campaign targeting speeding in Viewfield Road, Portree; Carbost; and Staffin. Traffic Scotland visiting next month to back up. No fatalities, emphasis on educating the public as a regular issue.</p> <p>Drugs Increase in detection of drugs. Constantly putting out appeals for information and awareness. Area doesn't have an issue but encouraging public to pass on any information related to drug crime. For example:- drugs trials at Portree and Plockton High Schools. Recent drug searches carried out with no detections.</p> <p>Rural crimes and dishonesty: Offenders detected and remanded, dealt with robustly by court.</p> <p>Air weapons legislation being introduced: There will be a period of amnesty to hand in weapons and get appropriate certificates. Police will need to licence people to own weapons.</p> <p>Staffing: New operational Chief Superintendent Phillip Macrae. Sergeant transferring to Portree or Kyle. Lost one member (Brian Harper) gone to Traffic in Dingwall. Skye have obtained a probationer (Stephen Turnbull), to go through training. Full staffing levels apart from one Sergeant down. Summer secondments waiting to see if Police Scotland can facilitate.</p> <p>Questions: Peter Martin: What's situation regarding dog 'chipping' Insp LA: It's a Local Authority responsibility, but Police will assist.</p> <p>Cllr Renwick: DVD re Accident / Driving Safety Course at Portree HS – "Driver Ambition" Insp LA: Disappointed no Police presence at Driver Ambition course; however Police committed to be at courses in future.</p> <p>Cllr Gordon: Struggling to stop bad parking, obstructing disabled people's access. Is there anything we can do to help? Insp LA: It is unacceptable to restrict pavements.</p>	

		<p>There were 4 tickets issued on Thursday. It is not always 'visitors' and is an ongoing problem.</p> <p>Cllr Millar: Parking Management – filling the gap in management? 2 secondments in summer? How will it be addressed?</p> <p>Insp LA: Ongoing issue to address.</p>	
	Fire & Rescue	<p>Couldn't attend (Alistair Jupp) See Cllr Miller brief, report received. Report attached.</p>  <p>Ward Forum Briefing Note 14th March.doc</p>	
	Format of Future Ward Forums	<p>Feedback has already been received. Cllr Miller expressed his disappointment with certain comments received. Believing there have always been efforts to encourage community engagement in to the meetings. With items on the agenda always to invite ideas/items for future meetings.</p> <p>Willie MacKinnon: Spoke to the attached briefing note regarding a review of the Ward Forum structure.</p>  <p>Ward Forum Future Structure.docx</p> <p>It was stressed that it is not intended that the council drive the agenda and that CCs do have the opportunity to put forward items to be included.</p> <p>Participatory Budgeting – WM circulated application forms and information flyers for the pilot event Your Island, Your Cash, Your Choice and highlighted this as an opportunity for the public to start to become involved in making decisions on how resources are allocated at a local level.</p> <p>As more delegated powers and resources are allocated to the newly established local Committee for Skye & Raasay, there will be further opportunity for community input into how resources are utilised, for example in relation to Grounds Maintenance Contracts.</p> <p>Peter Martin Believes Ward Forum is an excellent vehicle and we should analyse why people don't or can't attend and in the meantime it should continue as is. A reminder email a week in advance of the</p>	

	<p>Forum would be helpful</p> <p>Moira Scobbie Highland Council should avoid danger of a tone of Community Councils being at fault, which would be wrong. Some members have to use leave from work, miss other events etc. to attend forum Going to be tougher on Community Councils with future cuts. Twice a year for a Ward Forum wouldn't be enough. More of the participatory democracy initiatives would be positive.</p> <p>Bill Edgar Believes current format & mechanics are adequate, whilst it is a struggle to get people's time to attend however. There is also a suggestion that some members are keen to establish a Community Council Association and the Portree & Braes secretary has written to all CC's for their views.</p> <p>Struan CC Have an active community council, possibly leads to tendency of by-passing forum meetings. Meetings worth continuing with, but timing of meetings could be better. Forum needs to keep going, Struan could be more actively involved in using the forum and are happy to be involved in whatever format it takes.</p> <p>Simon Gilkes Was positive about the Forum and its current venue, he felt that getting more information via email would be useful. He stated that it was good to know we can, as community councils, put more influence on the agenda and acknowledges people working is an issue for attendance, therefore timing of the meetings could be considered.</p> <p>Jessie Donaldson The forums are a good opportunity to share experiences and knowledge. Attendance tends to be down because of work commitments – therefore possibly an evening forum.</p> <p>Judith Wallace Community Councils should be able to see the minutes of other meetings being referred to which they don't attend. Communication with the community councils is critical and invitation to submit questions and agenda items is welcome. She raised possibility of online forums for remote attendance and indicated that the Ward Forums are good, and don't want to move to two meetings per year.</p> <p>Judith asked if the Your Island, Your Cash, Your Choice funding is coming out of a separate budget and not ward discretionary budget?</p> <p>WM confirmed that it is a one off funding opportunity through the Scottish Government and any</p>	
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	AOB	<p>Portree & Braes: Is it possible to get information on the grounds maintenance contracts?</p> <p>Peter Martin Is it possible to have BT at the next Ward Forum to update on the roll-out of the broadband programme?</p> <p>Cllr Millar It would be useful to have mobile phone service providers at a future Ward Forum.</p> <p>All Reminders should be sent out before ward forum meetings.</p> <p>Judith Wallace Is there a possibility of increasing parking facilities?</p>	WM
8	Date of next Forum	<p>13th June 2016 12th September 2016 5th December 2016</p> <p>Cllr Millar closed the meeting by expressing his regained belief in the Ward Forum format and the input received. In summary pleased to receive more positive feedback through the meeting.</p>	