Hilton, Milton and Castle Heather Community Council meeting

3 December 2024 - 7pm

Hilton Community Centre

1. Welcome from Chair

Present:

Sarah Walker – Chair

Lorraine Cran – Vice Chair

Jessie Maclennan - Treasurer

Liberty Lloyd – Secretary

Cllr Jackie Hendry

Cllr Ian Brown

Cllr Michael Gregson

Tracy Ross, Chris Turner, Aaron Taylor, Susan, Paula Lloyd, John.

1. Apologies

Apologies received from Isabelle Mackenzie

1. Matters Arising

* Vote: Aaron Taylor MacInnes has been nominated to be co-opted onto the Community Council.
  + Aaron Taylor introduced himself to everyone.
  + Majority voted to co-opt Aaron onto the community council.
  + Sarah Walker is going to update the Highland Council with Aaron’s contacts.
* Donation to Hilton Primary School/Parent Council for new sound system.
  + Donation of £4000 was agreed upon via email after the last meeting. The donation has been made to Hilton Primary.
* Playparks
  + Lynn Macgillivary met Sarah Walker and Aaron Taylor to walk around different parks in the Hilton, Milton and Castle Heather areas to see where improvement is required and where there is potential for development.
  + New council policy says that 10% of funding needs to be reserved for playpark maintenance. Further investigation and clarification required regarding this policy.
* Castle Heather Park: Duck pond group
  + Winter gardening list has been approved by The Highland Council.
  + There is a drop in session at Castle Heather Park on 12 December, with John Orr, HLH Ranger.
* Community engagement
  + Sarah Walker has been looking at how we could encourage more of the community to come to our meetings. There are several different organisations we could approach.
  + Sarah Walker has attended several recent local events and has been engaging with different organisations who would be interested in coming to some of our future meetings.
  + Sarah Walker gave everyone at the meeting the opportunity to answer some questions she had come up with regarding play areas in our area. These same questions were asked at some of the events Sarah attended recently. Sarah is also going to look into having this put on to a Microsoft Form which can be shared on our Facebook and Website.
* Edington Road
  + Query from a member of the community regarding responsibility for land and footpaths was responded to by Ian Brown, he is going to visit the area to see what could potentially be done and raised with the Highland Council.

1. Correspondence

* No Police report has been received.

1. Treasurer’s report

* Hilton, Milton and Castle Heather Community Council balance stands at £18,270.79
* Several suggestions were made regarding donations to local organisations. Further discussion is required for this.

1. Councillor’s reports

* Jackie Hendry
  + Inverness Wheeled Sports Club is going to be hosting skateboarding sessions in the space beneath the community centre. Once more information is available it will be shared on our Facebook page. The Highlife Highland Youth Development Officer will be organising some events to take place at the same time.
  + A man took a fall on a path near Balloan Park shops. The Highland Council confirmed this is not a path they are responsible for, RJ Dunne property consultancy have confirmed that it is the resident’s association’s responsibility to maintain the footpath. Chair of Castle Heather resident’s association denies responsibility for this area. Jackie Hendry is going to look into this further.
* Ian Brown
  + The gritters have been out gritting the roads and the roads and paths have been cleared on specific routes
  + A road sweeper has been out recently cleaning up the roads.
  + Anti-Social behaviour on Friday afternoons in the town centre still an issue. Judy Hill from Police Scotland is aware of the issue and is looking at ways to better the situation.
  + There will not be a Hogmanay event this year.
* Michael Gregson
  + Speeding is still a problem, Police Scotland are going to continue to monitor this.
* Isabell Mackenzie (via email)
  + Waste bins are still causing some problems on certain streets, the waste department have confirmed that waste bins left out on paths is not something they can control.
  + Shopmobility Highland have lost their main funding from NHS Highland for next year. This is going to cause problems for the charity in Inverness and Dingwall as they are a lifeline to some.
  + Highland Senior Citizen Network Group are looking to coordinate a Winter Warm Spaces initiative with Inverness Riverside Rotary, Citizens Advice Bureau and Inverness BID to raise awareness of where folk can go. This will help with social isolation, lonliness and wellbeing.

1. AOCB

* Culduthel Christian Centre have Listening Ear sessions at a Hilton drop-in. Listening ear is run at Hilton Church which consists of 1:1 sessions with trained listeners.
* Dog waste is still an issue, This can be reported to the police via 101 or email with description of person and animal to report.
* A member raised an issue with commercial work vans parking in small residential car park just off Balloan Road for Morvich Way residents, Ian Brown said that he could look into this.
* Sarah shared a letter received by THC about the Visitor Levy consultation. More information can be found here: [www.highland.gov.uk/visitorlevyconsultation](https://www.highland.gov.uk/visitorlevyconsultation)
* Police Scotland are holding a session for awareness of County Lines. This is on Tuesday 28 January 2025 at Police HQ 10am-3pm. Email [laura.fisher@scotland.police.uk](mailto:laura.fisher@scotland.police.uk) to book your space.
* Citizens Advice Bureau are offering a free presentation for energy support and advice.
* There are several organisations/charities that can assist with energy costs over the winter period. ALI Energy and Home Energy Highland were both suggested.

1. Date and time of next meeting

Tuesday 4 February 2025 – 7pm at Hilton Community Centre.