**Wester Loch Ewe Community Council (WLECC)**

Summary of ordinary meeting held at 7.30pm on 4 June 2025 in Poolewe Village Hall.

1. Matters Arising From Previous Meeting.

1.1 Pictish Stone protection and Red Smiddy interpretive facility. We are looking for a qualified stone conservator to cost the Pictish Stone work. We have submitted drawings and a detailed location map to Historic Environment Scotland for the Red Smiddy project and we have cut a path through the bracken to give easier access to the furnace area.

1.2 Deer management update. NatureScot are due to visit the area again shortly and we will be meeting them to discuss their plans to progress the matter.
1.3 Poolewe football field. We have taken delivery of the equipment we ordered to improve the facility and make it more suitable for younger children.

1.4 Westerbus timetable. We have had a response from Highland Council explaining how the current timetable was arrived at. We will consider this and ask for changes, if possible, in order to enable a connection with the bus from Ullapool at Braemore junction.

2. Roads. We received a consultation document on 21st May from the Highland Council Road Safety Team about a proposed change to the 40mph zone in Poolewe. The proposal bears no resemblance to the changes we have requested, and indeed contradicts a message we received from the Roads Operations Manager on 1st May which indicated they are drawing up a Traffic Regulation Order based on our request for changes to the speed limits. We are trying to find out what the actual position is.

3. EV Chargers. At the time of our meeting both chargers in Poolewe were faulty and awaiting repair which was scheduled for two weeks time. Highland Council have announced that they have put in place a new contract for the installation and repair of EV chargers and this is intended to give an improved response time for future faults.

4. Poolewe toilets. We were pleased to see that Wester Loch Ewe Trust have re-opened the toilets with a team of volunteers. We intend to contribute to the insurance costs when WLET inform us it is up for renewal.

5. Wester Loch Ewe helipad and land acquisition. After a competitive bid process Communities Housing Trust (CHT) has been chosen as WLET’s partner to progress the affordable housing and other projects (excluding the helipad which will be built by the H.E.L.P. charity) if the funding bid is successful. After our meeting, WLET confirmed they had been successful in their Stage 1 Scottish Land Fund bid and were starting work with CHT on the Stage 2 bid.

6. We were pleased to welcome our new Access Ranger Darren Boa to the meeting. We look forward

to working with Darren on camping, parking, dog fouling and other issues.*A copy of the full draft minutes can be obtained by contacting the secretary on wleccsec@gmail.com or*

*07967 115316*