

AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTE 2 of a MEETING of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH HALL, AVIEMORE on THURSDAY 9th FEBRUARY 2012 at 7.30pm.

Present: John Grierson, Bill, Lorna McGibbon, Ron Whyte, Alastair Dargie, Neil McNair, Audrey MacKenzie, Julian Orsi (visitor), Mike Langran (visitor), Bill Bailey (visitor), Ian Malcolm (ABA), Keiran Turner (visitor), Joe Kirby (visitor) Tom Ramage (press), Kirsty Bruce (minuter)

Apologies: Bill Lobban, Willie McKenna

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of AVCC held on 12th January 2012, which had been previously circulated were **proposed by Alastair Dargie and seconded by Ron Whyte.**

2. TREASURER'S REPORT

Lorna McGibbon confirmed that she was now in receipt of a cheque book etc in respect of the new Royal Bank of Scotland account which held a balance of £1,000. Mr Neil McNair confirmed that balance of the Banks of Scotland account as £8,400. The total funds of AVCC were £9,400. It was unanimously agreed to transfer £8,000 from the BOS account to the new main operating account with RBS.

3. BUSINESS

a). MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- i) **Water Feature and Information Sign** – Still with Richard Porteous. **Remitted to JG to follow up.**
- ii) **Olympic Flame** – No update available.
- iii) **Silverglades Road Flooding** – John Grierson advised that he had requested that repairs be made to the soak away.
- iv) **Aviemore Youth Club** – Aviemore Youth Club was now open.
- v) **Provision of Child Day Care Services** – It was now known that the contract had been awarded to Aviemore Community Children's Group. John Grierson did write to Highland Council for clarification of the selection process etc and had to-date still not received an acknowledgement or a reply to the questions asked. **Remitted to JG to ask Dave Fallows to follow up.**
- vi) **Flooding on Speyside Way** – A site meeting had been held by Alan Munro, CNPA and Andrew Norval. It was agreed that work needed to be carried out to assist the draining and to raise the existing pathway under the bridge.
- vii) **Street Lighting opposite Myrtlefield Shopping Centre** – Passed to Richard Porteous to arrange repair. The lights are working now.
- viii) **Dalfaber Flooding** – Passed to Richard Porteous to arrange repair.
- ix) **Disabled Parking** – JG had spoken to the new Inspector at Aviemore and he is to look into this situation.

- x) **Dalfaber Neighbourhood Signage** – The issue of signage had been discussed with Bruce Loughman. **JG to deal with.**
- xi) **New Bus Timetable** The new timetable should have been displayed at bus stops from Wednesday 8th February. Concerns were raised with regards to the Grantown on Spey bus not waiting for the arrival of the Aviemore bus into Carrbridge and passengers wishing to continue to Inverness were left stranded. **Remitted to JG to speak to Bus Company.**
- xii) **Fence at Craigellachie Nature Reserve** - - John Grierson advised that the had emailed to Scottish Water however no reply has yet been received.
- xiii) **Flooding at orbital path in Milton Wood** – John Grierson advised that he had visited the area of concern at the under-road cattle pass with Bruce Loughman. Bruce Loughman is to follow this up with Tullochs, the contractors of new housing development.

b). NEW BUSINESS

- i) **MAHR and HighLife** – The issue with regards to MAHR withdrawing from the Highland HighLife Scheme was discussed. John Grierson advised those present that the Community Council would be attending a meeting towards the end of February with MAHR, Highland Council, HighLife, he said that this meeting would be chaired by Dave Thompson, MSP. John Grierson stated that they would like to hear from all parties concerned as he did feel that the whole story was not being told. He advised the local SOS campaign to stay calm and to endeavour to find out the MAHR side of the story.

Mr Grierson stated that given the current situation, he did have concerns about HighLife managing the community aspect of the new school. He further added that Aviemore has no public facilities other than public toilets and felt, as did the community council of many years past that Aviemore, had been badly dealt with by Highland Council with regards to public facilities and this situation has continued. He added that he felt that Highland Council should be accepting some culpability for the current situation.

Alistair Dargie stated he felt that Highland Council had always relied on the commercial sector to provide facilities within Aviemore and this has been a real factor in the current situation faced by the village. Alistair Dargie asked, in long term should the community be more involved in developing community-based facilities on community-based land. He said further, that he did support the community project to build an ice rink. However this was earmarked to be built on land adjacent to a swimming pool that locals were priced out of and the ice rink project was potentially an investment of £17m within a commercial entities land. He did believe that although this project would be community owned it is still an investment within MAHR's resort. He felt that the two things did not sit well politically.

Much discussion took place with regards to MAHR's plans to over £28 per month swimming, versus HighLife and the possibility of needing a membership for the sports centre project and Mike Langran did express his concern over lack of inclusivity for all members of the community of access leisure facilities.

John Grierson stated that he believed Aviemore badly needed direct local representation within Highland Council and at present the village relied on a Councillor from Newtonmore.

- ii) **Aviemore Public Toilets** - Discussion took place with regards to reduced manning hours for public toilets. Bill Bailey stated that the toilets in Aviemore were particular busy from March on a daily basis and if the suggested one man hour of supervision was given in every 4 hours the toilets would be disgrace and unhygienic. Ian Malcolm advised that the Aviemore Business Association would write to Highland Council stating Aviemore public toilets should be treated as a special case. Ron Whyte suggested that the Community Council write to along the same lines to CNPA. **Remitted to JG**

- iii) **Licensing for Public Entertainment** – John Grierson advised that Highland Council are from 1st April 2012 making changes to entertainment licences. He advised that many groups and events would now have to apply for such an entertainment licence and fees would be applied depending on the event. Much discussion took place with regards to how this would affect fundraising for many small groups and community organisations. **It was remitted to JG to write to Highland Council and CNPA complain.**
- iv) **Trading Standards Door Step Crime** - John Grierson read a letter that had been received from Trading Standards with regards to Door Step Crime . **It was remitted to JG to reply.**
- v) **Aviemore Sports Centre Funding Request** – John Grierson advised that he received a copy of the breakdown costs in respect of the community engagement day planned by ASC. It was unanimously agreed to support this event to the cost of £200.
- vi) **Achantoul Pond** – John Grierson passed around the Meeting landscape plans for the Achantoul Pond. These were well received and it was unanimously agreed to advise Jim Cornfoot the designer to go ahead. **It was remitted to JG to contact Jim Cornfoot**
- vii) **Aviemore Interchange Improvement** – John Grierson passed around the Meeting details of proposed improvements/repairs to the Aviemore Interchange. Discussion took place with regards to issues with parking at the estate agents and newsagents. Other points raised were damage to kerbing, kerbing being too high at south junction and this causing flooding, capacity of bins at Interchange and moving the sign. **It was remitted to JG to reply with the points that had been raised.**
- viii) **Community Council Training** - John Grierson advised that training for Community Council's was being planned for some time in March. He would give further details as they were received.

4. AOCB

- a). **ST. VINCENTS** – John Grierson advised that he had received an email from Val Emmet of Kingussie Community Council. AVCC had been invited to attend a meeting on 12th March 2012 at 7pm in Talla nan Ross to meet with MSP, Dave Thompson with regards to St. Vincent's. **JG to issue reminder nearer the time.**
- b). **WEBSITE** – John Grierson advised that this has now been migrated and is being rebuilt by Fergus Thom of Wee Epics based in Carrbridge.
- c). **DALFABER NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE** – Lorna McGibbon advised that a section of road near the new Dalfaber Neighbourhood Centre, was in poor state, with many pot holes within a section of road at first traffic calming area. **Remitted to JG to pass to TEC Services.**
- d). **AVIEMORE BUS STOPS** – Alastair Dargie advised that he had been asked to raise concerns over the state of bus stops within the village. **It was remitted to JG to write to Highland Council to complain about the poor state of repair of bus stops with the village.**
- e). **WELCOME SIGN** – Ian Malcolm asked whether any progress had been made with regards to the welcome sign for the north end of Aviemore. **Remitted to JG to write to Andrew Tait.**
- f). **BUSINESS IN PRIVATE: AVIEMORE COMMUNITY COMPANY** – John Grierson advised those members of the public present that this item was to be treated as “business in private”. He thanked all visitors for attending and on their departure he advised the Community Council that correspondence had been received from the Aviemore Community Company with regards to a utility invoice for the Aviemore Village Hall. Some debate took place with regards to this and it was agreed in principle that AVCC could, if necessary, donate funds for the shortfall. **It was remitted to John Grierson to contact John Rainey-Brown to investigate situation further.**

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting of AVCC was set for Thursday 8th March 2012 at 7.30pm to be held in St. Andrews Church Hall.