

AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTE 4 of a MEETING of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH HALL, AVIEMORE on THURSDAY 12th APRIL 2012 at 7.30pm.

Present: John Grierson, Bil Lobban, Lorna McGibbon, Ron Whyte, Alastair Dargie, Neil McNair, Audrey MacKenzie, Willie McKenna (CPNA) Tom Ramage (press), Kirsty Bruce (minuter)

In Attendance: Rod Webster, Joanne & Ian Fowler, Joe Kirby, Alan Cairns (Kincraig CC) John Anderson (Kincraig CC), Laura Hansler Ross

Apologies: None given

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of AVCC held on 8th March 2012, which had been previously circulated were **proposed by Bill Lobban** and **seconded by Alistair Dargie**.

2. TREASURER'S REPORT

Lorna McGibbon advised that the balance in the main RBS account was £8231.90. John Grierson further stated that the balance of the BOS account was due to be transferred to the RBS account and the account with Bank of Scotland be closed.

3. BUSINESS

a). MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- i) **Olympic Flame** – John Grierson reported on a recently held meeting between all area community councils with regards to celebrating the Olympic Flame. It had been agreed that all local school children be bussed into Aviemore to watch the Olympic flame relay and then participate in a mini Olympics to be held on the Four Seasons lawn. He further added that ABA are planning to provide evening entertainment on the Village Green with live music etc.
- ii) **Silverglades Road Flooding** – Lorna McGibbon stated that flooding was still an issue at this site and John Grierson advised that Richard Porteous (TEC Highland Council) was aware of this and would be dealing with the flooding.
- iii) **Wildflower Planting** – John Grierson advised that he had a discussion with regards to the suggestion of wildflower planting by Audrey Mackenzie. JG explained that Richard Porteous had stated that he was interested in this idea. JG said that there is a similar project being run in Edinburgh. Whilst this was not something that could be planned for this year, perhaps funding could be found for next year.
- iv) **Dalfaber Neighbourhood Signage** – The sign was now on site.

b). NEW BUSINESS

- i) **Forestry Commission Car Park Charges** – John Grierson invited Rod Webster to address the meeting with his concerns over car parking charges by Forestry Commission at car parks through out the local area. Mr Webster stated one of his main concerns was that although Scotland has good access laws, these could be hijacked by landowners following Forestry

Commission lead with car parking charges. He was also aggrieved that no consultation had been carried out with the community as to these charges and “it is not apparent what you are getting, for this charge”. During this time John Anderson of Kincaig Community Council reported that Forestry Commission had not consulted with either Kincaig Community Council or the Trustees of the Frank Bruce Sculpture Trail with regards to car parking charges. Much discussion took place with regards to these car parking charges and at times discussions were heated.

It was remitted to John Grierson to write to the Forestry Commission and request that these charges be postponed until community consultation had taken place, as has happened in other areas such as Glen Affric and The Black Isle.

- ii) **Scottish Water** – Bill Lobban stated that complaints about the water supply were not being taken seriously by Scottish Water and that Scottish Water were stating that they had in fact only received a small number of complaints. Much discussion took place with regards to the problems such as chlorine smell and taste, kettles popping, skin irritations etc. Joe Kirby then asked for volunteers for a taste test, with two samples of water. Bill Lobban stated there was a definite aftertaste to sample B, which was tap water.

John Grierson advised the meeting and in particular the POW Campaign that people really need to make a complaint direct to Scottish Water for it to be recorded as complaint. He encouraged all those who had a complaint to either write to telephone Scottish Water. Discussion also took place with regards to the scepticism over Scottish Water’s planned drop in session to be held on May 9th at the Cairngorm Hotel. John Grierson stated that this meeting with public should be happening now, as it is a problem now and should be sorted now. Again John Grierson advised the organisers of POW to try and organise a large number of people at this event at the same time, rather than in 1-2s that could be easily “staged managed”.

Bill Lobban proposed that should the Community Council be invited to the official opening of the new water treatment works, this invitation should be declined. Ron Whyte seconded this proposal. It was remitted to JG to write to Scottish Water.

- iii) **MAHR** - John Grierson informed the meeting that he and Bill Lobban along with a representative of the SOS campaign had met with Simon Jackson and Gordon Fraser of MAHR. MAHR advised that negotiations were continuing with Highland Council with regards to Highlife. MAHR had specifically requested for confidentiality with regards to this meeting. John Grierson stated he was very disappointed with the SOS campaign because despite this request from MAHR the details of this meeting were posted on a Facebook page. **John Grierson proposed that SOS should not be included in any meeting the Community Council has with MAHR in the future, as trust had been broken. Neil MacNair seconded this proposal.**
- iv) **Road Maintenance** - John Grierson stated that Richard Porteous had asked for details of any areas of road maintenance that were of concern. This was discussed and a small list of problems was noted. **It was remitted to JG to reply to Richard Porteous and to write to Northern Constabulary with road safety concerns.**
- v) **Finance Cheques** – John Grierson informed the Community Council of a problem he had encountered with regards to using a cheque at a local supplier who no longer accepts cheques. Remitted to JG to write to Highland Council Finance Department for advice with regards to the issue of cheques no longer being accepted.
- vi) **Planning Matters** – John Grierson updated the Community Council with regards to the circulation of planning matters. **Remitted to all, to email JG as soon as they have any comments with regards to any planning matters.**
- vii) **Dog Fouling** – Discussion took place with regards to problem of dog fouling, especially on the Aviemore Orbital. This problem was being exacerbated by the lack of dog litter bins and the problem that the bins were not being emptied on a regular basis. **It was remitted to JG to**

write to Highland Council's Dog Warden and Northern Constabulary with regards to this problem.

- viii) **Floral Display** - John Grierson informed the Community Council that ABA was having difficulty in raising the funds for this year's floral display. After discussion it was **agreed by all** that a **donation of £500** be made toward the floral display fund.
- ix) **CRAGG** – John Grierson advised that no notification of the meeting date and agenda had been received for the recently held CRAGG meeting. He advised that a complaint will be raised on behalf of Aviemore Community Council at the next meeting of CRAGG.
- x) **Welcome to Aviemore Sign** – John Grierson advised that the sign was back in the depot and ready to be repainted.

4. AOCB

- a). **Bus Shelters** – Neil McNair stated that there were still concerns with regards to vandalism of bus shelters. At the Burnside stops there was an easy supply of stones that are being used to cause damage to shelters. **Remitted to JG to discuss with Richard Porteous.**
- b). **Craigellachie Reserve** – **Remitted to JG** to reply to SNH with regards to proposals.
- c). **Allt Duine Windfarm** – Aviemore Community Council had been invited to send a representative(s) along to the next meeting of Kincaig Community Council to be held on 17th April 2012. **Remitted to JG and BL to attend.**
- d). **Traffic Warden** – Discussion took place with regards to the absence of a Traffic Warden within Badenoch and Strathspey. **It was remitted to JG to write to Chief Inspector Macleod of Northern Constabulary with concerns.**

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting of AVCC was set for Thursday 10th May 2012 at 7.30pm to be held in St. Andrews Church Hall.