

# AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**MINUTE of a MEETING of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH HALL, AVIEMORE on THURSDAY 11<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2012 at 7.15pm.**

**Present:** John Grierson, Lorna McGibbon, Audrey MacKenzie, Yvonne Birnie, Karen Lawrie, Kathleen Cameron, Willie McKenna, Tom Ramage (press)

**In Attendance:** Catherine Vis-Christie

**Apologies:** Cllr Bill Lobban, Ron Whyte, Mark Allan, Alistair Dargie, Ray Sefton, Kirsty Bruce

## **1. PRESENTATION BY CATHERINE VIS-CHRISTIE - FUTURESAPES**

The Chairman introduced Catherine Vis-Christie of the RSPB who spoke about the RSPB Futurescapes project. Catherine explained that Futurescapes is the RSPB's contribution to landscape-scale conservation. The project aims to bring about partnerships with other environmental groups, communities, private sector and government agencies to help develop a shared vision for a countryside fit for people and wildlife. The countryside is already used for a range of activities such as agriculture, forestry, recreation and housing. The project is not just about wildlife. The landscape scale approach will improve other natural processes such as carbon storage, water management and recreational uses. One of the areas included in the project is the Spey Valley. Breeding waders have decreased considerably over the last few years and part of the project is to work with landowners and farmers to identify the reasons for the decline and put in place a strategy to address the decline.

## **2. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Lorna McGibbon advised that the balance as at 10<sup>th</sup> October was £6537.86 with £2000 being ring-fenced for the countryside park project and that the reconciled balance to-date was £6439.50. She stated that the balance on the statue account was £2009.53. She further advised that that she had received a BACS statement showing funds received from Highland Council for the amount of £1881.22 which was £366.92 less than the previous year.

## **3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The Minutes of AVCC held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2012, had been previously circulated. It was pointed out by Lorna McGibbon and Yvonne Birnie that there was a mistake in the numbering of the items. Acceptance of the minutes with the error rectified were **proposed by Karen Lawrie and seconded by John Grierson**. All agreed.

## **4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2012**

- a) **CNPA Development Plan Settlement Maps** – John Grierson advised that he replied to CNPA with the agreed comments.
- b) **Community Empowerment and Renewable Bill** - John Grierson advised that this had been completed and returned.

- c) **Charges For Use of New Community Centre** – John Grierson advised that the Community Council have been offered use of the facilities at favourable terms and it was **proposed by John Grierson that future meetings be held at the Centre, this was seconded by Yvonne Birnie.** Unanimously agreed.
- d) **Gateway to Aviemore** – John Grierson advised this was outstanding as he had not been able to contact Simon Jackson of MAHR and had not yet spoken to Mr Grant. He will endeavour to see them as soon as possible.
- e) **Old Bridge Inn** – John Grierson advised this was outstanding and suggested, as it was Audrey Mackenzie that had brought it to the Council's attention and that she lived nearby, that Audrey could speak to the owners. Audrey agreed to speak to the owners. **Remitted to Audrey Mackenzie.**

## 5. BUSINESS

- a) **Proposed High Burnside to Craigellachie Path** – This item was discussed at some length and after that discussion it was **proposed by Karen Lawrie and seconded by Kate Cameron** that the Community Council support Reidhaven Estate, maintain its opposition to the core path and withdraw our support. There were no counter proposals. Unanimously agreed. **John Grierson to write to CNPA and Reidhaven Estate.**
- b) **Play Areas** – Some discussion took place with regards to play parks within the village and the need for play areas for older children. **It was remitted to Kate Cameron to contact Haley Brown to obtain further information on this subject to allow AVCC to look further into this.**
- c) **Planning Application 12/03541/FUL: Burnside Farm Demolition of Old Garage and Erection of Indoor Swimming Pool Extension with Balcony** – After discussion it was agreed that AVCC was remain neutral with regards to this application. **Proposed by John Grierson, seconded by Karen Lawrie.** All agreed.
- d) **Planning Application 12/01725/ALT: Glenmore Lodge East Wing Ground Floor Change of Use from Staff to Guest Accommodation** – After discussion it was agreed that AVCC was remain neutral with regards to this application. **Proposed by John Grierson, seconded by Karen Lawrie.** All agreed.
- e) **Planning Application 12/03766/FUL: Land 50m East of Beinn Ghuilbinn, Dalfaber Drive, Aviemore, Erection of 12 Lodges (revised application ref 12/1815/FUL)** – This item was discussed at length and it was agreed by all that AVCC should maintain their objections as per the previous application. **Proposed by John Grierson, seconded by Karen Lawrie.**
- f) **Drainage in Burnside** – Kate Cameron advised that all areas of Burnside are badly affected by poor drainage and flooding. Other areas identified with problems were:-
  - flooding at Dalfaber Golf and Country Club at the bus stop;
  - flooding at the Ist Island on Dalnabay;
  - flooding on Grampian Road opposite southbound bus stop at Burnside;
  - flooding on pavement at Myrtlefield;
  - flooding at Delmhor, Inverdrue;
  - flooding opposite the Visitor Centre, Inverdrue;
  - white lines on cycle path at The Tennis Club, Inverdrue are degraded;
  - road surface on Dalfaber Road is badly affected by potholes;
  - the signs for the old Service Point and Primary School are still in place.**John Grierson is to write to Highland Council (Richard Porteous)**

- g) Overgrown Footpath** – Kate Cameron advised that the path between the Technology Park and Burnside was badly overgrown, particularly just through the tunnel heading into Burnside. **It was remitted to John Grierson to pass this to Highland Council (Richard Porteous)**

## **6. AOCB**

- a) Christmas Tree Lights** – Yvonne Birnie asked AVCC to arrange with Highland Council for the lighting of the Christmas Trees at usually sited at Rothiemurchus, Coylumbridge and Glenmore. **It was remitted to John Grierson to contact Highland Council.**
- b) Christmas Carol Service and Local Christmas Craft Fair** – Kathleen Cameron enquired about the possibility of having a Local Christmas Craft Fair alongside the Christmas Carol Service on 8<sup>th</sup> December and perhaps charge or ask for a donation from stall holders. John Grierson thought it was time to look at maybe changing the policy with regards to the use of the green. **It was remitted to John Grierson to investigate further.**
- c) Bridge Repair** – John Grierson advised that the bridge at the islands on the river was scheduled for repair from 20<sup>th</sup> October and that funding for the timber had been made available from CNPA.
- d) Glenmore Parking** – John Grierson advised that at the last CRAGG Meeting he attended, he raised a concern from residents of Glenmore with regards to parking. He advised CRAGG that AVCC would try to arrange a meeting between AVCC, Highland Council and Forestry Commission to discuss what could be done. Yvonne Birnie advised she could possibly be available dependant on date and time of the proposed meeting.

## **7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting of AVCC was set for Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at 7.30pm to be held in The Aviemore Community Centre.