

AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTE of a MEETING of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in AVIEMORE COMMUNITY CENTRE, on THURSDAY 13th DECEMBER 2012 at 7.30pm.

Present: John Grierson, Alistair Dargie, Ray Sefton, Rev. Ron Whyte, Lorna McGibbon, Audrey MacKenzie, Karen Lawrie, Kathleen Cameron, Cllr Bill Lobban, Willie McKenna (CNPA), PS Kevin MacLeod (Northern Constabulary), Tom Ramage (Press)

In Attendance: Andrew MacCracken (HC), Joe Kirby (public)

Apologies: Yvonne Birnie

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

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

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 11TH OCTOBER 2012

- a) **Proposed High Burnside to Craigellachie Path** – John Grierson advised that he had circulated an email and that he would report back after the action points had been carried out.
- b) **Play Areas (Robertsons)** – John Grierson advised that he would report back after he was able ascertain the owners of the land within the Roberston's area of Aviemore.
- c) **Drainage in Burnside and other areas** – John Grierson advised that he had seen some repairs had been carried out, however the within the Dalfaber area is was more problematic due to difficulties with a soakaway. He had advised that he had spoken to Sean Finnie at TEC Services.
- d) **Bridge Repair** – John Grierson advised that some bridge repairs had been carried out and the bridge was now useable although it was not for all abilities. He added that the Royal Engineers would be back in the New Year to carry out further works.
- e) **Affordable Housing Consultation** – John Grierson advised that Highland Small Communities Trust had asked the Community Council if they were happy for the trust to progress the affordable housing consultation process. It was agreed that the trust was best suited to carrying out the consultation and input from the community council was not required.
- f) **Village Green Licence** – John Grierson advised that AVCC had applied for funding from the discretionary fund for this licence application and that this had been approved in principle for the next financial year.
- g) **Cemetery Paths** – John Grierson advised that he had written to the Ward Manager at Highland Council. As a matter of courtesy he had also written to the Secretary of Boat of Garten Community Council.
- h) **Road Markings** – John Grierson advised that these works had now been carried out.

- i) **Tree Plantings** – John Grierson advised that 250 trees had now been planted, however the canes supporting these new plantings were being removed. He has replacement canes.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Lorna McGibbon advised that the balance held on account at 12 December, 2012 was £6069.86. She further added that with cheques received to the value of £450 would bring the balance to £6519.86, to which there were 4 un-presented cheques and cheques issued tonight the balance on account would be £5958.65. Lorna McGibbon also advised that the balance on the statue account was £2009.57.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a) **Allotments** – Andrew McCracken of Highland Council gave a comprehensive background with regards to Highland Council policy and communities wishes and needs for allotments. He summarised how allotments were being run within the Kingussie and Grantown area and some discussion took place as to how and where such allotments could be operated within the Aviemore area. It was agreed that that Aviemore Community Company would look at this idea and would report back at a later date. Andrew McCracken then left the meeting at 8.10pm.
- b) **Police Report** – PC Kevin MacLeod gave a summary to latest Policing Report that had been previously circulated. He stated that there were no major trends to report. He further added that there will be a higher visibility of Policing during the Christmas and New Year Period.
- c) **Olympic Plaques** – Discussion took place with regards to the updating of the plaque for the Olympic statue. Audrey Mackenzie advised that she had spoken to Dudley Evans and gave some detail of the costs involved. It was agreed that sometime should be spent on investigating on how to keep the statue and plaque future-proof without inhibitive costs. It was agreed that Alastair Dargie, and Audrey Mackenzie would continue to progress this investigation of costs etc.
- d) **Health Development Group** – John Grierson advised that the Badenoch and Strathspey Development Group would be carrying out a consultation which should encompass everybody in Badenoch and strathspey. The Group will be looking for assistance from Community Councils.
- e) **Christmas Eve Parade** – Ray Sefton advised that the Christmas Eve Parade would be going ahead as planned and anyone wishing to volunteer for Marshall duty should contact him.
- f) **Community Centre Charges** – Cllr Bill Lobban stated that there was a lot of talk about the cost of hiring the facilities at Aviemore Community Centre and there was some unfounded controversy over the cost of the new facilities. He stated that for organisations based in Aviemore and Vicinity the playing field was free, the flood lighting was free and the use of the changing facilities was free. He added that the hall is free for school activities until 5.45pm and the children's group get the use of the small hall for free. He also advised that there were various discounts and concessions available. He stated that the only difficulty was on a Saturday as the facility closes at 4pm and overtime rates would be required to be paid to staff. He said that there had been huge amount of moaning and groaning about the cost of this fantastic new facility but its not as expensive as some are claiming. He advised anyone wishing to hire/use the facilities to go and speak to the Centre Manager and to ask about discounts and concessions.
- g) **Water Consultation** – John Grierson advised that Scottish Water would be carrying out a consultation with regards to water services.

- h) Bus Timetables and Shelters** – Ray Sefton advised that Highland Council had now put up updated bus timetables however no mention was made to schedule during the Christmas/New Year holiday period. Ray Sefton again mentioned the need for bus shelters at Rothiemurchus and Glenmore/Cairngorm area. After discussion it was agreed that AVCC should write to Highland Council with a request for bus shelters at said locations and with a preference for bus shelters that would be a better fit to the environment. Proposed by Ray Sefton and seconded by Kathleen Cameron.
- i) Dog Bins** – Discussion took place with regards to the very real problem of dog mess within Aviemore and on surrounding pathways. AVCC was in agreement that the problem lay with selfish dog owners who did not take the responsibility to pick up their dog mess and dispose of correctly within a dog bin. It was agreed that the number of dog bins could be increased and that a request for new dog bins should be made to Highland Council.
- j) Noticeboard** – Alastair Dargie advised that owners of the local Costcutter store would be happy to site a community noticeboard and to manage the key. Alastair Dargie agreed that if AVCC could obtain the noticeboard at the old school he would make arrangements for the noticeboard to be removed and be prepared for siting at a new location. John Grierson is to contact Highland Council about the noticeboard.
- k) Post Box** - John Grierson advised that he had received a request/query as to the siting of a post box in the Dalfaber Neighbourhood development. He advised that he would make enquiries with Royal Mail.

5. AOCB

- a) Remembrance Sunday** – Audrey MacKenzie stated she was aghast that the local newspaper had no photo of the Aviemore Remembrance Sunday ceremony. She stated that photographs from many other villages in the area were included within the newspaper. Ray Sefton and Cllr Bill Lobban reminded Mrs MacKenzie that this was actually an event organised by The Royal British Legion.
- b) Osprey Grange Land Sales** – Lorna McGibbon stated she had been asked to bring to the attention of AVCC and article in this week's Badenoch and Strathspey Herald with regards to Land Sales at Osprey Grange area of Aviemore.
- c) Christmas Carol Event** - Cllr Bill Lobban congratulated and thanked those involved with the recently held Christmas Carol event, which he stated had been well attended . Ray Sefton also expressed thanks to Lorna McGibbon and Cllr Bill Lobban for giving their time for the early morning set-up and take down of equipment etc.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting of AVCC was set for Thursday 10th January 2013 at 7.30pm to be held in The Aviemore Community Centre.