

# AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## MINUTE of a MEETING of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in AVIEMORE COMMUNITY CENTRE, on THURSDAY 11<sup>th</sup> April 2013 at 7.30pm.

**Present:** John Grierson (Chair), Ray Sefton (Secretary), Rev. Ron Whyte, Cllr Bill Lobban, Willie McKenna (CNPA), Audrey MacKenzie, Yvonne Birnie, Kathleen Cameron, Mr and Mrs Wallace (public), Tom Ramage (Press)

**Apologies:** Lorna McGibbon (Treasurer), Alistair Dargie

### 1. OPENING REMARKS

John Grierson welcomed all present and said it was always nice to members of the public come along.

### 2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of AVCC held on 14th March 2013, which had been previously circulated were **proposed by Ray Sefton and seconded by Kathleen Cameron**, with a one change being agreed that on page 3 that 'level toy town planning', be changed to 'lego toy town planning'.

### 3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) **Olympic Plaques** – Audrey MacKenzie advised that she had passed quotes received from Dudley to Alistair Dargie. **It was agreed that as Alastair Dargie was not in attendance it should be added as an item for May's Agenda. Remitted to Ray Sefton.**
- b) **Wall at Call Centre** – John Grierson advised that he was waiting on a reply from Graham and Sibbald agents for Hero TSC with regards to the wall.
- c) **Band Stand Cover at Village Green** – John Grierson stated that the planning application had been submitted.
- d) **Community Fundraising Event** – John Grierson advised that a meeting with the sub-group been held. Yvonne Birnie asked whether the question of insurance had been looked into and John Grierson advised that the Community Council had public liability cover of £10m. John Grierson advised that he would report back as the sub-group progress.
- e) **National Spring Clean Day** – Ray Sefton advised that the date for the Spring Clean was set for Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April from 10am to 1pm. He stated he had not has many volunteers as he had hoped for but there was still time. Rev Ron Whyte said that there would be volunteers from the ATC and Cllr Bill Lobban and Kathleen Cameron volunteered. Willie McKenna suggested that as most of the Community Councils are now taking part in an annual spring clean, that perhaps of a pool of litter picker tools could be held, rather than each individual Community Council spending monies on pickers. **Ray Sefton proposed that funds of £30 be made available to provide refreshments for the volunteers, this was seconded by Kathleen Cameron.**
- f) **Litter Bins and Pavements** – John Grierson advised that he had not yet spoken to Highland Council with regards to the litter bins. He further advised that he had received 3 responses with regards to

the pavements. Audrey MacKenzie restated her disgust at the state of the litter bins within Aviemore. **It was remitted to John Grierson to write to HC with regards to the litter bins and pavements. Proposed by Ray Sefton and seconded by Kathleen Cameron.**

- g) Ward Forum Meeting** – John Grierson advised that he had attended the Ward Forum Meeting which included a presentation from Highland Highlife and Highland Healthcare. He also said that the Ward Forum Manager had intimated that she was retiring.
- h) Dalfaber Consultation** – John Grierson stated that he sent the Community Council’s letter of objection. He said that he had sent a second letter to CNPA when he spotted that the number of houses shown on the application exceeded the number the applicant was granted permission for. He proposed that a letter be sent to CNPA conveynor, Duncan Bryden, pointing out how difficult it was to find the information required to peruse the applications. In this instance it was necessary to look at three websites, each with two applications and associated documents. The documents found on the Highland Council should have been faithfully reproduced on the CNPA website but were not. The Community Council objections were not reproduced for both applications on the CNPA website. The planning officer at CNPA was not helpful when asked about the applications. The confusing nature of the information caused difficulties for those who were used to inspecting planning applications. What would it be like for someone who had never used the system before. **Proposed by John Grierson and seconded by Kathleen Cameron.**
- i) MBT Skills Track** – John Grierson said that he had spoken with the organiser who was putting this group together. He advised that the Group would soon be holding a public consultation on the prospect of a MBT Skills Track. John Grierson said that, as agreed at the last meeting, the Community Council would be assisting in the facilitation of this consultation.
- j) Team Aviemore** – John Grierson stated there was no update to speak of as yet, as all the different Companies and Groups were still to meet. It was hoped that this would happen within the three to four weeks.

#### **4. TREASURER’S REPORT**

John Grierson advised that the balance on account was £6418.95 and balance on the statue account was £2017.95. He further advised that a payment from the Discretionary Fund had been received which was in respect to the application for the market licence.

#### **5. NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Anti Social Behaviour in the Burnside Area and Skate Park** – John Grierson asked Kathleen Cameron to report. She summarised on the comments she had received from local area residents with regards to anti social behaviour and the skate park. She also said that drug paraphernalia had been found by primary school children, near to the bowling green. She said that the residents were concerned that with the placing of skate park, this type of behaviour would increase and the residents were also concerned about the noise.  
John Grierson said that he had spoken to the Police Inspector who had advised him that they were aware of the drug paraphernalia and that particular extra attention would be paid to the area for the next couple of weeks. John Grierson said that the Police were aware that this area is sometimes a “hotbed” for antisocial behaviour and that when the culprits had been traced they were local to Aviemore. He advised all residents of the area who have problems with anti-social behaviour should report this to Police.

**Skate Park** – Kathleen Cameron advised that she had attended an interesting meeting of the Skate Park project. She said that they advised that they were still waiting on confirmation from Highland Council on how much land was available at the Burnside site. She also said that the group were now asking about whether there would be available land at the old school site for a skate park. Cllr Bill Lobban, stated he wished to quantify this, and said that the Skate Park Group had been told on a number of occasions to contact the Cadets to see what piece of land they were using and that has never been done. He went on to further say the Group had been told repeatedly that the cadets are planning to build a building at the bottom of the land next to the bowling green. The site that could be available is roughly half of the site between the bowling green and the new path, beyond the path is still allocated to compensatory tree planting. Kathleen Cameron stated that there is obviously some confusion within the skate park group about this communication. Further discussion took place with regards to the skate park and the Burnside site and John Grierson said that this site fitted perfectly with what the group had told the Community Council they were looking for. Kathleen Cameron stated that she personally had concerns about the skate park being so close to the Dalfaber Road, which she believed was too fast and dangerous for children to accessing a skate park. John Grierson said that the Community Council had made representations to the Highland Council on a number of occasions the safety issues on Dalfaber Road. He also said that should the skate park get the go ahead for that site, then the issues of Dalfaber Road, would have to be considered within the planning application.

**b) Land Between Grampian Court and the Indian Restaurant** – Audrey advised that she was still trying to ascertain who were the owners of this piece of land.

## **6. AOCB**

**a) Coylumbridge Cottage** – Yvonne Birnie said that she had noticed within the “Strathy” a planning application for Coylumbridge Cottage. She said she then went and looked it up and saw that Aviemore Community Council had no objections to it and further went on to say that she had been through previous minutes and could find no reference to this application. Yvonne Birnie then read from the planning application and showed a copy of the proposed building and asked the question “does the Community Council have no objection to that”. Ray Sefton said he believed anything there would be an improvement. Yvonne Birnie said, yes its an improvement to the building that’s there but not an improvement to the area and stated that she could not believe that the Community Council had made no objection. John Grierson stated that the AVCC had agreed a number of years ago and re-agreed in recent months that a planning sub-group be set up to look at planning applications because of the time restrictions of responding to applications and the amount of time taken up in meetings with simple planning applications.. He went on to explain that should there be any disagreement between the planning sub-group, which presently consisted of John Grierson, Ray Sefton and Mark Allan, then the application would be brought to the full meeting of AVCC. He then went on to say that they would prefer that 4 members of AVCC were on the planning sub-group and suggested to Yvonne Birnie that she should join the sub-group, which Yvonne Birnie said she did not think she was the right person for this group. John Grierson, then went on to ask the other members of AVCC whether they wished to participate in the planning sub-group, to which there were no volunteers. John Grierson said he would ask the members who were not present. **It was remitted to John Grierson to approach Karen Lawrie and Alistair Dargie.**

**b) Signage at New Brewery Building** – Rev Ron Whyte stated he believed that the new signage at the brewery to be incongruous and asked whether planning permission had been given. **It was remitted to John Grierson to investigate.**

- c) **Rev Ron Whyte** – Rev Ron Whyte stated that this would be in penultimate meeting and would be stepping down from next month.
- d) **Local Plan** – Willie McKenna advised that the draft local plan was coming out in the very near future and would open to consultation. Cllr Bill Lobban said that this would be issued on 19<sup>th</sup> April and would be open for a consultation period of 6-weeks.
- e) **Orbital Path** – Willie McKenna stated that work had now been carried out on the paths at the north end of the village as previously discussed.
- f) **Building as Railway Station** – Willie McKenna advised that both W H Smith and Roo's Leap buildings had harling missing, given the area a "shabby" look. **Remitted to John Grierson to ascertain ownership of buildings.**
- g) **Lights at Lochan Mhor** – Cllr Bill Lobban advised that a section on lights on the path by Lochan Mhor and main road have no lamps fitted. He said that he had been contacted by Mr Wallace of the residents association with regards to this issue. Mr Wallace then gave a brief but detailed background into the wishes of the residents. Cllr Bill Lobban stated that Highland Council have an option of either removing the standards or fitting lamps, however before they did so Highland Council wished to know the views of AVCC. This was briefly discussed and it was agreed that the Community Council would like to see lamps fitted to the standards. **Proposed by Rev Ron Whyte and seconded Ray Sefton, remitted to Cllr Bill Lobban to advise Highland Council.**
- h) **Licencing Application: Sandy's Bothy** – The Community Council looked over the licensing application for Sandy's Bothy at Badaguish. It was agreed that the Community Council would have no comment to make with regards to this application. **Proposed by Ray Sefton seconded by Kathleen Cameron.**
- i) **Community Sports Hub** – Yvonne Birnie advised that an event was being held on 12<sup>th</sup> May between 10.30am and 1pm, whereby people could come and try new sports.

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

John Grierson thank all those for attending, and the date of the next meeting of AVCC was set for Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2013 at 7.30pm to be held in The Aviemore Community Centre.