

AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTE of a MEETING of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in AVIEMORE COMMUNITY CENTRE, on THURSDAY 14th November 2013 at 7.30pm.

Present: John Grierson (Chair), Alistair Dargie (Vice Chair), Lorna McGibbon (Treasurer) Kathleen Cameron, Audrey MacKenzie, Yvonne Birnie, Stevie Wilson, Cllr Bill Lobban, Willie McKenna (CNPA), Tom Ramage (Press), PC Ross Polworth, PC Kerri Marquis, Kirsty Bruce (Minutes)

Apologies: Ray Sefton, Karen Lawrie.

Opening Remarks: John Grierson welcomed Stevie Wilson to his first meeting of AVCC. He also stated that the meeting was being recorded for minuting purposes only.

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of AVCC held on Thursday 3rd October 2013 which had been previously circulated were **proposed by Alistair Dargie and seconded by Kathleen Cameron.**

The Minutes of the Special Meeting of AVCC held on Wednesday 12th June to discuss CNPA Local Development Plan, which had been previously circulated were **proposed by Alistair Dargie and seconded by Lorna McGibbon.**

2. TREASURER'S REPORT

Lorna McGibbon advised that the balance on account as at 30th October 2013 was £6914.35, she also said the balance on the statue account was £1323.40

3. POLICE REPORT

John Grierson introduced PCs Ross Polworth and Kerri Marquis and asked if any members had anything they wished to discuss. Cllr Bill Lobban asked PC Ross Polworth about the recent break-ins within the local vicinity. PC Ross Polworth stated that they believe there has been two gangs operating in the area; one being involved with house break-ins and another more concerned with metal thefts. He advised all communities, residents to be vigilant about their own properties, neighbouring properties and of empty properties. PC Kerri Marquis advised that PC Neil McIver would be the new Community Liaison Officer. PC Ross Polworth and PC Kerri Marquis left the meeting at 7.45pm

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) **Parking in the Green** – Alistair Dargie said he was no further forward with this, although the situation had improved slightly as one neighbour had left which was freeing up 3 car parking spaces.
- b) **Emptying of Waste Tanks on Buses** – John Grierson advised that he had received a reply from Scottish Water saying that it was not in their remit. He was still waiting on reply from SEPA. .
- c) **Supply Teachers** – John Grierson advised that he had written to Mr McIntosh with regards to the difficulties in sourcing supply teachers and said he had circulated the this reply. John Grierson said

he also raised the issue at the last ward forum with Cllr Jacqui Douglas and said he received a reply from Cllr Douglas after she made some enquiries, which stated that there was going to be a national review, as it's a problem across the country. He added that on a local angle an advert will go into the local papers looking for teachers not at school to be added to the supply list.

- d) **CNPA Planning Standards** - John Grierson advised that he and Yvonne Birnie had attended a meeting of ASCC at the Lecht Centre, where he spoke to those present about CNPA planning standards. He also advised that both he and Ray Sefton had met with Simon Harrison, the new Planning Officer for CNPA, Murray Ferguson, Cllr Bill Lobban and Willie McKenna and had raised AVCC concerns with regards to this issue and other issues including the Strathspey Lawns and Garden, Dalfaber Drive Dalfaber Golf and Country Club.
- e) **School Play Park** – Cllr Bill Lobban stated that this was no further forward.
- f) **Commonwealth Games Baton Relay** – Yvonne Birnie stated that the Chair of BSSC suggested that AVCC write to John MacDonald of Highland Council to request that Aviemore be included as part of the baton route, and to speak to Darren Reid at the Aviemore HUB. John Grierson said that he had circulated the email received from COSLA. John Grierson advised that nominations for baton carriers were being sought and asked AVCC if they wished to make any nominations. It was remitted to John Grierson to write to John MacDonald of Highland Council and to contact Darren Reid.
- g) **Community Rail Partnership** – John Grierson stated he had attended a meeting of the Association of Community Rail Partnership and met with James Wilkin. John Grierson gave a summary of the work and aims of the ACRP and said that they were looking for individuals to join a steering group. John Grierson then asked whether any member of AVCC would like to join this steering group. There were no volunteers and John Grierson said he would join the ACRP Steering Group. **Proposed by John Grierson and seconded by Alistair Dargie.**

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a) **Old Waste Water Treatments Works** - John Grierson stated that he had circulated by email correspondence from John Smith with regards to the parking space opposite the old water treatments site. He said that he had written back explaining AVCC's position as regards planning and further suggested that Mr Smith might like to gift the site to the community. Mr Smith has not replied.
- b) **Village Green Bookings** – John Grierson reminded those present that Ray Sefton held the bookings diary. Kathleen Cameron said that the planned October craft fair had to be cancelled because of the weather and the lack of gazebos etc. She went on to say that interest in holding a monthly craft fair from April to October had been expressed. This was agreed as a good use of the new market licence and something to be progressed in the spring.
- c) **Planning Application 2013/0303/ DET** – John Grierson advised that this application had been passed at the last meeting of CNPA. He commented that he hoped that CNPA, who had got it right in the first instance would be writing to the Reporter and asking for their money back with regards to the planning appeal.
- d) **Licence Application: The Ptarmigan, Cairngorm Mountain** – The Licence Application was considered and it was unanimously agreed, no comment was necessary.
- e) **Licence Application: The Day Lodge, Cairngorm Mountain** – The Licence Application was considered and it was unanimously agreed, no comment was necessary.

- f) **Community School Lights and Sound System** – John Grierson advised that he had just received the minute of the last meeting of the Service Review Group and another meeting was scheduled for beginning of December. At the last meeting John Grierson said he suggested that someone from Eden Court or Highland Council come down to see what would be required, so as costing's could be obtained. However in the minute it states that they are waiting to see how many people would be interested in having a sound system. John Grierson said he would be reminding them at the next meeting that this was not what was suggested.
- g) **Resignation of Mark Allan** – John Grierson read to AVCC a letter of resignation received from Mark Allan. John Grierson stated that he had informed the Ward Manager of Mr Allan's resignation.
- h) **An Camas Mòr** – John Grierson advised that he had received an email from John Grant of Rothiemurchus Estate concerning a press article in the Sunday Herald with regards to a company named LUSH donating £7000 to the Badenoch and Strathspey Conservation Group. John Grant asked AVCC to consider writing to LUSH, this was briefly discussed and it was agreed that AVCC would not write to the company concerned.
- i) **Staffing Levels at Aviemore Fire Station** – It was duly noted that both Alistair Dargie and Stevie Wilson expressed a conflict of interest with this topic and took no part in any discussion. John Grierson stated that after recent press comment about staffing levels at Aviemore Fire Station, he wrote to Ross Nixon, Station Manager to ascertain whether there was an issue. Mr Ross Nixon replied with a verbose email, which John Grierson summarised for AVCC. After brief discussion it was agreed to invite Mr Ross Nixon to the next meeting of AVCC. **Proposed by John Grierson and seconded by Kathleen Cameron.** It was noted that Yvonne Birnie left the meeting at 8.20pm

6. AOCB

- a) **Community Café Christmas Day Lunch** – It was unanimously agreed to make a donation of £100 towards the costs of the Christmas Day Lunch.
- b) **Fence at Old Village Hall Site** – John Grierson said that a safety fence at the Old Village Hall had been erected and it was affecting the visibility for drivers leaving Muirton. He had written to TEC Services about it. Cllr Bill Lobban further advised that the site fencing was to be taken down and either replaced or resited.
- c) **Gambling Consultation** – John Grierson advised that there was to be a consultation on the licencing of gambling premises and that he would circulate the document for discussion and comments at the December meeting of AVCC. **Remitted to Ray Sefton to add to the Agenda.**
- d) **Community Empowerment Consultation** – John Grierson advised that there was to be a consultation with regards to Community Empowerment. It was agreed that this would be added to the Agenda for January. **Remitted to Ray Sefton to add to the Agenda.**
- e) **Police Consultation Meeting** – John Grierson advised that he and Yvonne Birnie had attended a meeting at Aviemore Police Station with regards to the recent Police Consultation. John Grierson commented that this meeting was poorly attended with only himself and Yvonne Birnie and a representative of MAHR and the Head Teacher of Kingussie High School. This meeting merely recapped on the information discussed at the previous meeting.
- f) **The HUB Building** – Cllr Bill Lobban said that HUB space was unsuitable for older age kids and the Youth Club are looking to redevelop the internal space to make it more suitable for this age group. This redevelopment would require some substantial fundraising and Cllr Bill Lobban asked AVCC to

support this Youth Club with the project. It was discussed briefly and it was unanimously agreed to support this project with a donation of £500. **Proposed by Audrey Mackenzie seconded by Kathleen Cameron.**

- g) Christmas Carol Event** – Alistair Dargie gave a short update on the Annual Christmas Carol and Tree Lighting. This was scheduled for Saturday 14th December at 4.30pm. Kathleen Cameron added that there would be craft market prior to the tree lighting between 12.30pm and 4.30pm. Volunteers were being sought with the set-up from 9am on Saturday 14th December.
- h) Aviemore Skate Park** – Kathleen Cameron gave a brief update on the progress of the Skate Park Steering Group.
- i) Old MacRae and Dick Site** – Audrey MacKenzie asked what could be done with the old MacRae and Dick site now that it was to be demolished. This was discussed briefly and it was **remitted to John Grierson to speak to David Cameron.**
- j) Large Flower Tubs Opposite Myrtlefield Shopping Centre** – Willie McKenna said that the large flower tubs opposite Myrtlefield shopping centre, the banding was broken and in need of repair. He and Alistair Dargie agreed to meet to discuss fixing the broken bonding.

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 12th December 2013 at 7.30pm to be held in The Aviemore Community Centre.