

AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTE of THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in AVIEMORE COMMUNITY CENTRE, on THURSDAY 12th JUNE 2014 at 7.00pm.

Present: John Grierson (Chair), Ray Sefton (Secretary), Alistair Dargie (Vice Chair), Lorna McGibbon (Treasurer), Kathleen Cameron, Yvonne Birnie and Cllr Bill Lobban

Apologies: Audrey MacKenzie, Karen Lawrie, Steven Wilson, Kirsty Bruce, Lisa Whittlestone and Willie McKenna.

1. OPENING REMARKS

John Grierson thanked all those present for attending The Annual General Meeting of the Aviemore and Vicinity Community Council. He reminded everyone that the proceedings were taped for minute taking purposes.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of AVCC held on 13th June 2013, which had been previously circulated were **proposed by Alistair Dargie and seconded by Ray Sefton**

3. CHAIRMANS REPORT

The Chairman's gave his report:

"2013-2014 has been a busy year for the Community Council. After the resignation of Ron Whyte, Steven Wilson was co-opted. Mark Allan resigned from the Community Council in November. We have had a number of observers from the community attending meetings this year and it good to see the level of interest being taken in the Community Council.

The Community Council continues to be represented on CRAGG, ABA, the Aviemore Primary School Travel Plan meetings, the Community Centre Service Review Group, the Association of Cairngorm Communities, the Cairngorm Communities Planning Network and the Badenoch and Strathspey Health Development Group. The Community Council is also now represented on the steering group for the proposed Community Rail Partnership which will cover from Carrbridge to Dunkeld.

The Community Council has initiated a fund raising sub-committee which is looking at ways to raise funds for local projects, the main one being the cover for the Village Green bandstand, and has already held craft fairs on the Village Green. The fairs have been successful and will continue through the summer. A special thanks to Kathleen who is the driving force for the fairs.

During the year AVCC has responded to consultations on a number of planning applications including;

- 2013/0271/DET Old Gravel Pit, Rothiemurchus
- 2013/0302/DET Biomass boilers at Milton
- 2013/0303/DET variation to sec 42 agreement at Milton

We have also responded to;

- Pre-application consultations(2) on the Four Seasons Hotel
- Highland Council consultation on licensing.
- Dalfaber Pavilion Licence (Spey Valley Golf Clubhouse) application.
- Local Development Plan and Core Paths.
- Highland Council Licensing overprovision consultation.
- Cairngorm Mountain Day Lodge Licence application.
- Community Empowerment and Renewal (Scotland) Bill consultation.
- Highland Council Public Entertainment Licensing consultation.
- CNPA Local Development Strategy LEADER 2014-2020
- Highland Council Disabled Persons' parking places consultation.

Finally I would like to thank all members for the work they have done this year and to Bill Lobban for his wise counsel. Could I also thank Tom Ramage and the Badenoch and Strathspey Herald for the coverage they have given us this year."

4. TREASURERS REPORT

The treasurer Lorna McGibbon gave a report on the financial business of AVCC for the past year and circulated to those present financial statements for the year to 31st March 2014. The financial statements were approved with a balance at 31st March 2014 shown as £5733.26 and the balance held on the statue account as at 31st March 2014 as £1328.97.

5. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Office	Nominated	Proposed	Seconded
Chair	John Grierson	Alistair Dargie	Lorna McGibbon
Vice Chair	Alistair Dargie	Yvonne Birnie	Kathleen Cameron
Secretary	Ray Sefton	Alistair Dargie	Lorna McGibbon
Treasurer	Lorna McGibbon	Ray Sefton	Kathleen Cameron

6. BUSINESS

There was no business.

7. CLOSE OF MEETING AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

John Grierson thanked all those for attending, and the date of the next Annual General Meeting of AVCC was set for Thursday 11th June 2015 at 7.00pm to be held in The Aviemore Community Centre.

MINUTE of a MEETING of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in AVIEMORE COMMUNITY CENTRE, on THURSDAY 12th JUNE 2014 at 7.30pm.

Present: John Grierson (Chair), Alastair Dargie (Vice Chair), Ray Sefton (Secretary), Lorna McGibbon (Treasurer), Kathleen Cameron, Yvonne Birnie, Cllr Bill Lobban.

Apologies: Steven Wilson, Audrey Mackenzie, Karen Lawrie, Lisa Whittlestone, Kirsty Bruce, Willie McKenna.

Opening Remarks: John Grierson welcomed everyone to this meeting of AVCC. He also reminded everyone that the meeting was being recorded for minute taking purposes.

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of AVCC held on Thursday 8th May 2014 which had been previously circulated were agreed. **Adoption proposed by Ray Sefton and seconded by Kathleen Cameron**

2. TREASURER'S REPORT

Lorna McGibbon advised that the balance on account was £5870.26. She further added that balance on the statue account £1328.97. It was decided that any fund raising money received, e.g. Craft Fair, should be placed in the 'Statue Account'. At this point Lorna, who was feeling unwell, left the meeting.

3 BUSINESS

3.1 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) **Commonwealth Games Baton Relay** – John Grierson advised that he had attended a meeting, to discuss community participation, along with Ray Sefton and Alistair Dargie. The meeting was poorly attended, however, it was decided that AVCC should co-ordinate any community events. Yvonne said that the Strathspey Runners were hoping to do a fun run just prior to the relay. John said that there was to be a follow up meeting on Tuesday 17th June when arrangements would be firmed up. It was also learned from Alastair Dargie that the timings he had on his correspondence from the organisers did not tally with the information given at first meeting.
- b) **New Projects** – Kathleen Cameron reported that the craft fairs continue to be successful and that she is getting a lot of enquiries looking to book a table. She also had had a request for a craft fair on the 'Harley Weekend'. This was not in the schedule for this year and she would not be in Aviemore that weekend. After discussion it was agreed that there could be a fair on the Sunday and that volunteer arrangements would be confirmed at the next CC meeting. John Grierson said that the application to the Ward Discretionary fund had been successful. £400 is to be banked shortly. Alistair Dargie is to order the 'gala' tents.
- c) **Burnside and British Legion** - John Grierson reported that work had started on the ground re-instatement and it should be finished by the next week.
- d) **Consultation on the proposed changes to the health services in Badenoch and Strathspey** - John Grierson advised that he would be putting the consultation on the agenda for the next meeting so

that a Community Council response could be made. He recommended that all the members of the Community Council should do their own personal response and encourage others to do so as well.

3.2 NEW BUSINESS

- a) Reshaping Care for Older People** - John Grierson introduced Anne Howe who is a community networker reshaping Care for Older People (RCOP) Highland. Anne explained that reshaping care for older people was a national strategy that is trying to change the way older people are looked after and recognising them as assets to the community and not burdens. In Highland it has been decided to help that change by employing a network of community workers. Anne's job is hosted by VABS, some other areas are different, but the funding comes from the Change Fund. Anne then went on to describe her role and some of the projects she was engaged in. She finished by encouraging anyone who had any ideas to come forward and help.
- b) Kingussie High School and Stage area help required** - A letter from Kingussie High School Parent Council was circulated. The parent council is trying to raise funds to make improvements to the existing hall and stage area so that it does not fall into a further state of disrepair. After discussion it was decided to donate £200 and an offer of support for the project. **Proposed by Alistair Dargie seconded by Kathleen Cameron.**
- c) Planning Application 14/02010/MSC An Camus Mòr** - John Grierson and Ray Sefton both declared an interest. Ray is employed by Rothiemurchus Estate and John is carrying out contract work for the Estate. The chair was handed to Alistair Dargie. Alistair said that for this item the meeting was no longer quorate and although the application could be discussed no substantive Community Council decision could be made. The application is for the masterplan for the new village at An Camus Mòr. Planning permission had been granted and this application was to firm up on the detail. **It should be noted that Bill Lobban took no part in the discussion.**
- d) Craft Fairs** – Kathleen Cameron reported that the fairs have gone well. She requested that a banner advertising the fairs be purchased for use at the Village Green for a week before the fair. The notice board could be rearranged and an A3 advert put there. There has been a request from the stallholders for a craft fair on the Harley weekend. Kathleen said that she would be away that weekend. After discussion, it was felt that a fair could go ahead on the Sunday. Volunteers would be required. It was decided that the fee should be increased to £20 for that weekend only. Alistair Dargie said that the grass hadn't been cut on the Village Green and that weeds were growing. The grass cutting squad had done everywhere else except the green. Bill Lobban is to follow up on that.
- e) CNPA Planning Committee Meetings** - John Grierson reported that 4 years ago the AVCC had a disagreement with CNPA over the holding of planning meetings in Ballater. An important planning application which AVCC had strongly objected to was being held in Ballater at quite short notice. There were a number of objectors from the village apart from AVCC. AVCC had indicated on the objection that it would like to address the planning committee. Setting aside the fact that CNPA did not inform objectors about the meeting, I was able to attend the meeting. The Community Council complained about the fairness involved in holding such important applications at a location that was difficult to get to easily so putting objectors at a disadvantage. The committee convenor at the time, Duncan Bryden, did not see a problem and actually said that unlike most planning authorities, meeting places were, in the interests of fairness, openness and accessibility, moved around the park. We were, however, later assured by the head of CNPA planning that our comments had been taken on board and that it should not happen again. Last Friday (6th June) an application for a development in Aviemore was heard at

Ballater. Again we had asked to address the committee. There was only seven days notice and I was unable to attend due to work commitments. Interestingly it was for the same development. John proposed that AVCC again write to CNPA, re-iterate our original complaint, comment on the shortness of notice and question why, when we are required along with other objectors to respond within 21 days it took 9 months for the application to be dealt with. Ray Sefton pointed out that the application on 13th September had been for 2 boilers and that had been changed to 1 and that would surely be a material change and there should have been new application. It was agreed that John should write to CNPA. **Proposed by John Grierson seconded by Ray Sefton.**

- f) Children Crossing Railway Line Behind School** - A problem has been found with children crossing the railway line at the back of the new school. Bill Lobban reported that around 8 children had been on the tracks. This was thought to have come about because of a rumour of a ghost train. There is an old steam engine in a siding at the Strathspey Railway and this may be the 'ghost train'. The parents of all the children have been informed. The incident happened on the Friday but Bill didn't become aware of it until the Monday. He contacted Network Rail immediately and they attended that morning. Network Rail have put up wire mesh netting along the existing fence. There are two worn paths crossing the railway that adults have been using for some time. Network Rail acted very quickly and are to return soon to make a more permanent upgrade, hopefully by the start of the new school session.
- g) Seats at Burnside** – Kathleen Cameron reported that there had been no change with the disturbance cause by youths at Burnside. The actions taken to divert them has had no effect. John Grierson said that after being asked by AVCC two months ago to arrange a meeting with HC and Police he had held off because the Police and Highlife Highland were going to start some evening activities for local youths and it was thought that they should be given a chance. **John Grierson to arrange a meeting.**
- h) Sound System** - Kathleen reported that she priced the sound system using Amazon. This came to £1915.62 plus £34.15 p&p. The quote given by Keith Mair was £1843.98 plus < £10.00 p&p. The system will be for the Village Green and will be stored at the HUB. At the moment there is an 'open mike' at the craft fair. Having our own sound system will give us the flexibility to use the Village Green anytime. We have been lucky that we have had Hugh Clarke in the past but he is selling his system. The kids at the HUB have been getting training on using sound systems and the system would be available for them to use. Kathleen is to contact Simon Jeffreys of Highlife Highland to discuss storage. Ray Sefton has spoken to ABA about possible funding. They are open to helping. John is to make enquiries about other funding opportunities. Bill Lobban suggests looking at the Highland Council youth budget.

4. AOCB

- a) Highland Council Budget** – John Grierson reported attending the Highland Council Budget meeting along with Ray Sefton. The meeting wasn't very well attended. Highland Council need to find a saving of 67 million pounds over the next 5 years. The discussion and questions seemed to be directed towards savings that could be made through communities taking on some of the services provided at the moment by Highland Council. The problem is that it would require volunteering.
- b) Withdrawal from CRAGG** – John Grierson reported that with the formation of the new 'development' group for Glenmore and the surrounding area he felt that CRAGG no longer had any remit. All of the parties on the group are members of CRAGG. He sees a danger that the new group may use CRAGG for consultation. If the new group wants to consult with the Community Council it should do it directly and not through another party. It should be noted that most of the people that

go along to CRAGG are unelected. John proposed that, in view of the changes, AVCC withdraw support for CRAGG. This was seconded by Ray Sefton. Kathleen Cameron and Alistair Dargie agreed with the proposal. Yvonne Birnie did not vote and said that she wanted time to consider it. The motion was carried. As it was taken under AOCB it will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

c) Traffic Safety on Grampian Road – John Grierson reported that he had attended a meeting with Highland Council to discuss Road Safety issues on Grampian Road. Bill Lobban was also present at the meeting. The issues raised included the bus stop at Burnside Road, traffic lights at Muirton junction, the bus stop at Muirton and the zebra crossing. A traffic survey was asked for. It was promised as part of the road safety scheme when the school opened but has not been done. Highland Council will reply with any proposals.

d) Water Pumps at Waterfall – Ray Sefton reported that the waterfall had not been working for weeks. He had contacted John Beaton who says the pumps have been switched off due to debris and silt. He is awaiting further instruction on how it is to be rectified.

5. 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 10th July 2014 at 7.30pm to be held in The Aviemore Community Centre.