

# AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## MINUTES of a MEETING of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL, held in AVIEMORE COMMUNITY CENTRE, on THURSDAY 9th APRIL 2015 at 7.30pm.

**Present:** John Grierson (Chair), Alastair Dargie (Vice Chair), Ray Sefton (Secretary), Lorna McGibbon (Treasurer), Audrey MacKenzie, Steven Wilson, Yvonne Birnie, Kathleen Cameron, Joe Kirby, Willie McKenna (CNPA), Cllr Dave Fallows, PC Neil MacIvor, Rachel Avery (Highland Environmental Network), Shona MacLachlan (Minute taker)

**Apologies:** Cllr Bill Lobban, Beth Hay

**Opening Remarks:** John Grierson welcomed everyone to this meeting of AVCC.

### 1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of AVCC which was held on Thursday 12th February 2015 were circulated and adopted with Item 4(c) amended to read 'give goalposts to community for a donation to the boys football club'. **Minutes proposed by Alastair Dargie and seconded by Ray Sefton.**

### 2. TREASURER'S REPORT

Lorna McGibbon produced receipts and payments report and advised that the balance of the account was £2835.60. The statue account is now £2257.66. Lorna has spoken with Alastair Dargie in regards to the outstanding cheque which has still not been presented for the school group.

### 3. BUSINESS

#### 3.1 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

**a) A9 Dualling** - John Grierson advised that Sam McNaughton (A9 Dualling Team for Transport Scotland) will be briefing the community council with an update on 14th May. Consultants have now been agreed as Atkins Michelle. It was agreed to start the next meeting at 7.00pm to allow time for the presentation and questions.

**b) Public Access Defibrillator** - John Grierson advised that he received a letter from the Scottish Ambulance Service in regarding our application for a defibrillator. Our application had been unsuccessful.

**c) Street Naming - Milton Development** - New name has been agreed by the council. David Fallows could not recall what the agreed name was but it was not what was suggested by AVCC or the developer.

**d) National Spring Clean Day** - Kathleen Cameron commented that there is a craft fair is on the same day as the spring clean day. All agreed this was fine, and no change of date for either is necessary.

**e) Water Outside Old Tesco Site** - John Grierson advised that this had been reported on the Highland Council road defect page on website, and have heard nothing back. **Cllr Dave Fallows to follow up.**

**f) Lorry Issue** - John Grierson advised that he had emailed Kevin McLeod (Inspector) about the issues from last meeting. Ross Allan (Sergeant Inspector) advised that officers were directed to the area as part of day shift control plans, and will continue to monitor area. John Grierson commented that this was happening during the night and not day. **PC Neil MacIvor to take back comments.**

**g) Laurel Bank** - John Grierson sent email to John Taylor (Highland Council) who advised they were looking into the problem.

### **3.2 BUSINESS**

**a) Highland Environmental Network** - John Grierson welcomed Rachel Avery to the community council meeting. Rachel Avery is working with the Highland Environmental Network and speaking with different community groups in the area who are involved in environment activities such as food growing, community owned land, waste reduction schemes etc. They are looking for collective ideas to see if there is a role for a highland based network and how the network could support projects happening right now, or projects that will potentially happen. John Grierson commented on the ponds at Auchintoul, and possible allotments and tree planting by the Community Council. Rachel explained the advice that was available for business planning and funding applications.

**b) McInnes Place - Park and Play Facilities**- Kathleen Cameron brought a letter to the group regarding 'no ball games' signs that were placed around the area. John Grierson read out the letter from resident Lorraine Hurst who is wanting some advise as to where children can play and if a playpark could be built. PC Neil MacIvor commented on the lack of space available however John Grierson will get in touch with Lucy Fraser from Albyn Housing to see who owns the grassy area and will write to Lorraine to let her know that the community council supports that idea.

**c) Burnside Playpark - Removal of Facilities**- Kathleen Cameron advised that the slide, roundabout and swings have been taken away. John Grierson advised that he had been in touch with Ian Reid from the Highland Council and that the items were removed for health and safety reasons and will be replaced.

**d) Planning Application - 15/01123/FUL - Use of land for coach yard and wash bay** - John Grierson advised the location was to the back of Cairngorm Auto Repairs. Alastair Dargie commented that this would affect people accessing the orbital path. Ray Sefton will respond that the community council is happy with the application but would like to highlight the matter of access to the path. **Proposed by John Grierson, seconded by Alastair Dargie.**

**e) Planning Application - 15/00885/FUL - Erection of stone dyke walls and timber totem** - John Grierson advised that the planning permission was objected last year (Feb 2013) and after discussion with the group it was felt that the signs were not keeping with elsewhere in Aviemore which was also brought up last year. Alastair Dargie commented that perhaps a gateway sign would be more suitable, Yvonne Birnie agreed stating that they should incorporate other businesses. It was agreed within the community council that the group would stay neutral on the subject but would make comment. **Proposed John Grierson, seconded Kathleen Cameron.**

**f) Police Report** - PC Neil MacIvor advised that there were 158 calls for the Aviemore area alone. Breakdown was as follows: 7 fixed penalties, 4 theft instances, 2 drugs related, 5 domestic, 1 fraud, 2 assaults, 1 drink driver incident, 5 road accidents attended, 12 calls of driver behaviour, 1 hate crime, 1 death, 1 mountain rescue, 1 fire call, 1 death, 2 missing persons and 2 medical service matters.

**g) Community Enterprise Company** - John Grierson reminded members of the comments made at the March meeting about Community Councils and liabilities and that the Highland Council's advice is that the Community Council should form an 'at arms length company'. He said he would like to explore forming such a company. Willie McKenna suggested looking at Team Aviemore. Yvonne Birnie also suggested looking at the companies who were sitting dormant. John Grierson advised that he would like time to investigate the possibilities and come back to AVCC with his findings.

**h) Planning for On Shore Wind Energy in Highland - Consultation Paper** - Ray Sefton distributed copies of consultation paper. The consultation questions were discussed and answers were agreed. **Consultation form will be submitted by 11th May 2015 by John Grierson.**

## **AOCB**

**a) Liquor Licence Application** - New Deli in Aviemore has submitted a change to liquor licence to remove all onsales hours. There were no objections. **Ray Sefton to reply.**

**b) Grantown 250th Birthday** - Piers Voisey emailed John Grierson in regards to celebrating Grantown's 250th Birthday. Piers is involved in coaching kayaking and canoeing and his idea is for Speyside paddlers to travel from Laggan to Grantown via river Spey on 21st June, to deliver gifts from communities on the way. Rather than gifts, he has been suggested that small wooden paddles be given instead, these would be small and made from different timbers characteristic to the area. Willie McKenna suggested that we should contact Ally Anderson, and **Alastair Dargie will follow up with Willie McKenna.**

**c) Aviemore Business Association Meeting** - Ray Sefton recently attended the ABA meeting and was speaking with Robert Hicks from the Gentleman of the Road Festival. Robert gave indication that the ticket sales are going very well and entrances have been decided for walkers who will go through Rothiemurchus fish farm, this area will be for coach drop off. Car parking will be on the Nethy road towards An Camus Mor. There will also be plenty of stewards controlling all the parking. Ray Sefton wanted to check to see if the village green was free from any craft fairs as the Business Association would like to use it. It was agreed that as there was nothing else scheduled for the green that day the Business Association could have it for a donation.

**d) Rothiemurchus Forest Plan** - Ray Sefton advised that there will be an open afternoon consultation on Tuesday 5th May in the Cairngorm Hotel, also drop in session in the evening. No need for response from community council, but comments are welcome.

**e) Aviemore North Sign** - Ray Sefton questioned what was happening with the sign, Alastair Dargie advised that he had recently negotiated space with his neighbour so that he could finish off sanding and repainting it.

**f) Aviemore Thistle** - Steve Wilson commented that Dean Harvey who has taken over running the Aviemore Thistle Football Club is looking for some financial donations. Steve listed the items needed such as footballs, football strips, registration fee etc. All felt that this was a very worthwhile venture and that AVCC support should be given. John Grierson commented that the registration at a cost of £175 was the main priority and suggested AVCC should donate the cost of the registration.

**Proposed Ray Sefton, seconded Joe Kirby and agreed.**

**g) Macdonalds Swim Parties** - Joe Kirby commented that Macdonald's Resort used to do a £5 swim and burger/chips deal which went really well with local families and then tailed off. Would like a letter written to see if it could be restarted, possibility of running once a month; Joe Kirby to email John Grierson with details and John will contact Macdonalds.

**h) Work Party Village Green** - Yvonne Birnie was wondering about a work party to get the village green up to scratch before the craft fairs started. Alastair Dargie advised that it is needing fertiliser/hedge cut. It will not be ready for first craft fair, but possibly in between 1st and 2nd fairs. **Alastair Dargie to follow up/co-ordinate when able to do.**

**i) Gala Day** - Rhonna Faichnie Minard is looking at organising a Gala Day using the entire area at Legion and outside area using marquee and also school carparks. Kathleen Cameron is going to give help, but will check date, but was to make everyone aware.

**j) Rock Challenge** - Kathleen Cameron advised that the group is now one month away from performing at Eden Court and produced a lovely card for the community council as a thank you from the children for the donation.

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

John Grierson thanked those in attendance and the date of the next meeting is Thursday 14th May 2015 at 7.00pm in the Aviemore Community Centre.