

AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL, held in AVIEMORE COMMUNITY CENTRE, on THURSDAY 11th JUNE 2015 at 7.30pm.

Present: John Grierson (Chair), Alastair Dargie (Vice Chair), Ray Sefton (Secretary), Lorna McGibbon (Treasurer), Audrey MacKenzie, Cllr Bill Lobban, Beth Hay, Kathleen Cameron, Steven Wilson, Joe Kirby, PC Eric Sharky, Jenny Steven (Regional Commissioner for Scouts in Highlands & Islands) Gary McLennan (public), Jane McLennan (public), Eilidh McLeod (public), Shona MacLachlan (Minute taker)

Apologies: Willie McKenna (CNPA), Yvonne Birnie

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 14th May 2015 were circulated.

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 £2603.71. The statue account is now £2503.21.

3. BUSINESS

3.1 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

a) Water Outside Old Tesco Site - John Grierson advised that Richard Porteous is still looking into.

b) McInnes Place - Park and Play Facilities- John Grierson has contacted Albyn Housing, but as yet has had no reply. He also advised the PC Neil McIvor was following up from the police and will update when at meeting next.

c) Grantown 250th Birthday – Alastair Dargie advised that the oar is currently waiting to be inscribed. Alastair will liaise with Willie McKenna as he may have someone who can do this. Kathleen Cameron said it may be worth asking the High School if any of the older children can assist.

d) Aviemore North Sign - Alastair Dargie advised that this is now complete and will be delivered to the Highland Council on Monday.

e) Macdonalds Swim Parties - John Grierson advised there was no further progress.

f) Work Party Village Green - Alastair Dargie advised that fertilizer was bought to sort out green and the fence has also been repaired.

g) Waste Bins - Cllr Bill Lobban advised that he had contacted Richard Porteous who will follow up on this.

h) Dell of Spey Area -. John Grierson spoke with CNPA Outdoor Access Officers for advice on the road, and as this is a private road unfortunately nothing can be done.

i) Community Empowerment Bill - John Grierson asked Cllr Bill Lobban if he could explain the changes to discretionary funding again. Cllr Lobban told members that Highland Council are progressing a 'localism' agenda as part of efforts to strengthen local democracy and community participation. To this end B&S Ward Members, as an experiment, have agreed to transfer £30,000 of the Ward Discretionary Budget to the direct control of local communities. To ensure a fair geographic spread across the Ward £10,000 each will be zoned to three areas. South (Dalwhinnie, Laggan. Newtonmore, Kingussie, Kincaig), Central (Aviemore, Boat of Garten, Carrbridge) and northern (Grantown, Dulnain, Nethybridge, Cromdale, Advie). Each £10,000 will be available to communities to bid into, and the communities will decide where the money goes to, it will not be decided by the Highland Council.

e) Waterfall - Lorna McGibbon asked if anything was happening with the waterfall. Ray Sefton advised that the work has started on the waterfall last Monday and that they are in the process of cleaning.

3.2 BUSINESS

a) Aviemore Scouts - John Grierson advised that he had circulated an email from Aviemore Scouts (Dave Warwick) who wrote to the community council advising that the scout hut in Aviemore, is now running on a short term lease on the building. If a situation arose where notice was given, then the group would possibly have to close or move out of village. They had recently registered interest in land next to the air cadet hall on Dalfaber Road, and would like a similar traditional hall that could be used by the Scouts in particular and possibly hired out to other groups. The group however believe this is too big a project for them to handle themselves, and this is why approaching the community council to take forward as a community lead project.

Jenny Steven commented that she works with teenagers (explorer scouts 14-18 year olds) Bringing the scouts in from Grantown and Kingussie and currently use the Hub due to the scout hall being unsuitable for older children with the scout hut being such a low roof and not having a village hall in Aviemore to use also doesn't help. Cllr Bill Lobban advised that Legion Scotland are looking into the air cadets allowing use of their hall for the scouts and advised that George Gaff would be the person to speak with. Beth Hay commented that Aviemore is missing a Village Hall. Cllr Bill Lobban advised that the land for a hall would be free of charge and would be provided by Highland Council, but the building itself would need to be paid for. Jenny Steven advised she would speak with George Gaff in the first instance as the Scouts have already showed note of interest in the land beside Cadet Hall.

b) Village Green clean up with Scouts - Kathleen Cameron suggested help with cleaning up the village green area. Jenny Steven advised that her Explorer Scouts meet up on Monday nights and need chief and queen scout awards for community sections, so are definitely looking to do something. Kathleen Cameron and Alistair Dargie to liaise with jobs such as benches needing sanded/repainted and surface treatment for the stand and will get in touch with Jenny Steven to arrange.

c) Police Update - PC Eric Sharkey advised that there has been a change in management of local policing and Kevin McLeod is moving on and Bob/Brian McKay will be uniform inspector . Alastair Dargie mentioned that the lorries are still continuing to park across from the police station and PC Eric Sharkey advised they were still continuing to look into.

d) Proposed 35 flats and car park; opposite Grampian Court. - John Grierson advised that there had been a consultation on the proposals. John Grierson wanted to bring to the table and see if there was anything that could be done before the planning application. Eilidh McLeod said that it is clearly stated in the Cairngorm National Park's Aviemore and Vicinity's Plan that it will be kept as green space. John Grierson advised that the AVCC had already objected to the inclusion of the area for building in the MAHR Masterplan and the planning application had only granted on the condition that Block M, the area in question, was removed. AVCC had also pressed for the Four Seasons Lawn and Garden to be retained as green space in the CNP Local Development Plan and this has been done. John Grierson advised that he has contacted Catherine Donnachie, CNPA Planner and asked for explanation on the proposed application stands with the Local Development Plan.

Eilidh McLeod also commented about the development at the horses field, and that she opposed this. Ray Sefton advised that there was already planning permission in place. John Grierson advised that there were 2 parts to the planning application. Eilidh McLeod advised of her concerns in regards to the houses that would be built, where are those people going to work, depreciation of her house, and drainage were mentioned. John Grierson advised that the house plans still have to be finalised. Cllr Bill Lobban advised that they can apply for whichever design they want, and will come to the community council and public to comment on.

e) A9 Dualling problems - John Grierson advised that during last month's AVCC meeting we were joined by Sam McNaughton and Rory Gunn who were interested in any comments that the community council had in relation to problems that may arise during the A9 Dualling process. John Grierson commented that he would not like to see the 3rd junction into Macdonalds Resort and Alistair Dargie advised that there is no layby strategy i.e better facilities for lorry drivers.

f) Planning Application 15/01763/FUL - John Grierson advised that a renewal of permission application for temporary sighting of 10 storage container/portacabins. This has been running as temporary permission for many years. Alastair Dargie commented that the last permission that was granted stated that it was strictly for 3 years and that they must be moving towards a more permanent solution. John Grierson read out the Highland Council report from the last planning application and it was clear that application did not fulfil the aims of the Park. John Grierson asked the AVCC members for response and all agreed that this should be objected. John Grierson will write to and advise.

Cllr Bill Lobban did not take part.

g) Highland Council Annual Survey - After a short discussion, members agreed that Ray Sefton should complete the survey and return it.

h) Bubble Soccer - Kathleen Cameron advised that the Bubble Soccer for the Legion Gala Day will cost £400. Discussions were made in the group as to how they could earn some of the money back, Steven Wilson/Alistair Dargie/Joe Kirby will liaise and try organise a tournament for adults, and perhaps have buckets for donations for children.

AOCB

a) Planning Permission Appeal North/West of Dalfaber Farm/Dalfaber Drive - John Grierson advised that the notification from director of planning and environmental appeals that the reporter will be coming 25th July @ 11am firstly to look at maps and then go down onto site. He will be attending.

b) Draft Flood Risk Management Strategy - John Grierson advised that although the consultation started in January it was not brought to our attention until the beginning of June when there was only a week left to respond.

c) Floral Fund - John Grierson advised that the Floral Fund are looking for £8,500 for the flowers in Aviemore. It was agreed £500 to be donated. **Proposed by John Grierson and seconded by Lorna McGibbon.**

d) Bus Stops - Cllr Bill Lobban advised that the Highland Council are looking for a representative from AVCC to get together with him to discuss the location of the bus shelters. **John Grierson proposed that Ray Sefton do this, and this was seconded by Kathleen Cameron**

e) National Park Plan - Ray Sefton read extract from National Park Plan; 'Key projects such as indoor sports centre, supermarket, fully integrated transport system and responsible open access on Cairngorm Mountain'. It was agreed that Ray Sefton write to the National Park and ask how they are going to progress with this plan.

5. CLOSE OF MEETING AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

John Grierson thanked those in attendance and said that the next meeting for the AVCC will be on Thursday 9th July 2015 at 7.30pm in the Aviemore Community Centre.