

AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL, held in AVIEMORE COMMUNITY CENTRE, on THURSDAY 14th JANUARY 2016 at 7.30pm.

Present: John Grierson (Chair), Alastair Dargie (Vicechair/Secretary), Wilma Grierson (Treasurer) Kathleen Cameron, Beth Hay, Joe Kirby, Jan Gardner, Erin McBean, Cllr Bill Lobban, PC Neil MacIvor, Shona MacLachlan (Minute Taker), Peter Crane (Cairngorm National Park Authority)

Apologies: Willie McKenna (CNPA)

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 10th December 2015 had been circulated. Jan Gardner advised spelling of surname was incorrect as there was no 'i'. With that alteration the minutes were accepted. **Minutes proposed by Alistair Dargie and seconded by Joe Kirby**

2. TREASURERS REPORT

Wilma Grierson produced receipts and payments report and advised that the balance of the account was £3555.28. The business reserve account is now £3093.26. £440 from the Business Association had been paid into the main account by mistake prior to her taking up her position. The money will be transferred to the business reserve account.

3. BUSINESS

3.1 Matters arising from minutes of previous meeting.

a) Application Retirement Apartments - McCarthy & Stone -John Grierson advised the objection has been put into planning.

b) 15/04359/ADV - Hoarding and illuminated advertisement sign - John Grierson advised objection has been put into planning.

c) Aviemore North Sign - John Grierson advised that the sign is now up. Alastair Dargie also advised the council have made an excellent job in fitting and it is in a great location. John Grierson to write letter of thanks.

d) ACE Membership - John Grierson advised that no letter has been received from ACE as yet to which 2 members have been requested. Joe Kirby questioned this, as in Septembers AVCC meeting Beth Hay and Alastair Dargie were asked to represent AVCC, and asked if Beth Hay and Alastair Dargie were elected as community councillors or members of ACE? John Grierson advised that they were elected as members of ACE and that it is up to ACE to request the two community councillors. Alastair Dargie advised as he is now Chair of ACE and is currently waiting on VABS for clarity on the matter.

e) Village Green Lease - John Grierson advised that there is no copy of any lease. Neither AVCC or Highland Council have a copy of this. However, there is a document of the bill of sale for when it was given to Aviemore and Rothiemurchus Village Council in 1955.. Enquiries will be made to ascertain the ownership of the ground. The searches will incur expenditure by the Community Council. All agreed that John should make the enquiries. John also advised that as Highland Council are not accepting ownership they will no longer be responsible for maintainance. Cllr Bill Lobban advised that the Highland Council have developed a new system, the areas have been mapped and shows every piece of ground in Badenoch and Strathspey. You can log in and it will show if Highland Council own the land and what level the grass will be cut to etc. . The Village Green is not shown on the map as Highland Council.

John Grierson also said that the Community Council hold a lease for the ground, owned by ACE, at the rear of the old primary. He felt that there was no reason for the Community Council to hold a lease and suggested the lease be terminated.

To be discussed at next meeting.

f) Money for Youth Club - Alastair Dargie advised funds are still sitting there. Contractors all have to be on the Highland Council approved list, so no work can get carried out without it, so this is one of the reasons there is a hold up.

3.2 NEW BUSINESS

a) Cairngorm and Glenmore Consultation - John Grierson welcomed Peter Crane to the meeting. Peter advised that there is a public drop in on the 4th February 2016 @ Cairngorm Hotel (4pm - 7pm) for anyone wishing to hear more information. Peter Crane went on to advise that in 2012 the National Park partnership plan identified an opportunity to look at the Cairngorm and Glenmore area where there as at least 1 million visits per year. The car park counter suggests 400,000 at the Coire Cas and 250,000 tickets sold for the funicular. No plans have been agreed and no deals done, and only money available is loan from Highlands and Islands Enterprise to Natural Retreats to help them develop. If this strategy and development is agreed, will have to make a good case for funding for it to go forward. 5 public partners have come together; Cairngorm Park Authority, Highland Council, Scottish Natural Heritage, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, and Forestry Commission, also private partners Natural Retreats, Scottish Youth Hostel Association and Highlife Highland. The plans have come from previous consultations. Peter Crane provided paper copies for the AVCC containing images of the challenges faced such as poor signage, dated facilities, irresponsible behaviour, poor parking and walkways. Information included in the overall strategy document were the 4 objectives; to improve the visitor experience, maintain its importance for nature, vital for local economy and real opportunity to improve the outdoor education. The improvement plan which the Forestry Commission Scotland have developed, this details the current issues including lack of welcome, lack of footpaths etc. Scottish Youth Hostel Association would also like to replace the hostel are interested in working with Highlife Highland to replace the provision lost from Badaguish, also an opportunity to work with Forestry Commission Scotland. Information on Cairngorm Estate was discussed and Peter Crane advised that they want to maintain the path network and keep the access open. Natural Retreats outlined proposals include updating the two carparks (Ciste and Cas) also would like to replace Daylodge. Natural Retreats are also looking at refurbishing Ptarmigan and looking into indoor facilities. Consultation closes 8th March, all responses will be looked at and any changes made and then taken to the National Park Authority at end of June. Erin Macbean asked

about existing businesses and how these would tie in. Peter Crane advised that all businesses in Glenmore have been met regularly to allow input and also mentioned that 14 months ago a drop in took place and residents in Glenmore have also been asked for input. Cllr Bill Lobban advised that the Highland Council received part of the donation from Badaguish back (£450,000) and have kept this aside for a similar project. The Highland Council and Highlife Highland would prefer money to be spent within the Glenmore area as it would suit their operation and could potentially be used. Peter Crane advised of Northumberland National Park, where the Youth Hostel Association and the Park Authority have managed to develop a project to build a new youth hostel and visitor centre which has generated £7.5 million of lottery funding, so this is also possible. Jan Gardner commented that many cars at the area of Loch Morlich are parking at the road side as there are no car parking charges. Peter Crane advised that the charges needed to be clear and consistent. Alastair Dargie also commented on the new path infrastructure from Hayfield to the beach area, and the parking capacity at the Hayfield is relatively large but not many people know about the pathways from there. Peter Crane agreed that better signage would be needed to advise that extra car park 400 yards along the road. Erin Macbean also questioned who would be marketing this, would it be the CNP? and would it be what Glenmore has to offer as a complete package and how the smaller businesses fit into it? Peter Crane it would be for the people who manage it (Natural Retreats/Forestry Commission etc) Peter Crane agreed that it was vital for small businesses to be included in the marketing too. John Grierson advised that the AVCC would hold back until next months meeting and put in response then to allow members to look at all the information and website. John Grierson thanked Peter Crane for his discussion and Peter Crane then left the meeting.

For inclusion in February Agenda

b) Police Update - PC Neil Mclvor advised there was 228 incidents in Aviemore area in December 2015. Some of these included 8 noise complaints, 4 suspicious persons, 18 licensing enquiries, 19 road accidents, 2 drink driving, 24 road traffic incidents, 6 assaults, 3 mountain rescues, 7 drug related, 2 flood, 4 lost property, 2 fire, 5 silent, 3 theft, 5 alarm and 11 medical. Jan Gardner advised that it was mentioned in the local Strathspey and Badenoch Newspaper that police were now clamping down on the 30mph speed limit on Grampian Road. PC Neil Mclvor commented that this was always the case for this and there is plenty signage for people to adhere to these limits.

c) Adoption of Willie McKenna as an associate member - John Grierson proposed having Willie McKenna adopted as a CNPA member which was unanimously agreed. **Proposed by John Grierson, seconded by Alastair Dargie**

d) Use of mobile phones during Community Council Meetings - John Grierson commented that mobile phones were being used during the meeting and it was agreed unanimously that these should only be used for looking up terms of reference if necessary.

e) Potential future co-option of members - Joe Kirby asked that the meeting discuss adoption of new members to boost the numbers at the AVCC meetings. John Grierson advised that we have 8 members at present and the minimum members needed was 5. It was agreed that the Council should continually monitor the situation.

f) Agenda Items - John Grierson advised that when giving agenda items, a description as to what it is about should be given, so that members can prepare properly for the meeting. It also gives the

opportunity for anyone who cannot make the meeting to make comments which can be circulated and read out at the meeting.

g) Planning Applications - subcommittee, members and process - John Grierson advised that there is a small subcommittee who deal with the notifications of planning permissions as they come in from Highland Council. If they are relevant to the Community Council and should be discussed, the subcommittee will then bring this to the meeting. The Community Council is not automatically a statutory consultee and has to request to be one. The Community Council required within 7 days to notify the Highland Council that they want to be consulted. This is why the subcommittee was formed. Alastair Dargie commented that every Thursday these are emailed out and asked if anyone else would be interested in joining. Erin McBean advised she would be interested, proposed by Wilma Grierson and seconded by Alastair Dargie. Joe Kirby also expressed interest, proposed by Alastair Dargie and seconded Wilma Grierson.

h) Underground Distribution Cables - John Grierson wanted to remind everyone that the Scottish Hydro Scheme are asking for any nominations for where we would like it to be.

For discussion at February meeting.

i) Orbital Path - Kathleen Cameron commented that some of the areas of the path are in a state. Cllr Bill Lobban suggested contacting the council with the specific areas. Erin McBean expressed interest in having a digital map with the walks. Cllr Bill Lobban advised that the CNP produced a map, should also be a digital copy. John Grierson asked members to look at the orbital path with a view to coming to the February meeting with details of areas of concern.

For discussion at February meeting.

j) Gift for Jim Seaton (santa) for Christmas tree lights turning on - Kathleen Cameron advised that Jim Seaton wanted his gift to go to Angel Wings Charity. It was agreed that a gift of £10 be given to Jim Seaton

k) Christmas Parade - Kathleen Cameron suggested a letter of thanks for everyone who helped out at the Christmas Parade. Alastair Dargie to write and put into Strathpey and Badenoch Herald.

l) Craft Fairs - Financial Review - With the agreement of all members, this item, which related to Craft Fair takings was discussed *'in camera'*. After discussion, Kathleen Cameron will speak with Wilma Grierson on handling the craft fair money.

5. AOCB

a) Craft Fairs - Kathleen Cameron advised that there are still plenty of enquiries. The fairs are on the 2nd last Sunday of the month from April to October.

b) Cyclists on Pavements - Grampian Road - Jan Gardner expressed concerns over people cycling along the pavement on Grampian Road towards Tesco. John Grierson advised that cycling on the pavements cannot be stopped, it has been pursued in the past but this is part of the Speyside Way.

c) Bus Shelters - Cllr Bill Lobban advised that 4 new bus shelters have been agreed for the area. These will be placed at Glenmore, Dellmhor and Coylumbridge Hotel, subject to the space that is available. It was agreed to do photo in paper with Ray Sefton when these do go up due to his hard

work pushing for these to go up for years. Johnnie Grant of Rothiemurchus Estate also agreed to put up a shelter, but would design and build himself.

d) Highland Council Budget - Cllr Bill Lobban advised that the Highland Council Budget will be formulised at the end of February.

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 11th February 2016 at 7.30pm in the Aviemore Community Centre.