

# **AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES of a MEETING of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL, held in AVIEMORE COMMUNITY CENTRE, on THURSDAY 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.00pm.**

**1. PRESENT:** John Grierson (Chair), Wilma Grierson, Al Dargie, Kathleen Cameron, Iain Gray, Erin Ferguson, Cllr Bill Lobban, Willie McKenna, Douglas Graham(public), Deziree Wilson(public), Ian Adams(Atkins Mouchel), Patrick Thomson(Atkins Mouchel) and Sam MacNaughton(Transport Scotland)

**2. APOLOGIES:** Karen Lawrie, Joe Kirby, Beth Hay and Neil McIvor(Police).

### **3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The minutes of AVCC which was held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

**Minutes proposed by Al Dargie and seconded by**

### **4. TREASURERS REPORT**

Wilma Grierson produced receipts and payments report and advised that the balance of the account was £1670.00. The statue account (business reserve) is now £3887.81

### **5. BUSINESS**

**5.1 A9 Dualling** – John Grierson introduced Ian Adams and Patrick Thomson of Atkins Mouchel and Sam MacNaughton of Transport Scotland. Ian Adams outlined the proposals for the A9 dualling as it passes Aviemore. The junction at Granish had been changed to include a roundabout at the junction of The A95 and B9152. The A9 was still to be widened on the southbound side and the Linwilg junction had been also re-aligned. Members agreed that the changes to the Granish Junction were for the better but were unanimously opposed to the widening of the road southbound. It was noted that there was a layby shown on the southbound side that was in Milton Wood. Members were robust in their opposition to the plans and stressed the importance of Milton Wood and the Aviemore Orbital to locals and how it was now part of the cultural heritage of the area. Members agreed that the widening of the road southbound and the layby in Milton wood is totally unacceptable and would be opposed. John Grierson thanked Ian Patrick and Sam for their attendance.

### **5.2 Matters arising from minutes of previous meeting.**

**a) Village Green** – Repairs are still ongoing.

**b) Christmas Lights** - John Grierson said that most of the lights have been put up. There are a small number that will require the use of a cherry picker to put them up. Al Dargie is arranging this.

**d) New Bus Stop** - Cllr Bill Lobban advised that he had nothing further to report at the moment.

**e) Bedding Plants** - John Grierson advised that he has received no contact regarding the flowers for 2018. He is to contact Highlife Highland.

**f) Review of Policy on Village Green Use** - Kathleen Cameron advised that we are no further forward.

**g) Snowblower** - Bill Lobban reported that a snowblower had been purchased and was now operational.

**h) Winter Gritting** – John Grierson said that he had attended the meeting with Highland Council. It was an internal meeting with invited guests to discuss the winter gritting problems and look at possible solutions. John said that one of the possible solutions was more uptake of the winter resilience scheme available to people residing in adopted roads. He said that, after exchanges on Facebook, he had ascertained that Joe Kirby was willing to be the co-ordinator for the Aviemore area. John proposed that Joe be asked to co-ordinate the scheme. This was seconded by Kathleen Cameron and unanimously agreed.

**i) North Dalfaber Industrial Estate** – John Grierson said that the planning application, which had been submitted in mid December, had been passed. He further said that the application had been missed by the planning sub-group. This had come about because the Highland Council had, for some reason, stopped notifying the Community Council weekly of applications submitted. John said he had been in contact with Highland Council and arranged for the emails to be re-instated.

**j) An Camus Mor** – John Grierson referred to the email from Johnnie Grant in response to an email from Joe Kirby regarding photographs on the An Camus Mor website. Johnnie Grant had copied John Grierson into his reply. The reply was that any member was welcome to have their photo on the website and gave a date when photos were being taken. John Grierson circulated Johnnie Grant's invitation to the members. Nobody took him up on the offer.

**5.3 School/Plastic Straw Project** – John Grierson said that he was taking an item of AOCB early. He introduced Deziree Wilson from Aviemore Primary School who said that primary 6 were undertaking a single use plastic campaign to get rid of plastic straws, cutlery etc. The campaign was originated by a Glasgow Primary school and has seen success in Ullapool. Pupils from the Glasgow school have been invited to Kingussie High School to relate their experiences to primary school children from around Badenoch and Strathspey to kickstart the campaign locally. There has been a lot of local support and children from all over the Strath will be attending. 49 pupils and teachers from Aviemore are attending the event and

Deziree requested that the Community Council consider helping with the cost of transport to get the children to Kingussie and with the follow-up project. Councillor Lobban said that there was still some money left in the discretionary fund. It was agreed that the Community Council should apply to the discretionary fund and if unsuccessful should fund the cost of transport. **Proposed by Al Dargie, seconded by Wilma Grierson**

**5.4 Planning Application – 2018/0027/DET – Spey House, Cairngorm Technology Park. –** Members heard that a planning application had been received for the conversion of Spey House to 20 flats plus another 6 flats. There was concern that there was no indication in the application of affordable housing and also, bearing in mind the extra traffic the development will produce, there was no indication of any traffic measures. After discussion it was decided that the chairman should check to see if there is any affordable housing and if there is none, object to the application. The chairman should also ascertain the planning gain and request that the community should have a say in its use. **Proposed by Al Dargie seconded by John Grierson.**

**5.5 Planning Application – 2018/0043/DET – Former Filling Station, Grampian Road.** Members heard that a planning application had been received for 32 flats on the site of the Former Filling Station, Grampian Road, Aviemore. This is a resubmission of a previous planning application. After discussion it was decided to object to the application on the basis that, at 4.5 storeys it is still too high. It is too close to the road and is imposing. One less storey would mean more parking and would blend in better. **Proposed by Al Dargie seconded by Erin Ferguson**

**5.6 Cairngorms National Park Local Development Plan 2020: Main Issues Report –** After discussion it was decided that sites THC045 and THC059 should be objected to. There is no need to show such sites on the map. Any possible ‘expansion’ could be dealt with under other policies. Designating the sites is a presumption that it is going to happen. Both areas are a short term ill thought out solution that will not be sustainable.

The settlement boundary encompassing High Burnside is completely at odds with the advice given by Park planners and the Government Reporter in the past. There is no point having a settlement boundary if it is not defended. It is important that the settlement boundary is defended Aviemore from encroachment from the A9 dualling.

The plan should not just be about housing. It is important that proper infrastructure is put in place now.

The area of grass in Grampian Road opposite the Greaves Shopping Centre should be identified as ‘Community Space’ and protected from development.

## **6 AOCB**

**6.1 Aviemore Bowling Club – funding request -** John Grierson said that he had received a funding request from Aviemore Bowling Club. The club presently gives bowling instruction to children and intend to invite the Primary School to bring along children. Unfortunately, the club does not have junior bowls and the normal adult bowls are not suitable. The club is looking to purchase at least 2 sets of bowls. The club has recently received a grant from the Community Council and it was suggested that they apply to the discretionary fund.

## **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 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7.30pm in the Aviemore Community Centre.