

AVIEMORE & VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting on Thursday 10th June 2021 at 7.30pm via Microsoft Teams

1. Present

Peter Long (Chair), AVCC	Bill Lobban, Highland Council
Al Dargie (Vice Chair), AVCC	Willie McKenna, CNPA
Kathleen Cameron (Treasurer), AVCC	Sally Devlin (Visitor)
Elsbeth Byrne (Secretary), AVCC	Paul Jarvis (Visitor)
Beth Hay, AVCC	

2. Apologies for absence

Joe Kirby (AVCC)	Jess Creber (visitor)
Jeni Pacitti (AVCC)	

3. **Welcome and introductions** – Peter Long welcomed everyone to the meeting.

4. **Meeting etiquette** – Peter Long reminded everyone about meeting etiquette.

5. Declarations of interest

Peter Long, Kathleen Cameron and Beth Hay declared an interest in agenda item 9h
Erection of outdoor classroom building as Directors of ACE.

6. Minutes of last (May) meeting

One change required - Jeni Pacitti was recorded as a visitor but was a member of AVCC.
**The minutes of the May 2021 meeting were accepted with the above change –
proposed by Kathleen Cameron and seconded by Beth Hay.**

7. **Matters arising from last (May) meeting** – none.

8. Treasurer's report

Kathleen Cameron said that the only movement on accounts was a small amount of
interest. The insurance had been paid with Al Dargie as second signatory.

9. Business

a. Co-option of new member

**Kathleen Cameron proposed that Sally Devlin be co-opted onto AVCC,
seconded by Al Dargie. Sally Devlin accepted.**

b. Village Green ownership – update

Peter Long was still awaiting cost to complete the legal work.

c. Myrtlefield – update

Bill Lobban said that Highland Council has applied for funds for the acquisition and
improvement of the site.

d. Path funding opportunity from Nature Scot: Improving Public Access – update

Sally Devlin summarised options suggested by the working group.

Willie McKenna said that CNPA would be able to help and Al Dargie could do the mapping. Possible areas for upgrade were discussed by the meeting:

- Milton Woods section of the Orbital path.
Track needs to be widened and fencing to the A9 replaced. Bill Lobban said that Transport is responsible for replacing fencing damaged by A9 drilling work. Sections of the path may need to be moved due to A9 dualling.

Medium Priority

- North end of Aviemore - the gates on either side of the main road where the orbital path crosses – no access except for pedestrians and no road signs. Willie McKenna said that CNPA are not responsible for the road crossing.

High Priority.

- The tunnel from Robertsons estate to the Speyside Way frequently floods. Willie McKenna said that this is the responsibility of CNPA.

Priority, but may be CNPA responsibility.

Action: Peter Long to contact Peter Crane, CNPA.

- Tunnel under steam railway – underpass narrow and uneven.

May be CNPA responsibility.

- Behind The Vault to the River Spey and right along the river towards the Old Bridge Inn. This much larger project was not possible within timescales.

Do not include in upgrading.

- River-side track through Milton woods – muddy, narrow and uneven.

Action: Al Dargie and Beth Hay to visit the area to determine if this should be including in upgrading.

Action: Peter Long and Al Dargie to look at mapping of areas for inclusion, and to work with the group to see if a bid could be submitted in the timescale (end June).

e. Flowers – update

Beth Hay said that the flowers will be planted on Tuesday evening. A Facebook post will be placed to ask for help with the planting.

f. Broken speaker from PA system - update

Kathleen Cameron said that the Inverness supplier was waiting for the new system to be picked up. Bill Lobban would find out if funding is agreed.

g. Green recovery fund 2021/2022 - litter picking equipment

Peter Long said that we will receive £495 for equipment. A half day litter pick will be organised when we have the equipment – probably a Saturday morning.

h. Erection of outdoor classroom building

Kathleen Cameron provided an update on behalf of ACE. A planning application has been submitted. ACE members did not take part in discussions.

Al Dargie proposed that AVCC support the application, seconded by Elspeth Byrne.

i. Fundraising stalls on Village Green

Beth Hay asked if fundraising stalls could be allowed again on a monthly basis. Al Dargie suggested that Bob Murdoch of Highland Council might advise.

Action: Beth Hay to find out how to manage risk assessments and Covid restrictions and provide an update to the next meeting.

Kathleen Cameron said that several people wanted to use the Village Green:

- A performer wants to do an acoustic set. She has 'OK' from the Police.
The meeting agreed she could go ahead.
- A local resident wants to hold a running event on 17th June using their gazebos and they just require electricity supply. Al Dargie said that event organisers do their own risk assessments and provide their own insurance cover. Bill Lobban said that we need to ask if these things are in place including covid measures.
The meeting agree that the Village Green could be used.
- A local resident wants to hold a private event in September with live music and requires electricity supply. A license is required for live music and the organiser should resolve capacity questions etc. The organiser is responsible for leaving the Village Green in hand-over condition and is responsible for clean-up/repairs.
It was agreed that a suggested donation to AVCC of £200 be requested for this and similar private events.

j. Improvements to Grampian Road/Dalfaber Drive junction

Elsbeth Byrne had attended a presentation as part of the consultation process. This is a 'permitted development' so does not require planning permission. The Highland Council is seeking comments on the development from the public.

Paul Jarvis said that he had been contacted by 20+ local residents who were concerned about safety, effects on health and the environment and traffic flow, and felt that the current proposal could be improved. Bill Lobban said that upgrade of the junction was required due to the new hospital, housing developments and the trading estate. In the hierarchy of road safety, people and cyclists are at the top and the private car at the bottom. The meeting discussed various options and there was disagreement as to the safest. Most people thought that a mini roundabout would not be suitable. Paul Jarvis thought that, while a mini roundabout was not ideal, it was still a better choice than the current proposals, although a decent sized roundabout would be preferable.

There was disagreement about whether AVCC should take a neutral stance or submit view to Highland Council. Bill Lobban suggested that AVCC seek information to aid consideration. In any case local residents are encouraged to put forward their own views on the development.

Elsbeth Byrne proposed that AVCC seek information about road junctions in terms of health, safety and pollution. Seconded by Beth Hay.

Al Dargie proposed that AVCC also seek information as to whether there is space for a roundabout. Seconded by Elspeth Byrne.

Paul Jarvis thanked the meeting for being given the opportunity to speak. Peter Long said that AVCC will share any information/update with him.

k. Unsightly roundabout at Blacks/Retail Park roundabout

A local resident has expressed concern that the Blacks/Retail Park roundabout is untidy and full of weeds and does not promote a good image of Aviemore. Bill Lobban said that it was up to Highland Council to maintain the roundabout.

The meeting agreed that wild flowers would be an attractive addition.

Bill Lobban agreed to take this forward.

l. Village Green improvement works – update

Kathleen Cameron said that the Village Green improvement works had been completed and it can now be handed back to AVCC. She had obtained two vastly differing quotations for tidying-up trees and hedges etc.

Al Dargie proposed that Kathleen confirm that the lesser quotation includes edging the set-in stones and add the requirement to strip out the beech hedges behind the statue. Seconded by Beth Hay.

10. Reports from other organisations

a. CNPA report

Willie McKenna said that there are visitor management problems at Glenmore. Both Willie McKenna and Bill Lobban were against introducing camping restrictions because of a few irresponsible people. Kathleen Cameron suggested that local shops be requested not to sell disposable barbecues.

b. Highland Council report

Bill Lobban gave the report. Aviemore Health Centre would soon be moving to the new hospital. Highland Council was working with CNPA in making changes to the Glenmore road including charging for parking on the road. Funds raised will be reinvested in Glenmore. Funding has been applied for upgrade to an old toilet block in Glenmore. Roadworks continue at the south end of Aviemore.

c. ACE board member report

Kathleen Cameron said that she had little to report other than problems with the banners and that the 100 club had not been successful in the latest fundraiser.

d. AGCT report – no one present so no update

11. AOCB

Peter Long said that there was a proliferation of road-signs on Dalfaber Drive.

It was agreed that signage be formalised during Dalfaber junction work.

Al Dargie said that paving between The Green and Grampian Road is not level making it difficult for residents to walk. Bill Lobban would take forward.

12. Date of next meeting – Thursday 15th July 2021

13. Closure – meeting closed 9.30pm