

AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTE of a MEETING of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in AVIEMORE COMMUNITY CENTRE, on THURSDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 2013 at 7.30pm.

Present: John Grierson (Chair), Alistair Dargie (Vice Chair), Ray Sefton (Secretary), Kathleen Cameron, Karen Lawrie, Audrey MacKenzie, Yvonne Birnie, Bill Lobban (Highland Council), Willie McKenna (CNPA), PC Richard Thorpe, Tom Ramage (Press), Lisa Whittlestone (Minute taker)

Apologies: Lorna McGibbon, Karen Lawrie, Stevie Wilson

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of AVCC held on Thursday 8th August 2013, which had been previously circulated were **proposed by Ray Sefton and seconded by Alistair Dargie**, with the following amendments;

Item 3(a) Olympic Plaques - [Company name] to be replaced with 'Brunel Engraving'.

Item 4(3) Motion- Election of Co-opted member - '5 votes of yes' should read '6 votes of yes'.

Item 4(5) Village Green and Market Licence - In line 8 there should be a full stop after 'groups' and the rest of the paragraph removed and replaced with ' Local charities would be allowed two uses per year free of charge thereafter as for local individuals and groups. There will be a charge of £25 for other groups and organisations.'

Item 5(j) - AGM of ASCCC should read 'AGM of AofCC'

2. TREASURER'S REPORT

John Grierson reported that Lorna was unable to attend the meeting but had advised that the balance on account at the end of August is £5462.85.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) **Olympic Plaques** – Alistair Dargie updated the meeting on the quotes and design specifications for the replacement Olympic plaque. Alistair Dargie produced an invoice from Brunel Engraving for £703.20 including VAT for the work that was done.
- b) **Litter Bins and Pavements** – Bill Lobban advised there are 7 new litter bins and 3 old bins have been re-sited within the village.
- c) **Parking in The Green, Aviemore** – Alistair Dargie informed the meeting that he has contacted the Housing Association regarding the problem with the parking and as of yet had received no response. Bill Lobban agreed he would also contact them to chase a response.
- d) **Footpath at the Dell of Spey** – Cllr Bill Lobban reported that lighting issue had been addressed and that it was now fixed.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a) **The Camping and Caravanning Club – Dark Sky Approval** - John Grierson advised that he had written to The Camping and Caravanning Club for some clarification but has had no response. John Grierson suggested that the Community Council should recommend both Glenmore and Coylumbridge for Discovery Approval and that he would write to the appropriate bodies to explain why he would like to recommend these places. **Proposed by Alistair Dargie and seconded by Kathleen Cameron.**
- b) **CC Evaluation 2013** - John Grierson advised that the new scheme which was to replace the old scheme had been passed.
- c) **Cairngorm – Closed System** – Bill Lobban informed the meeting that Highland Council had discussed the Visitor Management Plan in May this year and decided guided tours would be made permanent. Highland Council also noted further changes to the VMP may be required in due course. Ray Sefton said that he had received correspondence of support from Carrbridge Community Council but had received an email from Kincaig Community Council saying that they did not support AVCC's stance. Tom Ramage, who also attends Kincaig Community Council meetings, said that he could not recall our request being discussed at any of their meetings. It was decided that John Grierson should follow up on this as the decision taken by Kincaig was in complete contrast to their position two years ago. Ray Sefton is to forward copies of the correspondence with Kincaig to all members. In the meantime it was decided that AVCC, through Ray Sefton, would progress action on the 'Closed System'. **Proposed by Ray Sefton and seconded by Kathleen Cameron.**
- d) **Highland Council Quality Awards 2013** - John Grierson advised that it was time for the Highland Council Annual Quality Awards and that nominations were invited. There was a short discussion and it was decided by that the Community Council would nominate Kathleen Cameron for her outstanding work with Children's Services . **Proposed by John Grierson and seconded by Ray Sefton.**
- e) **Parcel Carriers overcharging for deliveries to PH, IV, KW on the basis of not being mainland** – John Grierson reported that he had received a request from a resident, Jim Franks, to have the problem of overcharging for deliveries discussed. John Grierson advised that a great deal of work was being carried out already by Highland Council and our local MSP and MP. It was felt that there was nothing much more that the Community Council could offer.
- f) **Winter Resilience** – John Grierson stated at the last meeting it has been decided that AVCC would not be taking part. Yvonne Birnie who hadn't attended the last meeting held advised she had put an application in and it had been rejected.
- g) **Planning Application - 2013/0271/DET – Old Gravel Pit, Rothiemurchus** – Bill Lobban, HC and CNPA Planning Committee and Willie McKenna, CNPA Planning Committee both expressed an interest. Yvonne Birnie questioned why she had not been contacted about the application. As she lives nearby, she felt it would have been appropriate for her to be contacted. John Grierson explained that the purpose of the Community Council Planning

Sub-Committee was to look at applications as they were notified to AVCC. AVCC is not an automatic consultee and have to let Highland Council know if they want to be considered a consultee. The time scale for this is short. CNPA now include community councils as consultees and there is more time to reply. It cannot be guaranteed, however, that CNPA will call in an application therefore the Community Council has to act quickly. John Grierson also pointed out that if the sub-committee had to phone round other Community Council members about applications in their area what would be the point of having a sub-committee. The applications are published on the Highland Council website. They are sent to Ray Sefton but anyone can register with the site to have these notifications. With regards to the Old Gravel Pit application, it had been considered by the Sub-Committee and none of the members saw any problem with the application. It was noted that Yvonne Birnie had already objected as a neighbour. **Bill Lobban and Willie McKenna took no part in the discussions.**

h) High speed Broadband – Bill Lobban advised that Aviemore is scheduled to receive Broadband and that there would be further dates and information on when they would be connected in October. Bill advised that the main business premises, offices and residential areas would receive broadband but fibre optic cable would end at the BT boxes in the street, it would then be a copper cable connection from there to the individual premises. Bill also stated that Inverness and Nairn were already connected.

i) Aviemore North and South signs - Bill Lobban advised that with regards to the upkeep and ownership of the signs that AVCC were responsible for the signs and that the Highland council are responsible for the sign poles. Alistair Dargie updated AVCC on the restoration of the North and South signs. The north sign has been sanded with the help of the Community Payback Scheme. Alistair Dargie is repainting the sign and the cost of this would be £100.00 for the paint and £8.50 plus VAT for the posts. Alistair said the southbound sign was still requiring some further work to be carried out before it is ready and when restored it would be placed at the South end of the village. The northbound sign would then be restored and placed at the North end of the village. Kathleen Cameron then stated she would contact the local Youth work group and see if they would be interested in contributing time to repainting the signs, Members agreed they would be eager to support the local youth group and that they would play for any supplies they would require to do this. **Ray Sefton proposed and seconded by Kathleen Cameron.** There was discussion on a new location for the sign at the North end of the village. Its present location is now well into the village and it was suggested it should be placed further out. John Grierson said that Highland Council had agreed to put the sign back up. Cllr Bill Lobban added that when AVCC had decided and agreed on a new location for the signs and he further added if Highland Council agreed to put up the signs then no planning permission would be needed. It was also to be minuted that AVCC thanked Alistair Dargie for all his hard work in painting and restoring the signs.

j) Village Green - Tree preservation – John Grierson advised that the local businesses situated around the village green had expressed concerns about the tree branches damaging their

premises. Bill Lobban stated that before carrying out any tree work that the AVCC needed to liaise with the council and ask them to have their forestry officer survey the area and give advice on any work that is required.

5. AOCB

- a) **Grass site at Robertson's** - Bill Lobban advised that the reinstated grass had received further two cuts and the area was now available for use.
- b) **Speeding problems in Aviemore** – Bill Lobban advised that the Highland Council are considering 20mph speed limits in all built up areas in Highland. There will have to be traffic speed surveys and traffic calming measures put in place. There is a limited budget and will be directed at problem areas which will be decided by the Highland Council. Bill Lobban also advised crossing is to be put in place on Dalfaber Drive.
- c) **Damage to poles on the ski road** – Yvonne Birnie reported that there were signs of damage to the poles on the ski road and to other road signs. Some could not be read and some were missing/badly placed. Scot Water have damaged the water pump at Inverdrue and it has burst and leaking. Alistair Dargie said that it was a fire hydrant and he would investigate this matter further. Yvonne is to send pictures of any damage to John Grierson who would write to Highland Council (Andrew McIvor).
- d) **Ray Sefton** stated that the Aviemore Business Association website was being worked on and would be online in December and that AVCC would have two pages to use.
- e) **Emptying of Waste Tanks on Buses etc** - Willie McKenna asked if anyone knew what facilities there in the area were for buses to empty waste tanks. It was remitted to John Grierson to enquire with Scottish Water to see if there were any facilities available.
- f) **Police Report - Police Report** - PC Richard Thorpe advised that the police were now monitoring the entrance to the village where the speeding problems had been an issue.

6. CLOSE OF MEETING AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

John Grierson thank all those for attending, and the date of the next meeting of AVCC was set for Thursday 10th October 2013 at 7.30pm to be held in The Aviemore Community Centre.