

AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTE of a MEETING of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in AVIEMORE COMMUNITY CENTRE, on THURSDAY 10th JULY 2014 at 7.30pm.

Present: John Grierson (Chair), Alastair Dargie (Vice Chair), Ray Sefton (Secretary), Lorna McGibbon (Treasurer), Yvonne Birnie, Steven Wilson, Audrey Mackenzie, Cllr Bill Lobban, Tom Ramage(Press)

Apologies: Karen Lawrie, Kathleen Cameron, Lisa Whittlestone, Willie McKenna.

Opening Remarks: John Grierson welcomed everyone to this meeting of AVCC. He also reminded everyone that the meeting was being recorded for minute taking purposes.

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The Minutes of AVCC held on Thursday 12th June 2014 which had been previously circulated were agreed with addition of " It was decided that any fund raising money received, e.g. Craft Fair, should be placed in the 'Statue Account". Yvonne Birnie wished it recorded that she did not agree with the wording of the June meeting with regards to the Item 4(b) Withdrawal from Cragg. **Adoption of the minutes was proposed by Alistair Dargie and seconded by Ray Sefton**

2. TREASURER'S REPORT

Lorna McGibbon advised that the balance on account was £5193.83. She further added that the balance on the statue account £1431.77.

3 BUSINESS

3.1 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) **Commonwealth Games Baton Relay** – John Grierson congratulated Yvonne and Alistair who had both been baton bearers. The day had gone off well with a large number of members of the public attending. He thanked all who had taken part in organising the event.
- b) **New Projects** – Alistair Dargie confirmed that the tents had been received. The £400 discretionary fund grant has also been banked.
- c) **Burnside and British Legion** - John Grierson reported that the work had been completed.
- d) **Seats at Burnside** - John Grierson reported that a meeting was still to take place.
- e) **Sound System** - John Grierson reported that he was no further forward with funding. He had been in contact with VABS to seek assistance.
- f) **CNPA Planning Committee Meetings** - John Grierson said that due to a memory lapse a letter had not been sent until 10th July. He is awaiting a reply.
- g) **Water Pumps at Waterfall** - Ray Sefton reports that there has been no progress.

3.2 NEW BUSINESS

- a) Glenmore Master Plan - Hamish Trench CNPA** - John Grierson introduced Hamish Trench, Director of Conservation and Visitor Experience at CNPA and Graeme Prest of Forestry Commission Scotland. Hamish introduced Draft 05 of the Glenmore Outline Masterplan and explained that the new partnership had been formed to look at the overall strategy for Glenmore and to progress that in a more structured way than before. Graeme then went on to further explain the masterplan and commented on how the Forestry Commission sees the future for the Glenmore area. The new partnership is made up of Forestry Commission Scotland, CNPA, HIE, SNH and the Highland Council. John thanked both for attending.
- b) CRAGG** - John Grierson said that the subject of withdrawal from CRAGG was discussed at the June meeting and a decision had been taken that AVCC should withdraw from CRAGG. As the decision was made under an AOCB item the decision had to be ratified at the July meeting. It was **proposed by John Grierson and seconded by Ray Sefton that the decision be ratified and AVCC withdraw from CRAGG. There was a counter proposal from Yvonne Birnie, seconded by Steven Wilson, that AVCC remain on CRAGG.** A vote was taken and the proposal to ratify the June decision to withdraw from CRAGG was passed by four votes to two with one abstention. (For - John Grierson, Ray Sefton, Lorna McGibbon, Audrey Mackenzie. Against - Yvonne Birnie, Steven Wilson. Abstention - Alastair Dargie.) **John Grierson to write to Jane Hope, CRAGG Chairperson.**
- c) WW1 Centenary Commemorations** - Ray Sefton had previously circulated information about a First World War Centenary event to be held in Inverness on 4th August 2014. The Community Council has been invited to send one of our members. After a short discussion it was felt that if Ray was able to attend he would be the most appropriate person to attend on the Community Council's behalf. **Ray Sefton to reply and attend.**
- d) Consultation on Councillor Numbers** - Correspondence had been received from the Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland regarding proposals for councillor numbers. It was being proposed that the number of councillors in Highland Region be reduced from 80 to 72. It was decided to support the proposal but to also indicate the community council's opposition to any change in the boundaries. The historic geographical boundary of Badenoch and Strathspey should remain. **Proposed by Alistair Dargie, seconded by Steven Wilson. John Grierson to reply to consultation.**
- e) A9 Dualling** - Correspondence was received from Transport Scotland regarding the Dualling of the A9 and offering to meet with the Community Council to discuss the A9 Dualling Programme and any concerns that there may be. **John Grierson to contact Transport Scotland to discuss proposals for a meeting.**
- f) Grass Cutting** - Alastair Dargie spoke about the deplorable situation with regards to grass cutting in public areas in Aviemore. The situation is dire throughout Badenoch and Strathspey. He thanked and congratulated Bill Lobban on the lobbying he had done to get the grass cutting back on track. After discussion it was felt that the situation came about due to the Council contracting out the grass cutting but failing to ensure that a robust contract was in place. The grass company were only doing what was in their contract. It was decided that AVCC should write to William Gilfillan and express our disgust at what has happened and seek an assurance that it will not happen again. **Proposed by John Grierson seconded by Ray Sefton.**

g) Proposed Changes to the Health Services in Badenoch and Strathspey - The Public Consultation on the proposed changes to the Health Services in Badenoch and Strathspey was discussed. At Q1 it was decided to support each option 'to a great extent' except for Retaining some outpatient services at Grantown and Kingussie where it 'support to some extent'. At Q2 it was decided to support option 3 - Community Resource centre and hospital(with ~20-25 in-patient beds) in Aviemore supported by other services and developments. At Q3 it was decided to support the Technology Park. There were no other comments. **John Grierson to complete the consultation document.**

4. AOCB

- a) Licensing(Scotland)Act 2005 - Tidal Bay, Grampian Road, Aviemore - Variation of licence.** - After discussion it was decided not to object. **Ray Sefton to reply.**
- b) Sports Council - Evening with the Stars** - Yvonne Birnie reported that a sub-committee of the Badenoch and Strathspey Sports Council (BSSC) which has been formed to have 'An evening with the Sports Stars' The event is to be held on Saturday 1st November 2014 in the Macdonald's Aviemore Highland Resort Cinema and it hoped to inspire young local sports people to succeed in their sport. It would also be hoped to raise funds for the Sports Council. After discussion it was felt that AVCC would need some more information about costings before a decision could be made. It was suggested that, as the event was for young people, the Sports Council might also consider applying to the Highland Council Youth budget. **Yvonne Birnie to pursue that course of action and report back to the next meeting.**
- c) Olympian Statue** - Yvonne Birnie asked what was happening with the Olympian Statue. Alastair Dargie said it is still to be ascertained how the old plaque is attached. Alastair is to speak with Dudley Evans.
- d) Planning Applications at Coylumbridge** - Yvonne Birnie asked if there had been any planning application for Coylumbridge. Ray Sefton said that there had not been any. Ray Sefton said that if you register with Highland Council ePlanning you can receive intimation each week of all planning applications relevant to your area registered that week. It is also possible to see details of the application. **Ray Sefton to email all members with the link.**
- e) Land Reform (Scotland)Act 2003 - CNPA Core Paths - High Burnside** - John Grierson reported that he had received correspondence from the DPEA Informing us that the Reporter will be visiting the High Burnside site on Wednesday 3rd September 2014. John said that he would attend and said that if any other Community Council member wished to attend they should let him know so that he can inform the Reporters Office.
- f) YMCA - Request to use Village Green** John Grierson reported that he had received a request from Daniel Cottam of the YMCA, Grantown on Spey to set up a gazebo on the Village Green on the Saturday evening of the Harley weekend. The Highland Youth Development Officer , Lita Lesley, and himself are intending to have a youth work presence to assist with any youth related problems and give out information. Ray Sefton said that the green was free that evening and he had put in the diary.

5. 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 14th August 2014 at 7.30pm to be held in The Aviemore Community Centre.

