

AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTE of a MEETING of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL held in AVIEMORE COMMUNITY CENTRE, on THURSDAY 14th AUGUST 2014 at 7.30pm.

Present: John Grierson (Chair), Alastair Dargie (Vice Chair), Ray Sefton (Secretary), Lorna McGibbon (Treasurer), Yvonne Birnie, Audrey Mackenzie, Kathleen Cameron, Cllr Bill Lobban, Willie McKenna (public), Joe Kirby (public)

Apologies: Karen Lawrie, Lisa Whittlestone, Steven Wilson

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 had been previously circulated. They were agreed with addition of Kathleen Cameron to 'Apologies for Absence' and an addition to the minute showing that Yvonne Birnie had disagreed with the wording of the June minutes 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 £6942.56. She further added that the balance on the statue account £1561.77. Lorna also reported that have stopped the Bonus Account (Statue Account) and changed it to Business Reserve Account. The account number remains the same but interest is now 0.05%

3 BUSINESS

3.1 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a) **Seats at Burnside** - John Grierson reported that the meeting had not yet taken place. Kathleen said that Youth Workers were now moving around the Burnside area.
- b) **Sound System** - John Grierson reported that he was presently putting together an application to Awards for All. He had been in touch with VABS and had been given a website on funding to check.
- c) **CNPA Planning Committee Meetings** - John Grierson read out a letter from Simon Harrison, Head Planner at CNPA. Mr Harrison said that he had put a procedure in place that should hopefully give objectors two to three weeks notice of a hearing date.
- d) **Water Pumps at Waterfall** - Ray Sefton reports that there has been no progress. Bill Lobban is going to follow it up.

- e) **A9 Dualling** - John Grierson said that he had emailed Transport Scotland but had not had a reply. Bill Lobban said that Carrbridge CC were having a meeting with them. John to contact Transport Scotland again.
- f) **Grass Cutting** - John Grierson read out a letter from William Gilfillan apologising for the standard of grass cutting and explaining the steps that were being taken to ensure it does not happen again.
- g) **Sports Council - Evening with the Stars** - Yvonne Birnie reported that after deliberation the Sports Council decided that there was insufficient time to organise the event and it has been postponed to be held at a later date.
- h) **Olympian Statue** - Alastair Dargie said that he had been unable, due to other commitments, to speak to Dudley Evans but will do shortly.

3.2 NEW BUSINESS

- I. **Lee Haxton , Community Support Manager, CNPA** - John Grierson introduced Lee Haxton who is Community Support Manager at Cairngorms National Park Authority. Lee went on to describe his role which includes ensuring that CNPA maintains effective links with community bodies, including community councils. Lee has been in post for a year and has been going round the Community Councils in the Park. He is a point of contact and will give advice and direct enquiries etc to the right people. He spoke briefly about the Rural Parliament event which is to be held on 26th August at the Lecht and said that for the Rural Parliament to be a success it was important that both Community Councils and the Scottish Government engage with it. There are key issues throughout the Park that could be taken to the Parliament. He said that CNPA are very keen on community engagement and he urged members not to hesitate to contact him if they need assistance. Audrey Mackenzie asked if there was anything the Park could do about the untidiness of Aviemore, in particular small pieces of land that were left to weeds. Lee will look further in to it. There being no further questions John thanked Lee for his input and invited him to stay for the rest of the meeting.
- II. **Wild Camping and Motor Homes** - John Grierson referred to an email that had been received via the website and circulated complaining about motor homes parking on the waste ground south of the old garage. He had been in contact with MAHR who were unsure if they owned it. They have not got back to him yet.
- III. **Verges on Dalfaber Road** - Audrey complained about the mess on the verges along Dalfaber Road. It has become overgrown and very untidy. Many tourists walk and cycle along the road and it is not a good impression to give. **Bill Lobban is to make enquiries to see if HC can do anything about it.**
- IV. **Proposal to Adopt a Co-opted Member - Mrs Beth Hay** - Mrs Beth Hay MBE was proposed for adoption by John Grierson and seconded by Ray Sefton. A vote was taken and Beth was elected unanimously. John Grierson to notify Highland Council.
- V. **Taped Minutes** - Yvonne Birnie said that at the July meeting she was told she could hear the tape of the June meeting but then the tape had been erased after the minutes had been agreed. She wanted to know why, after it had been agreed at the meeting that she could hear it, it was erased. John Grierson said that he had taken advice from Liz Cowie, the Ward Manager and David Hass, Inverness City Manager. He was told that meetings are taped for minute taking purposes only and the tape should be erased when the minutes are typed up. The archive for the meeting is the minutes. He should not have made a transcript for Yvonne. He was advised that as the minute had been agreed

the tape should be erased and he followed that advice. He said that he could only apologise as he had made a mistake. Yvonne asked if it was alright for her to tape meetings. John said that he didn't have a problem with it but would check. There was further discussion on the need, in view of Lisa's situation, to get a replacement minute taker at least on a temporary basis. John is to speak with Lisa and an appeal will be made in the Strathy.

- VI. Tents and Craft Fairs** - Kathleen Cameron said that she had received a request from the British Legion to rent the new tents for a wedding on the 'Harley Weekend'. After discussion it was agreed they could rent them for £50 each. They would be shown how to put them up and would be responsible for any damage caused or missing parts. Kathleen also produced a plan of the Village Green that showed that 16 stalls could be accommodated at the Craft Fair. There has been a request from the craft people for a Christmas Fair. It was suggested that this could be on the same day as the Christmas carol service. It was agreed for the Harley weekend and the Christmas Fair that the cost should be £20 per stall. Yvonne raised an anomaly in the 'pricing' structure with regards to Charities. It was agreed that charities would have two free days per year and then the cost would be the same as the fair, i.e. £10. Kathleen said that the collecting money and paying it into the bank was awkward and asked if something else could be done. It was decided, **proposed by Yvonne Birnie and seconded by Ray Sefton**, that AVCC should open a PayPal account and link it to the statue account and that stall holders should be asked to pay into PayPal in advance. Lorna is to arrange the account.
- VII. Clarify Rules on Use of Village Green** - John Grierson said that the Community Council cannot rent out the Village Green for commercial events. It would be contrary to the lease. The Community Council can, however, run a fund raising event such as a craft fair. Being a Community Council it does not need a market licence. A community councillor or someone appointed by the Community Council should be present when the fair is ongoing. It should not be left for the stall holders to get on with it. Audrey Mackenzie had to leave the meeting at this point (2030hrs)

4. AOCB

- a) Planning Application - 2014/0240/DET - Speyside Way south of Aviemore** - This application had been called in on the prior Monday and there would be insufficient time to respond to it if it was left to the next meeting. After discussion it was decided that the application should be supported and comment should be made about road safety concerns, different documents on Highland Council and CNPA sites and why the applicant is judging the application. **Proposed by Alastair Dargie and seconded by Ray Sefton.**
- b) Playpark and Grass Kick Pitch at Dalfaber** - Lorna McGibbon reported that the swing has still not been returned to the playpark and the grass at the kick park has not been cut. Bill Lobban said that he had done some enquiry to see who owned the kick park and it was not the Highland Council. He had also checked the planning permissions for the area and there were no conditions in them regarding the kick park. John Grierson will contact Shaun Finnie about the swing.
- c) Riverside Park** - Lorna McGibbon asked if the riverside park was now open. Bill Lobban said that someone had removed the rope barriers that had been put up. He further said that Scottish Water had found the water supply and that the cattle watering trough should be in place in a couple of weeks and the cattle would no longer be a problem.
- d) Association of Cairngorm Communities** - Ray Sefton asked if anyone was attending the next AofCC meeting in September. John Grierson said that he would not be able to attend the meeting. Yvonne Birnie said that she would be attending.

- e) **Old Logging Way** - Yvonne Birnie reported that the Old Logging Way has become untidy and the vegetation is projecting on to the path in places. Ray Sefton said that Rothiemurchus Estate, who are responsible for the upkeep of the path have identified the problem areas and they are due to be repaired.
- f) **Next Community Council Meeting** - A number of apologies were received for the next meeting in September. After discussion it was decided that it would be prudent, to avoid a non-quorate meeting, that the date be changed. John Grierson is to enquire about room availability and will contact all members. Ray Sefton to notify change of date in press.

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 in August, to be held in The Aviemore Community Centre, will be notified and published in the prescribed manner.