

AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL, held in AVIEMORE COMMUNITY CENTRE, on THURSDAY 13th July 2017 at 7.30pm.

1. PRESENT: John Grierson (Chair), Alastair Dargie (Vice Chair), Kathleen Cameron, Beth Hay, Wilma Grierson, Ian Gray, Karen Lawrie, Joe Kirby, Willie McKenna, Karen Derrick(VABS), Mairi Brown(VABS), Johnnie Grant (public)

2. APOLOGIES: Erin Ferguson, Bill Lobban, Shona McLoughlin

3. OPENING REMARKS: John Grierson welcomed everyone to this meeting of AVCC.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

The minutes of AVCC which was held on Thursday 8th June 2017 were discussed.
Minutes proposed by Beth Hay and seconded by Al Dargie.

5. TREASURERS REPORT

Wilma Grierson produced receipts and payments report and advised that the balance of the account was £3527.01. The statue account (business reserve) is now £4648.25.

6. BUSINESS

John Grierson said that he intended to change the running order of Business and take Item 6(2) before 6(1)

6.2 Aviemore Community Action Plan – John Grierson said that the purpose of this item was to present the Aviemore Community Action Plan to the Community Council. It was not intended to have any discussion on how it should be implemented. Implementation would be the subject of a separate meeting. He then handed over to Karen Derrick and Mairi Brown from Voluntary Action Badenoch and Strathspey. Karen then gave a briefing on the contents of the action plan and how it was formulated. A copy of the plan is attached to the minutes. Karen also spoke about the Community Partnership and gave an update on its make-up.

6.1 Matters arising from minutes of previous meeting.

a) Village Green Lease - John Grierson advised that there was no further update.

b) Primary School Consultation and 4.5 day a week - Al Dargie produced a letter that he had received from the headmistress at Aviemore Primary School regarding the breakfast club and after-school provision. He said that the issues were that, apart from the short notice, there had been no formal notice or consultation, the letter contained no information about what was happening with the October break and the increase in charges bore no resemblance to the 30 pence per hour indicated by the headmistress at the Community Council meeting in May. There will in fact be a 50% rise in charges. Many people will be unable to afford these changes to charges and this will adversely

affect children who may have to go home alone. After discussion it was decided that the chairman should write to the head of education at Highland Council and express our deep concerns. **Proposed by John Grierson seconded by Al Dargie.**

c) Planning Application 2017/0198/DET - John Grierson reported that the application for flats on Grampian Road had been withdrawn.

c) BP Filling Station - John Grierson said that when he had met with representatives of BP regarding the timetable for completion of the work he had asked if they could clear the 'flower' bed at the south end of the site. That has been cleared.

6(3) Community Council Grants - Joe Kirby said that Carrbridge Community Council had a system where they could offer grants to community groups and wondered if that was something that Aviemore and Vicinity Community Council could consider doing. It was accepted that Carrbridge has good revenue stream but it would be an opportunity for us to look at increasing our 'income' through community events etc. After discussion, it was decided that the suggestion warranted further investigation and that Joe should look further into it and come back with a 'business plan' for how it would operate. **Proposed by John Grierson seconded by Al Dargie.**

6(4) Provision of Bedding Plants and Maintenance of Shrub Borders in the Village – Al Dargie thanked all who had helped with the clearing and planting of the flower beds. It had been a good community event which was spoiled by the lateness of notice and the standard and quantity of the plants supplied. The Community Council was given one weeks' notice to arrange planting, the plants were leggy and past their best, they had not been getting watered when stored at Grantown on Spey, there was no planting plan and we did not receive all the plants that were allocated to us. It was decided that the Chairman should write to Highland Council and comment on the deficiencies, and express our disappointment in how Aviemore has been treated. **Proposed by Al Dargie, seconded by Joe Kirby**

6(5) Dalfaber Industrial Estate, planning - John Grierson spoke about the situation at Dalfaber Estate where applicants were being refused or were having conditions placed on their permissions, by the Highland Council, to safeguard the vitality and viability of the town centre. This included a bicycle workshop and hire centre who's only competitor in the town centre was himself. The actions by Highland Council are more likely to adversely affect the viability and vitality of Aviemore as businesses will move elsewhere as they cannot afford the rents in the town centre. After discussion, it was decided that the chairman should write to the Planning Authority (CNPA) and express our concerns.

Proposed by John Grierson, seconded by Joe Kirby.

John also said that he had a member of the public complain to him about the junction in the Industrial Estate. There is no doubt that with the increase in businesses in the estate that the main road goes straight on and does not turn left to the Council Yards. The increased parking on the roadway has also made the junction more dangerous. A few years ago, the chairman wrote to the Highland Council requesting the junction priorities be changed but that was turned down. The situation has completely changed now. After discussion, the chairman is to write to the Highland Council Roads Department and request a change of priorities at the junction. **Proposed by John Grierson, seconded by Al Dargie.**

6(6) A9 Dualling Response – John Grierson said that he had a response, previously circulated to members, from Mouchel to the Community Council's response to the public exhibition. He said that

the response showed that the initial consultation was a complete sham and that the intention all along was to widen on the southbound side. He further said that inaccuracies in the reply and showed that they did not know how they were going to deal with things like the water pipe. They use expense as an excuse for not widening on the northbound side but do not take into consideration the cost of moving the water pipe.

7. AOCB

a) Aviemore Business Association - John Grierson said that he had invited a representative of Aviemore Business Association to come to the August meeting to give us an update on the association. The secretary Alan Bratty will attend

b) Draft Gaelic Language Plan – John Grierson said that he had received notification of a consultation on the Highland Council Draft Gaelic Language Plan(circulated). After discussion, it was decided to respond with no comment. **Proposed by John Grierson, seconded by Al Dargie.**

c) Highland Small Communities Housing Trust – John Grierson said that the AGM of the Highland Small Communities Trust was to be held on 8th September 2017. As members, the Community Council can send along a representative.

d) Grantown Initiative – Rails to Grantown - John Grierson said that he had received correspondence from Stewart Dick of the Grantown Initiative inviting him to a stakeholders meeting on a date to be confirmed at the beginning of August. John said he was unable to attend but felt it was important for someone from the Community Council to attend. Joe Kirby said that he was available. It was agreed that Joe attend and report back to the next meeting. **Proposed by John Grierson, seconded by Al Dargie.**

e) CNPA request for use of Village Green – John Grierson said that he had received a request from CNPA for the use of the Village Green on two mid-week dates in August to hold consultations about the MAHR Development Brief. It was agreed.

f) Kate Forbes MSP – John Grierson said that he had included the MSP in the circulation of our letters regarding the A9 Dualling and An Camus Mor. She had replied and asked if she could have a meeting to discuss them and related matters affecting Aviemore. It was agreed that John should arrange a meeting in August.

g) Proposed Defibrillator at Forestry Commission Glenmore – Beth Hay said that it was intended to site a defibrillator on a lamppost at the Forestry Commission site at Glenmore. She said that they had been told by Forestry Commission that the approval of the Community Council was required. John Grierson is to contact the Forestry Commission.

h) Litter Pick – Joe Kirby said that after the success of the recent success of the litter pick another should be arranged for later in the year. He suggested a date of Saturday 23rd September. Joe is to organise the event.

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 10th August 2017 at 7.30pm in the Aviemore Community Centre.