

AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL, held in AVIEMORE COMMUNITY CENTRE, on THURSDAY 14th September 2017 at 7.30pm.

1. PRESENT: John Grierson (Chair), Alastair Dargie (Vice Chair), Beth Hay, Wilma Grierson, Joe Kirby, Erin Ferguson, Kathleen Cameron, Bill Lobban, Willie McKenna, PC Neil MacIvor and PC Claire McLennan

2. APOLOGIES: Iain Gray, Karen Lawrie

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 10th August 2017 were discussed.
Minutes proposed by Joe Kirby and seconded by Al Dargie.

5. TREASURERS REPORT

Wilma Grierson produced receipts and payments report and advised that the balance of the account was £3156.28. The Business Reserve Account is now £4955.37.

6. BUSINESS

6.1 Police Report - John Grierson welcomed PCs Neil MacIvor and Claire MacLennan who gave an update on Police activity over the last month. There had been 202 incidents reported. Neil said that 'Thunder in the Glens' had passed with hardly any problems. The difficulties reported on the A9 last year had not occurred this year.

- Bill Lobban spoke about the Remembrance Service and said that the traffic should be stopped for the duration of the service. He suggested that there should be a meeting of the Royal British Legion, Police and Highland Council. PC MacIvor to take this back to his Inspector.

- Kathleen Cameron reported that the junction at the shops in Frank Spaven Drive was causing problems. Some vehicles coming out of the junction were not stopping and were coming into conflict with vehicles travelling north on Frank Spaven Drive. There was a question on who would be to blame in an accident. John Grierson said that there should be 'give way' lines at the junction. Bill Lobban said that has to wait until the road is adopted. There is no easy solution to the problem and blame for an accident would be attributed depending on the circumstances.

- Beth Hay spoke about the 30 miles per hour signs near the entrance to her house at Granish. There is a bend just prior to the signs and vehicles come round it at speed.

6.2 Matters arising

a) Village Green – John Grierson said had previously circulated correspondence from MacLeod and MacCallum detailing work to be carried out to change ownership and estimated cost of about £850. Agreed that MacLeod and MacCallum be asked to continue. **Proposed by John Grierson and seconded by Alastair Dargie.**

b) Primary School Consultation and 4.5-day week. – John Grierson said that he had spoken to Jaci Douglas and she is to make enquiries with the staff concerned.

c) Community Council Grants – Joe Kirby had nothing to report.

d) CNPA request for use of Village Green - John Grierson said that the CNPA used the green on 17th and 22nd August for a consultation. They are sending a donation to Community Council funds.

e) Aviemore Business Association – John Grierson said that he had invited both Mike Gale and Alan Bratty to the October meeting with a request that they speak about the Aviemore and Glenmore Trust.

f) Goalpost, Robertsons Purchasing of – Joe Kirby said that Katy Minard was still pricing the kit. The children are still deciding between five different kits.

g) Christmas Lights Alastair Dargie said that the lights have been delivered and that he is presently organising the installation.

h) Broadband in Glenmore –John Grierson said that he had attended the Association of Cairngorm Communities meeting on Wednesday and the Cairngorms Community Broadband rep had said that the company was now effectively ‘mothballed’. Bill Lobban said that Kinraig Community had gone ahead with their own broadband and it is possible that Glenmore could link into it. He recommended speaking to Bob Murdoch, Highland Council environmental health officer who has been involved in the project. John Grierson is to speak with Bob Murdoch.

g) Drystane Wall – John Grierson said that an email from Highland Council saying that the walls are to be repaired had been circulated earlier. Repairs to the original wall reported have not been carried out yet and now another wall at the roundabout has been damaged. Willie McKenna asked that the Highland Council also be asked to repair the wall outside Alain Baxter Court which has also been knocked down. John Grierson to follow up on that.

i) Village Green Bandstand – Alastair Dargie reported that he is still awaiting quotes for the work on the Green.

k) Gardens at Community Centre/School – Bill Lobban reported that Highland Council are to tidy up the flower beds around the carpark area and the school.

6.3 Aviemore Highland Resort Development Brief – The CNPA consultation document was discussed. The development brief will act as guidance for future development and is not a Masterplan. It was noted that the Four Seasons Lawn and Gardens were to be retained with no development and that the area marked for lodges covered the pond and part of the ‘dry ski slope’. The pond had been subject of a condition in the Masterplan to have it enhanced for wildlife. After discussion, it was decided that the Community Council should not object. **Proposed by Al Dargie and seconded by Joe Kirby.**

6.4 Aviemore and Glenmore Trust - Joe Kirby said that the Trust had managed to raise over their £2000 appeal through crowd funding. John Grierson said that he had contacted the Trust and asked that a representative attend the October meeting of the Community Council and give members an update on the structure and aims of the Trust. Agreed to wait for meeting before deciding on any further action.

6.5 Our Community a Way Forward – Joe Kirby, who had been unable to attend the joint meeting with Aviemore Community Enterprise Co. Ltd asked if there was an update on the result of the meeting. John Grierson said that most of the 14 Potential Community-Led Projects were actually in progress and it would be more a case of assisting with the work already being done rather than starting something. The top issue that the Community Council/Community Company could investigate is building an accessible and affordable community hall. There are two sites that have been identified and a feasibility study will have to be done. Both sites belong to Highland Council. John Grierson is making enquiries with Highland Council, on behalf of the Community Company.

6.6 Getting Home from Inverness – Kathleen Cameron said that anybody going to any form of entertainment in Inverness in the evening is unable to return home by public transport and the cost of a taxi is prohibitive. This puts Badenoch and Strathspey at a distinct disadvantage and makes Inverness uninviting for an evening. John Grierson to contact HITRANS to highlight our concerns and see what can be done.

6.7 Road Name Sign at Burnside Avenue/Grampian Road Junction – Kathleen Cameron said that a resident had spoken to her about the road name sign on the north side of the junction of Grampian Road and Burnside Avenue which the person said was obstructing the view of drivers leaving Burnside Road. Both John Grierson and Al Dargie said that they had inspected the junction and found that the sign did not obstruct the view for a driver at the junction. The sign had been there for many years and nobody had commented on it. It was decided to take no further action. Kathleen to speak to the resident.

6.8 Date for Christmas Lights Turn On – Kathleen Cameron suggested that the Carol Service and Christmas Lights turn on be brought forward to Saturday 25th November. After discussion, it was agreed. Al Dargie to contact the estate about the tree. **Proposed by Kathleen Cameron and seconded by Al Dargie.**

6.9 Adventure Festival - John Grierson had circulated an email from Paul White of AviemoreAdventure.org regarding next year's Aviemore Adventure Festival. He had requested the use of the Village Green this year but had not used it. He is requesting the use of the Green next April. He is intending to have stall for local businesses and sponsors. John Grierson said that the Community Council has historically not allowed commercial events on the Green, other than those organised by ourselves, and suggested that the Community Council should review its policy. A decision on Aviemoreadventure.com's request should wait for a policy review. Policy review to be put on the agenda for October's meeting.

7 AOCB

7.1 Association of Cairngorm Communities - John Grierson said that he had attended a meeting of the AoCC the day before and gave feedback. Of particular relevance to Aviemore was the news that Cairngorm Broadband were no longer 'operating'. The funding regime had been completely changed by the Scottish Government who were now progressing the R100 Project and there funding was no available. John further said that he had attended the recent Highland NHS Annual Review, in a private capacity, and had been involved in a private meeting with Aileen Campbell, The Minister for Public Health and Sport, at which he had highlighted the broadband connectivity problems at Glenmore and how it could affect delivery of medical care.

7.2 New Road Name - John Grierson said he had circulated a request for a possible name for the section of road from the Grampian Road roundabout at Royal Bank of Scotland to the Centre past the new development. John Grierson suggested that 'Santa Claus Way' would be an appropriate

name that would reflect the history and heritage of that particular area. Agreed. **Proposed by John Grierson and seconded by Al Dargie.**

7.3 Community Council Procedures – Joe Kirby had indicated that he felt that the Community Council were not operating properly in that timescales for agendas and minutes were not being kept, information on the notice boards was out of date and bank signatories did not comply with the constitution. It was acknowledged that for few months previously the secretary had difficulty due to computer and work difficulties the agendas. However, his work pattern is changing and that should no longer be a problem. Minutes that have been agreed are being put timeously on the noticeboards by Beth Hay and on the website by John Grierson. John Grierson also said he had updated the information on the noticeboards. Willie McKenna reminded everyone that they were volunteers and that some allowances must be made. After discussion, it was decided that all items for the agenda had to be with the secretary by the Sunday of the week before the meeting. Items for the agenda should be forwarded by email on the avccsecretary@gmail.com address. **Proposed by Al Dargie and seconded by John Grierson**

John Grierson is to step down as a bank signatory and his place taken by Kathleen Cameron.

Proposed by John Grierson and seconded by Al Dargie.

John Grierson also said that the Scheme of Establishment allows for an honorarium to be paid to the secretary. This has never been done and he said that to keep right with the Scheme it should be. Agreed that a payment of £250 be made to the secretary. **Proposed by Kathleen Cameron and seconded by Beth Hay.**

7.3 – Stone Wall at Baxters Court – Kathleen Cameron reported that the wall at Baxters Court had been pushed over in several places. John Grierson to pass this on to the Highland Council.

7.4 – The Dell, Aviemore – Bill Lobban said that Highland Council is finalising what is happening at the Dell of Spey and will consult.

7.5 - Strathy Office – Bill Lobban reported that the Strathy Office was closing but there would still be a presence in the valley.

7.6 – Visibility at Milton Park – Joe Kirby reported that the shrubbery at Milton Park south junction was obscuring pedestrians from drivers. Bill Lobban said that he will follow up on it.

7.7 – Litter Pick - Joe Kirby said that the Litter Pick will take place on Saturday 23rd September and all volunteers would be welcome.

7.8 – New Bus Stop – Bill Lobban said that there is to be a new bus stop on Grampian Road opposite the Myrtlefield shops and there would be no layby. After discussion, it was decided to write to Highland Council with a request that should be an indented bus stop. John Grierson to write.

8) Date of next meeting

John Grierson thanked those in attendance and said that the next meeting for the AVCC will be on Thursday 13th October 2017 at 7.30pm in the Aviemore Community Centre.