

# AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## MINUTES of a MEETING of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL, held in AVIEMORE COMMUNITY CENTRE, on THURSDAY 14<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at 7.30pm.

**1. PRESENT:** John Grierson (Chair), Wilma Grierson (Treasurer), Beth Hay, Kathleen Cameron, Iain Gray, Joe Kirby, Al Dargie (attended from 7.55pm), Cllr Bill Lobban, Willie McKenna (CNPA), PC Neil Mclvor,

**2. APOLOGIES:** Karen Lawrie, Erin Ferguson.

### **3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The minutes of AVCC which was held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

**Minutes proposed by Kathleen Cameron and seconded by Wilma Grierson**

### **4. TREASURERS REPORT**

Wilma Grierson produced receipts and payments report and advised that the balance of the account was £2639.42. This figure did not include a donation of £500 from Strathspey Estates or a grant of £2500 from Highland Council for the bandstand refurbishment which had just been received. The statue account (business reserve) is now £4958.63.

### **5. BUSINESS**

**5.1 Police Report** – PC Neil Mclvor advised there had been a total of 168 calls dealt with by the Police in the Aviemore area over the preceding month.

In respect of the enquiries made last month about the junction at Lynwilg and the 1/2 marathon, Pc Mclvor said that he had passed on our concerns about the junction at Lynwilg to road policing. He said that a full risk assessment had been done for the half marathon. The officers on duty used their powers under the Road Traffic Regulation Act and Police and Fire Reform Act to close the road. He suggested that the Community Council should write to the organisers to express its concerns. John Grierson to write to the organisers.

#### **5.2 Matters arising from minutes of previous meeting.**

**a) Village Green** – John Grierson said that the refurbishment of the bandstand surface was almost complete. Al Dargie, almost singlehandedly, had organised and carried out most of the work and that was acknowledged by a vote of thanks from the members.

**b) Christmas Lights** - John Grierson said that most of the lights have been put up. There are a small number that will require the use of a cherry picker to put them up. Al Dargie is arranging this.

**d) New Bus Stop** - Cllr Bill Lobban advised that the location of the new bus stop was still under discussion and he would report back when a decision is made.

**e) Bedding Plants** - John Grierson advised that he has received no contact regarding the flowers for 2018. He is aware that at least one other community had been contacted.

**f) Remembrance Sunday** - Cllr Bill Lobban advised that the remembrance service had gone well and that the traffic had been stopped.

**g) Review of Policy on Village Green Use** - Kathleen Cameron advised that we are no further forward.

**5.2 Co-option of Erin Ferguson to Community Council** – John Grierson reminded members that the co-option of Erin had been discussed at the last meeting and the decision was that she should be proposed at the next meeting. The proposed co-option had been published in the agenda. **The co-option was proposed by John Grierson and seconded by Kathleen Cameron. Unanimously agreed.**

**5.3 Snowblower** – John Grierson said that since the last meeting he had received information that the dedicated snowblower at Cairngorm had become unserviceable and that the Highland Council did not intend to replace it. He said that he had written to the Highland Council. Bill Lobban thanked the Community Council for its support and said that discussions were ongoing with HIE and Natural Retreats.

**5.4 Royal Bank of Scotland** – Joe Kirby spoke of the recent decision of the Royal Bank of Scotland to close its branches in Badenoch and Strathspey. This had been a commercial decision for the bank. Joe proposed that the Community Council write to the Chief Executive and express our concern about the extent intended 'bank van' service and the use of post offices. Seconded by John Grierson. John Grierson to write to the chief executive.

**5.5 Aviemore Bowling Club** – John Grierson reminded members that request for funding had been received from the bowling club some time ago but had not included any specifics. They were asked to specify what they were doing. Nothing has been received. Al Dargie said that he had made some enquiries and found that the club had had to purchase a new mower and were in the process of purchasing indoor carpets which had become unserviceable. **Al Dargie, seconded by John Grierson, proposed that a donation of £200 be made.** Agreed.

**5.6 Old Folks Christmas Party** – Al Dargie reported that he had received a request for funding for the Old Folks Party. In the past the Community Council has donated £200. It was **proposed by Al Dargie, seconded by Iain Gray, that the donation be increased to £250.** Agreed.

**5.7 A9 Dualling** – Al Dargie said that he had been unable to attend the presentations but had managed to look at them on the internet and there were several issues with regards to

southbound widening, the width of road, pipeline and NMU that the Community Council should comment on. John Grierson said that he has asked consultation team to attend our meeting in January to go over the proposals.

**5.8 Cairngorms National Park – Main Issues Report Consultation** – John Grierson said that he had been in touch with CNPA and asked for a meeting with CNPA planners to look at the Main Issues Report. This was done for the last two Local Development Plans and was beneficial. The meeting is for community councillors only and will take place at the end of January, after the public consultation meetings.

**5.9 An Camus Mor** – John Grierson reported for information that the developers are to be holding consultation meetings at the end of February.

## **6 AOCB**

**6.1 Code of Conduct** - Joe Kirby questioned if members were applying the Code of Conduct for Community Councillors properly and, in particular, where it applied to declarations of interest. He cited the instance where the Community Council had donated £500 to Aviemore Community Enterprise Co for the hanging basket display. Four of the Community Councillors are directors of the company and the rest are members. John Grierson said a declaration of interest did not mean that a member could not take part. It was up to the individual to consider whether there was a conflict of interests and if there was they should not take part. Bill Lobban said that, in any case, there was no sanction available for anyone who failed to declare an interest but advised that members should be aware of the code and act within it. John Grierson pointed out that the Code of Conduct was not just about interests but there were other principles to be followed and members should bear that in mind as well. Agreed that John Grierson should contact the Ward manager for clarification on how to move forward with similar Code of Conduct situations.

**6.2 School Football Strips** – Joe Kirby referred to the Community Council's offer to donate to the Primary School football strips. Quotes had been received for the strips and he finds that he has enough money left over from purchasing the goalposts to pay for the strips. He thanked the members for their offer.

**6.3 Community Café – Christmas Lunch** - Beth Hay asked that if anybody was aware of any elderly person who would benefit from the Christmas lunch could they contact her. The lunch is at 1.30pm at the Coffee Pot.

**6.4 Santa Run** - Al Dargie said that there was a concern about the route round the Centre due to the ice and snow and wondered if there was any way the Highland Council could grit it. Bill Lobban said that as it was an un-adopted road the council would not do it. It was suggested that the organisers try Natural Retreats to see if they could assist. Al Dargie to follow up.

**6.5 Christmas Eve Parade** - Al Dargie reminded members that the Christmas Eve parade would start at 6.00pm and said that they were still looking for volunteers to help with the parade.

## **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 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 7.30pm in the Aviemore Community Centre.