

AVIEMORE & VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting on Thursday 13th May 2021 at 7pm via Zoom

1. Present

Peter Long (Chair), AVCC	Bill Lobban, Highland Council
Al Dargie (Vice Chair), AVCC	Willie McKenna, National Park
Kathleen Cameron (Treasurer), AVCC	Johnnie Grant, Visitor
Elsbeth Byrne (Secretary), AVCC	
Beth Hay, AVCC	
Jeni Pacitti, AVCC	

2. Apologies for absence

Joe Kirby, AVCC
Kirsty Bruce, Aviemore & Glenmore Community Trust
Sally Devlin, Visitor

3. **Welcome and introductions** – Peter Long welcomed everyone to the meeting.

4. **Meeting etiquette** – Peter Long reminded everyone about meeting etiquette.

5. **Declarations of interest** – none.

6. Minutes of last (April) meeting

The minutes of the April 2021 meeting were accepted – proposed by Jeni Pacitti and seconded by Al Dargie.

7. **Matters arising from last (April) meeting** – none.

8. Treasurer's report

Kathleen Cameron said that she was trying to get Elspeth Byrne setup as a second signatory to the Business Account. Kathleen suggested that the Bonus Account could be used in the meantime. Al Dargie said that he might still be a signatory.
Action: Al Dargie to confirm if he is a signatory to the Business Account.

Peter Long suggested John Grierson or Sandra Murray be asked to sign off the annual accounts.

Al Dargie said that he had received a final notice for the insurance although this did not state the amount. Kathleen said the bill was £377 last year.
Action: Al Dargie to send a copy of the letter to Peter Long so he could arrange to get the insurance paid.

9. Business

a. **Co-option of new member** – carried forward to next meeting.

b. Update on An Camas Mòr and other Rothiemurchus work

Rothiemurchus

Johnnie Grant said that they were working with Abernethy and Glenmore to design and carry out a survey to find out what people want and expect from their visit. The survey should be completed by late summer.

An Camas Mòr

Planning permission in principle had been issued two years ago and was valid for another year. This would be a public and private sector development, with the public sector pump priming funds and providing a long-term loan. Johnnie Grant said that if AVCC still supported the development it could help by writing to the local MSP and business partnership. Johnnie Grant left the meeting. The meeting discussed concerns about funding timescales and likelihood of the development going ahead.

Al Dargie proposed that AVCC support the development and Elspeth Byrne seconded this.

Action: Peter Long said he would email Johnnie Grant to get details of who he should write to, to express AVCC support of the development.

c. Village Green ownership – update

Peter Long said that we were pretty close to getting Land Registry agreement to AVCC ownership. Cost so far is £1,100 and funds are available to pay this.

Bill Lobban said that lack of ownership had not prevented significant funding being provided. The legal work for transfer of ownership was a drain on funds and there needed to be a balance between cost of continuing vs. dropping this. **This issue will be carried forward to next month when a decision can be made based on an up-to-date estimate to complete the project.**

Peter Long said that the phase 2 works on the Village Green were almost complete and that we should have it back from the contractors fairly soon.

d. Street naming – the new Tulloch development at the Horse Field

Bill Lobban said that the name selected was 'Ben Avon Court'. The new flats at the south end of Aviemore will be called 'Pines Court'.

e. Myrtlefield – update

Peter Long gave the update in Joe Kirby's absence. Joe had contacted a landscape architect who has worked with local groups. The landscape architect would produce a plan for a fee of around £11,000. The site owners are prepared to discuss a long-term lease.

Bill Lobban said that Highland Council would not generally fund consultation work but there were several funding options. He said it was important to get sufficient funding agreed to make the development 'shovel ready'.

AVCC endorsed the progress made and would discuss the issue at the next meeting.

f. Path funding opportunity from Nature Scot: Improving Public Access – update

No progress had been made to date.

Action: Jeni Pacitti to coordinate a response, providing a list of path funding requirements to the next meeting. Kathleen Cameron to provide a request received. Elspeth Byrne to provide contact details of AVCC people who are involved in this work.

g. Flowers – update

Highland Council had informed Beth that the plants were going to be ready in June and will let her know when due to arrive. Beth will ask the Council to leave the plants at the depo and arrange to get them planted as soon as possible.

h. AGM in June

It was agreed that the AGM will take place on Thursday 10th June at 7pm followed by the normal AVCC monthly meeting at the later time of 7.30pm.

Al Dargie will chair the meetings as Peter Long will not be able to attend.

Action: Peter Long will provide an AGM Chairman's Report to Al Dargie.

i. Audrey's shelter/plaque – update

Kathleen Cameron said that Audrey's family no longer wanted the shelter/plaque at the riverside park. Peter Long said he and Judith (from ACE) had written a joint response to the family saying that there was nowhere else for it. Unfortunately, the plaque will not now be possible.

j. Broken speaker from PA system - assess and test vs. just go ahead with replacement

Kathleen Cameron said Ness Music in Inverness had examined the faulty speaker and said it was not cost-effective to fix it. The existing system was too big and bulky anyway. Ness Music could provide a smaller and more useable system and offered £100 trade-in on a new system costing £369 plus a bill for £20, for examining the faulty speaker. Al Dargie said that the existing system was worth much more than £100 but that there was no market at the current time. He suggested that the new system be purchased but the existing one kept until it could be sold at a better price.

Action: Kathleen Cameron to make an application to the Discretionary Fund for £150 towards the cost of the new system.

k. Green recovery fund 2021/2022 - litter picking equipment

Peter Long has applied for £495 for litter picking equipment.

10. Reports from other organisations

a. CNPA report

Willie McKenna said that CNPA had recommended approval to the Coire na Ciste car park development to provide motorhome parking. The decision would be made tomorrow.

b. Highland Council report

Bill Lobban asked if there were any questions. Al Dargie asked if progress had been made regarding parking around Loch Morlich and other areas that were obstructed last year. Bill Lobban said that there was a lot of progress including road modifications. There would now be 'No Parking' on the left-hand side of the road going up the road to Cairngorm. Speed limits could change, possibly right down as far as Aviemore. CNPA are providing some of the funding. The changes might not all be completed this year.

c. ACE board member report

Kathleen Cameron said that the winter lights were being taken down on 18th May. Planning consent had been received for the outdoor classroom today.

d. AGCT report – no one present so no update

11. AOCB

A9 dualling - site investigation work was underway for the section of the A9 from Dalraddy to Slochd, digging bore holes etc. There would be no damage to trees and the burn would be monitored. Environmental surveys would take place from June/July onwards.

Non-motorised cycle track to Carrbridge – the route should be finalised and into planning in October – the same timescale as for the A9 dualling.

Al Dargie asked how the effects of the A9 route will be mitigated. Bill Lobban said that there would be a local public enquiry.

12. Date of next meeting – Thursday 10th June 2021

Jeni Pacitti and Peter Long both gave apologies for the next meeting.

13. Closure – meeting closed 8.45pm