

AVIEMORE & VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting on Thursday 11th November 2021

7pm at The Hub

1. **Nomination of Chair** (due to apologies from Chairperson and Vice Chair)
Jeni Pacitti nominated Beth Hay, seconded by Elspeth Byrne.

2. **Present**

Beth Hay (Chair), AVCC	Bill Lobban, Highland Council
Kathleen Cameron (Treasurer), AVCC	Johnnie Grant, Rothiemurchus
Jeni Pacitti, AVCC	Kenny Rogan, Hope Church
Elspeth Byrne (Secretary), AVCC	

3. **Apologies for absence**

Peter Long (Chairperson), AVCC	Willie McKenna, CNPA
Al Dargie (Vice Chair), AVCC	Kirsty Bruce, ACE
Joe Kirby, AVCC	

4. **Welcome and introductions** - Beth Hay welcomed everyone to the meeting.

5. **Covid precautions** – The Hub and Government Guidance was followed.

6. **Declarations of interest** – None.

7. **Carole Butler, Community Support Co-ordinator for B&S** – c/f to December meeting.

8. **Minutes of October meeting**

Johnnie Grant requested a rewording to the last two sentences in item 10a.
Jeni Pacitti proposed acceptance of the minutes with the above amendment.
Seconded by Beth Hay.

9. **Matters arising from October meeting**
 - 9.1 **Playpark** – The Parent Council were not keen to be involved with the fund-raising for the play equipment but one parent was keen to organise this and will meet with Carole Butler. The fund-raising group will be separate from the Parent Council.

 - 9.2 **Myrtlefield** – Beth Hay said that Peter Long had emailed Workman Limited (the Managing Agent) to formally register the Community’s interest in a buy-out/long term lease of the site. This was prior to the positive meeting held between Joe Kirby and Bill Lobban on-site with the Managing Agent. He had not seen any response to this yet. Peter Long had also written to Highland Council setting out the Community interest in the site and asking if they could offer any help or advice, but had not had a response yet.
Bill Lobban said that he had not yet had a response from the Managing Agent.

 - 9.3 **Village Green conveyancing** – Beth Hay said Peter Long had received a more accurate plan of the area. Peter Long has asked the lawyers to proceed on this basis.

 - 9.4 **Christmas tree lights** - Peter Long had emailed to say that we have several sets of Christmas lights which are stored in the ACE shed at the Legion.
Action: Bill Lobban will ask HC Lighting Department if they will put the lights up.

Action: **Kathleen Cameron** will ask Ian Miller, MacDonald Resort, if he could put the lights up.

9.5 Christmas Lights Switch On - Kathleen Cameron said that the intention was to have children singing Carols at the event but that this was still in the pipeline. ACE had held a competition for design of Christmas Lights and the winner will switch the lights on. Kenny Rogan said Hope Choir could lead the children singing if required. Bill Lobban will perform the welcome/ceremonial duties. The Cairngorm Hotel will provide hot chocolate and Glühwein. Tesco might provide mince pies and Aldi might also donate.

Action: **Kathleen Cameron** to contact Tesco and Aldi.

9.6 Christmas Eve procession – Kathleen said that ACE are organising this and are looking for help – they want about 30 marshals. Santa and reindeer will be leading the (solar) torch-lit procession. Grampian Road will be closed. Kathleen said that 150 solar torches had been purchased for £2 each and shops will sell these at cost before the procession. Businesses have been invited to participate in the procession in fancy dress and the Panto members in their costumes. Bill Lobban said that collection buckets should be taken round before the procession starts. There will be a short firework display.

9.7 Dalfaber junction – the project is delayed as funding is being secured.

9.8 Water main Craigellachie – carried forward from last meeting.

Action: **Elsbeth Byrne** to draft a letter for Al Dargie acknowledging that the work was essential but asking that the path be restored to a good standard.

9.9 Rothiemurchus some roads overgrown - Johnnie Grant said that he had looked at Loch an Eilein road and said that his staff can rectify this. Bill Lobban said that if extra help is required to contact Craig at Highland Council.

10. Treasurer's report

Kathleen Cameron presented the report.

Jeni Pacitti proposed acceptance and Elspeth Byrne seconded.

11. Business

a. VABs meeting – carried forward from last meeting (KC)

Kathleen Cameron had attended the meeting. She was disappointed that there was a lack of background information.

b. Charity bikeathon 2022 – carried forward from last meeting

Kathleen Cameron said that they had hoped to do this a couple of years ago – similar to Kingussie's event, but off-road. She had spoken to Johnnie Grant's staff at the time, who thought it was a good idea, and had planned to do it June/July time. Kathleen would like to take this forward again and thought September/October 2022 would be a suitable timescale. Johnnie Grant said that the new Senior Ranger, Ollie Mackay, would be happy to attend a Community Council meeting. Everyone was happy for this event to be progressed.

c. CALA training and guidance

Beth Hay said that she had done some training with CALA for the new Food Hub. It meant that a nominated person within the organisation would be the first contact for a child rather than going straight to Social Work. The meeting agreed that children did not attend events unaccompanied and the Community Council would not get involved at this point.

d. Affordable housing CRM:0027187

Bill Lobban did not take part in discussions about this item. The meeting discussed this and agreed to support it.

Action: Elspeth Byrne to reply saying that the Community Council supported the development.

e. Planning application 21/04949/FUL

Bill Lobban did not take part in discussions about this item. The meeting thought that this was an over-development of the site and that the proposed portacabin was unattractive. Decision to object to development.

Action: Elspeth Byrne to discuss objection as a 'statutory consultee' with Peter Long.

f. Carols round the Christmas tree – already covered.

g. Old sound system

An enquiry regarding purchase of the old sound system (which has only one speaker) had been received from an interested party. We had already been offered £100 from Ness Music who supplied the new sound system.

Action: Kathleen Cameron to find out how much was being offered.

h. New sound system – Kathleen Cameron gave a brief demonstration.

i. Use of village green and a price structure

Kathleen Cameron explained her suggested pay bands:

- Band A – Local CC area, local groups, show/display where no profit is made – free
- Band B – Local CC area craft fairs - £15/stall and organiser gets a free stall. Charity tables get 2 free stalls.
- Band C – Local CC area – commercial with profit.
- Band D – commercial with profit.

Bands C and D would be charged at a minimum of £500/full day, with a 50% discount for Band C ie local businesses.

The meeting agreed the pay bands.

The meeting agreed that a £50 returnable deposit would be charged for clean-up of the Village Green and surrounding area if left in a mess.

The meeting agreed to a £5 charge for electricity if required on all bands.

The meeting agreed that where a business was catering only, ie not part of a stall selling craft products, then this was not fair to local businesses.

j. Manhole covers on Grampian Road requiring maintenance

Kathleen Cameron said that local residents had complained that two manhole covers at the bank and one at the Glen Centre required maintenance.

Action: Bill Lobban would find out who owns the manhole covers.

k. Wooden light fixtures at the train station

Kathleen Cameron said that a local resident had said that these should be taken away as they are being used as rubbish bins.

Action: Bill Lobban to arrange for Highland Council to remove these.

l. Strip of land between Tesco and Laurel Bank untidy

Kathleen Cameron said that a local resident had complained that this area was badly overgrown and untidy.

Action: Elspeth Byrne to write to MacDonalds asking them to tidy the area up.

m. Broken bench at the burn/wishing well

Kathleen Cameron said that the wooden bench was broken.

Action: Elspeth Byrne to speak to Al Dargie to ask if he thinks it is repairable.

n. Non observance of 20mph speed limit through Aviemore – no action agreed.

o. Lack of white lines on Grampian Road

Bill Lobban said that white lines were only painted outwith the winter season as it is the same crews who do the salt spreading.

12. Reports from other organisations

a. CNPA report – none.

b. Highland Council report

Elspeth Byrne asked Bill Lobban who to talk to about additional signage etc at the north end of Aviemore.

Action: Elspeth Byrne to contact Richard Porteus, Area Roads Manager.

c. ACE board member report – nothing outwith items already discussed.

d. AGCT report – none.

13. AOCB

a. Kathleen Cameron said that the guttering at the back of the Bandstand on the Village Green was allowing lots of water to come down the back. She said that this might be caused by leaves or the guttering might be broken. She said that lots of electric plug covers were missing. Kathleen thought that plug sockets probably need to be replaced.
Action: Kathleen Cameron to arrange for the contractor to come back to remedy the work.

b. There needs to be duplicates to keys to the Village Green electrics.

Action: Elspeth Byrne to discuss with Peter Long.

c. Trees being cut down at the Pony Field (Milton Woods). Bill Lobban has reported this to the Highland Council Tree Officer who thinks that the CNPA had given permission.

Action: Elspeth Byrne to write to Highland Council and CNPA.

d. Flower tubs

Action: Beth Hay would arrange for these to be emptied.

e. Kenny Rogan said that the Hope Church want to book the Village Green for 17th December for a Carol service. He said that this would be a 'walk in' event rather than the drive-in event as last year. The meeting agreed that this was a great idea.

f. A Litter Pick will be held on Saturday 20th November – meet at 9.45 for a 10am start, finishing at noon.

14. Date of next meeting – Thursday 9th December.

15. Close 9pm