

AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting on Thursday 13th October 2022 at 7pm at the Community Centre

1. Present

Al Dargie (Vice Chair), AVCC
Beth Hay, AVCC
Audrey Turner, AVCC
Elspeth Byrne (Secretary), AVCC

Jeni Pacitti, AVCC
Bill Lobban, Highland Council
Neil Maciver, Police Scotland
Helena Parsons, Visitor

2. Apologies for absence

Peter Long, AVCC
Kathleen Cameron, AVCC

Willie McKenna, CNPA

3. Welcome and introductions – Al Dargie chaired the meeting in Peter Long's absence. He welcomed everyone to the meeting.

4. Declarations of interest

Bill Lobban said that he would not take part in discussions related to planning.

5. Minutes of September meeting

Audrey Turner proposed acceptance of the minutes with the small change previously notified. Seconded by Beth Hay.

6. Matters arising from September meeting

a. Item 6c Aviemore Community Action plan (September minutes 6c)

Action cf: Al Dargie to add to the draft letter produced by Peter Long.

b. Mobility access issues (September minutes 6e)

Anna Ronayne had replied to the letter from Elspeth Byrne saying that CNPA are planning to host a meeting to keep the community council updated and invitations will be issued soon.

c. Village notice board (September minutes 6h)

Beth Hay said that she had written and visited the Co-op a number of times.

Action: Al Dargie would provide an email address to Beth Hay for her to use.

d. Improving road safety at the north end of Aviemore (September minutes 6i)

Elspeth Byrne, Beth Hay and Neil Maciver had attended a Teams meeting with Neil Young, Craig Irvine, Liz Henderson, Neil Young, Ross Bartlett and Vikki Trelfer. A little progress had already made – taking down a tree obscuring visibility into the village. Other possible improvements were discussed. Neil Young will write up the proposed improvements and offered to attend a future meeting.

Action: Elspeth Byrne to write to the four local councillors saying that we require a 40mph speed limit from the Granish junction into the village.

Action: Elspeth Byrne to contact Neil Young regarding the write up of possible improvements and inviting him to attend our November meeting.

- e. Emergency planning (September minutes 6k)
Action: Elspeth Byrne to contact those who have not responded re their availability.
- f. Village Green bookings for the coming year (September minutes 9b)
Action cf: Kathleen Cameron to discuss proposals with Highland Home Centre.
Action cf: Kathleen Cameron to discuss the proposal with Mike Causey.
- g. Street naming request (September minutes 9d)
Action: Elspeth Byrne to reply to Highland Council confirming street names per coloured streets on the plan.
- h. Public consultations (September minutes 10b)
Action cf: Elspeth Byrne to include a 'Public Consultations' section on our web site along with information for AVCC members about funding streams.
- i. Peter Long had written to Bill Lobban re a number of items (September minutes 10b)
Bill Lobban said that money had been allocated to improving the footpath, lighting and the waterfall at Dell of Spey. He said that the Community Payback Scheme funding was being sought by many projects across the area.
Action: Bill Lobban to raise the issue of A-frame advertising boards again and provide an update on the other issues.
- j. Wild flowers (September minutes 11a)
Bill Lobban had replied to Elspeth Byrne saying that most cut grass areas in Aviemore were the responsibility of Highland Council.
Action: Audrey Turner to work with two or three people to map out which areas in Aviemore could have grass replaced by wild flowers and to make recommendations.
- k. Jane McDonald Christmas filming (September minutes 11b)
Elspeth Byrne said that the filming was not going to happen at the Village Green.

7. Treasurer's report

Al Dargie presented the Treasurer's report.

Jeni Pacitti proposed acceptance, seconded by Beth Hay.

8. Police report

Neil Maciver said that there had been 125 calls. There had been a change in senior officers recently and the local force were very busy. He will keep trying to get speed monitoring done at the north end of Aviemore.

9. Business

a. An introduction to the Saving Wildcats Project

Helena Parsons gave a very interesting and informative talk on this project. It was disappointing to hear that wildcats are functionally extinct in Scotland – hence the importance of this project. Helena Parsons invited questions:

Questions: What can we do to help?

Answer: We need people to know that this project is happening and that wildcats will be released into the Cairngorm Connect area and should not be persecuted.

Question: Will the wildcats predate the capercaillie chicks?

Answer: In a functioning eco system in Europe the wildcats do not predate capercaillie chicks.

Question: Are there healthy European populations of wildcats?

Answer: Yes. The Scottish wildcat is the same species as the European wildcat with the wildcats in northern Spain looking very similar. It is possible that they may be introduced to the captive breeding program in the Cairngorms.

b. AGCT failed bid for Glenmore Campsite

Al Dargie had attended the meeting about the failed bid and described options aired at the meeting. About 100 people attended and all were disappointed about the failed bid. Peter Long will be meeting with FLS and AGCT.

The meeting agreed to take no action and await the outcome of the meeting.

c. Macdonald Highland proposed development

Bill Lobban did not take part in these discussions.

22/04462/PIP – erection of holiday apartments.

These will be sited on what is currently the dry ski slope and green area.

Jeni Pacitti proposed objecting to the development on the basis of loss of recreational space and the effect on the lochan which is a thriving site for osprey, heron and otters. Seconded by Audrey Turner.

Action: Al Dargie to submit an objection.

There is another Pre Application Notice for accommodation, including affordable housing, on what is currently the carpark. Normally 45% of new housing has to be affordable housing but we could ask for 60% given the lack of affordable housing in the area.

This development will affect the ice rink site.

d. Remembrance Day representative and wreath

Action: Al Dargie to contact Alison Higgins regarding the wreath.

Action: Elspeth Byrne to email Peter Long to check on his availability to represent the community council at the service.

e. Christmas tree lights switch on and singing around the tree 26th November

Kathleen Cameron had provided a list of items to do for the event.

Action: Elspeth Byrne to send the list to all community council members.

Action: Jeni Pacitti to co-ordinate the jobs with Kathleen Cameron and community council members.

10. Reports from other organisations

a. CNPA report – none.

b. Highland Council report

Bill Lobban said that 20mph limit in Aviemore had been made permanent.

He hoped that the Short-term Let Control Zone would be approved by the Scottish Government by Christmas and would be live by Easter/July. He thought that people affected would probably be given 12 months to apply from the date that the zone was introduced. He said that the Short-term Let Control Zone only applies to dwelling houses, not rooms in a house, pods or guest-houses.

Bill Lobban said that the first six Highland Council buses had been delivered. Initially just school buses had been purchased.

c. ACE Board Member Report

Beth Hay said that two directors had stood down. Kathleen Cameron has taken over as Chair and Donna Shaw had been co-opted onto the board. The board has prioritised ACE activities to get us through the short term. The site preparation for the outdoor classroom should be starting this week. The Christmas procession will go ahead, subject to finding enough volunteers to help out. The consultation on Myrtlefield is on Friday 21st October from 4 to 7pm at the Hub and all are encouraged to publicise this and to attend.

d. AGCT report (submitted by Kirsty Bruce)

Glenmore campsite – We held a public meeting last Thursday evening, with a turnout close to 100. There is strong community support for an asset transfer of the campsite and visitor centre. AGCT has informed FLS of the Trust's Expression of Interest in Glenmore and are at the beginning of discussions with FLS regarding this.

Ice Rink – is now open for its second winter season. AGCT will facilitate the Winter Chill Launch event with CBP and other community partners – date to be set. The ice rink has quickly become an important recreational sports facility for our community visitors. It has become very popular with our young people and the Trust has run many initiatives to make it accessible to all.

Dalfaber Park – The Trust is looking to appoint architects to assist with conceptual drawing and continued community engagement. We will arrange a partners meeting with ACE after the October holidays.

11. AOCB

a. Planning application for land behind the Cairngorm Hotel

This planning application went to CNPA today for consideration of call in.

Jeni Pacitti proposed objecting, seconded by Beth Hay.

It was agreed that we wait to see if this is called in by CNPA and, if not, then submit an objection by 10th November.

b. Planning Application 22/01147/FUL - Change of use for The Barn at Rothiemurchus

All agreed no comment.

12. Date of next meeting – Thursday 10th November 2022

13. Close – meeting closed 9pm.

Aviemore & Vicinity Community Council

TREASURER'S REPORT

13th October 2022 Aviemore Community Centre meeting room

<u>Treasurers Account</u>	£	£
Balance at 31st August 2022		£3,149.00
<u>Income</u>		
CycleMore	£400.00	
Crag events	£200.00	
Interest	£ .83	
Sum up	£ .98	
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Balance at 30th September 2022		£3750.81
Cyclists Club_balance	£135.00	
<u>Business Reserve Account</u>		
Balance at 31st August2022		£7,783.04
<u>Income</u>		
Craft fair	£470.00	
Interest	£ 1.42	
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Any jobs VG maintenance	£120.00	
Highland Brass band	£ 50.00	
West Coast Harleys	£ 50.00	
Balance at 30th September 2022		£8,034.46
Deposit Craic events	£ 50.00	