

AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting on Thursday 14th September 2023 at 7pm
at the Community Centre

1. Present

Peter Long (Chair), AVCC
Al Dargie (Vice Chair), AVCC
Kathleen Cameron (Treasurer), AVCC
Elspeth Byrne (Secretary), AVCC
Beth Hay, AVCC
Jeni Pacitti, AVCC
Eilidh McLeod, AVCC
Audrey Turner, AVCC

Neil MacIver, Police Scotland
Lauren MacCallum, CNPA
Brian Goldie, Glenmore Campsite
Keri Watson, Glenmore Campsite
Paul Hibberd, FLS
Roddy Stevens, Aviemore Resident
John Grant, Rothiemurchus

2. Apologies for absence

Bill Lobban, Highland Council

Muriel Cockburn, Highland Council

3. Welcome and introductions

Peter Long welcomed everyone to the meeting.

4. Declarations of interest - none

5. Minutes of August meeting

Kathleen Cameron proposed acceptance of the minutes, seconded by Jeni Pacitti.

6. Matters arising from August meeting

Peter Long had submitted an objection, on behalf of AVCC, to the Planning Application 23/02921/FUL Change of Use of Land for siting of fitness training tent.

The AVCC subgroup to look at the CNPA Local Development Plan had not met yet.

Elspeth Byrne had written to Highland Council regarding paths that are overgrown.

Kathleen Cameron and Elspeth Byrne had put notices about the Community Council elections on Facebook and on our website.

7. Treasurer's report

Audrey Turner proposed acceptance of the Report, seconded by Beth Hay.

8. Police report

Neil MacIver said that there had been 192 incidents.

Neil MacIver had made enquiries with Highland Council regarding whether cycling on the pavement on Grampian Road was allowed. The council confirmed that this is not allowed –

the core path is around the back of Dalfaber. Peter Long said that he had been in touch with the Access Team at CNPA and they too confirmed that cycling on the pavement on Grampian Road is not allowed. There is only one part of Grampian Road, at the south end, where cycling on the pavement is permitted, but that cyclists should follow good principles around pedestrians. Neil MacIver said that cyclists are also allowed on the pavement at the Dalfaber junction.

Action: Elspeth Byrne to notify the local resident who raised this issue.

9. Business

a. CNPA paper Managing for Visitors in the Cairngorms National Park

Lauren MacCallum said that CNPA were considering a large number of issues – including engaging with visitors and wildlife protection. The CNPA Board considered that there was not clear and consistent messaging nationally and that this should be done first before pursuing legal measures. By-laws to prevent people camping on the beach might push them into the woods which would be worse. By-laws had not been successful in Loch Lomond. She said that the biggest risk to CNPA was lack of funding without which they would not be able to enforce by-laws.

Lauren MacCallum said that Aviemore was an expensive place to stay – that there was nowhere for young adult visitors to ‘let off steam’, hence the tents, fires, etc. We needed to think like our visitors to enable us to better manage the area. She did not think that parking restrictions would solve all of the problems. Any by-laws would have to be evidence based and would require full Scottish Government consultation which would take a long time. There needs to be a practical interim plan.

Paul Hibberd, FLS, agreed with all of Lauren MacCallum’s points. He too said that enforcement of any by-laws would be difficult. Weather was key to staffing requirements and it required around 10 days’ notice to get staff in.

b. Glenmore Traffic Regulation Order

Peter Long pointed out that the proposed parking charges were higher than those of FLS. Paul Hibberd said that if the Highland Council take over the FLS car parks there should be standard charging.

Roddy Stevens said that there was no provision for overnight hill walkers. Disabled parking was further away from Glenmore when it should be closer. He also pointed out that the bus to Cairngorm starts from the rail station and should start near the school at the north end of Aviemore.

Peter Long summarised the objections: overnight hill walker provision, lack of consistency of charges, difficulty of enforcement, lack of season tickets.

Jeni Pacitti proposed objecting on these grounds, seconded by Audrey Turner.

Action: Elspeth Byrne to draft a reply for Peter Long.

c. AGCT asset transfer request for FLS Glenmore Visitor Centre Café

The meeting felt that there was not enough information in the proposal and it was not clear if the Glenmore population had been consulted. The parking introduced yet another 3rd party into the mix and would complicate the situation.

Paul Hibberd said that FLS would lease back an office from AGCT if they achieved the asset transfer. The visitor centre and café would close on 1st November. He said that no operator would want the contract for the café in the winter without the promise of the following summer. The meeting was concerned that the end result might be no café ie a reduction of facility. If the asset transfer is unsuccessful then FLS retains the facility.

Elsbeth Byrne proposed that Peter Long write to Kirsty Bruce expressing the views above, seconded by Al Dargie.

Action: Peter Long to write to Kirsty Bruce.

- d. **Cycling on Grampian Road** – covered at 8 above.
- e. **Local Development Plan** – working group update to be provided at a future meeting.
- f. **Community Council Elections/Dissolution**

Peter Long said that nomination papers must be submitted by 3rd October. We would know how many people had nominated by 4th October – five is the minimum and 10 the maximum allowed. If this is an uncontested election then the community council is dissolved on 10th October and will be reconvened as soon as possible thereafter. It would not be possible to hold the normally scheduled meeting in October so this would be held on 5th November so that any decisions can be taken.

Peter Long said that Highland Council say that we cannot commit to financial events that happen in the future. From the 10th October we will not be able to operate for a while so the issue is with events happening on the Village Green before the community council is reconvened. Craft fairs are booked until December and traditionally AVCC hosts the Children's Christmas Light Switch-on. These events cannot be run by AVCC this year but we could ask ACE if they are willing to run these.

The meeting agreed that we should ask ACE to run the above events with ACE receiving the income.

Action: Kathleen Cameron to check with the ACE Board if they are willing to run the events so that we know the decision by the AVCC meeting on 5th October.

Peter Long said that he has asked the AVCC lawyer to speed up the Non-domino Application process. He has asked the lawyer to copy Al Dargie, Kathleen Cameron and Elspeth Byrne into any emails.

10. Reports from other organisations

a. CNPA report

The Local Development Plan link is live.

b. Highland Council report – none.

c. ACE board member report

Kathleen Cameron said that the tennis club is going to store the portacabin.

d. AGCT report – none.

e. FLS report – previously circulated.

11. AOCB – none.

12. Date of next meeting – Thursday 5th October.

Action: Elspeth Byrne to book the meeting room.

13. Close

Aviemore & Vicinity Community Council

TREASURER'S REPORT

14th Sept 2023 Aviemore Community Centre meeting room

<u>Treasurers Account</u>	£	£
Balance at 31 st July 2023		£2628.58
<u>Income</u>		
Interest		
<u>Expenditure</u>		
SSE	£16.00	
ICO	£35.00	
Balance at 31st Aug 2023		£2577.58
Cyclists Club_balance	£135.00	
<u>Business Reserve Account</u>		
Balance at 31 st July 2023		£9,130.12
<u>Income</u>		
Craft fair	£ 795.00	
Interest	£ 11.28	
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Any jobs	£240 .00	
Balance at 31st Aug 2023		£9696.40
Deposit Craic events	£ 50.00	
Deposit Sam cairns	£ 50.00	
Streamline joinery	£ 50.00	