

AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
7pm Thursday 14 December 2023, Aviemore Community Centre
MINUTES

1. Present

Eilidh McLeod (Vice Chair), AVCC
Peter Long (Secretary), AVCC
Kathleen Cameron (Treasurer), AVCC
Jeni Pacitti, AVCC

Elsbeth Byrne, AVCC
Neil Maciver, Police Scotland
John Grant, Rothiemurchus
Cameron Boyle, FLS

2. Apologies for absence

Al Dargie (Chair), AVCC

Bill Lobban, Highland Council

3. Welcome and introductions

Eilidh McLeod welcomed everyone to the meeting.

4. Declarations of interest - none

5. Previous minutes

a. Minutes of November meeting

Peter Long proposed acceptance of the November minutes, seconded by Kathleen Cameron.

The decisions taken at the November meeting regarding appointment of officers were ratified.

b. Minutes of October meeting

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

6. Matters arising from the October and November meetings

Peter Long said that the transfer of the Village Green to ACE was being progressed by the lawyers. He updated the meeting on the actions from the October and November meetings.

Eilidh McLeod said that she and Kathleen Cameron had made the arrangements for the Christmas Eve Torchlight Parade.

Neil MacIver said that speed cameras would be used around Aviemore when available.

Kathleen Cameron had arranged for the Christmas tree on the Village Green. It was delivered slightly later than hoped for, but the event was a success.

One.com subscription was paid by PL, who has been refunded.

Action: Elspeth Byrne to ask Steve Byrne to provide Kathleen Cameron with the password for the website provider to enable her to obtain a copy receipt.

7. Treasurer's report

Kathleen Cameron presented the Treasurer's Report. She said that there were no bills outstanding. A cheque for over £600 had been received from Reidhaven Estate. A refund was made to the craft fairs as Kathleen Cameron had to cancel one craft fair due to bad weather. The electricity charges for the Village Green would be going up in January but the Community Council is in credit.

8. Police report

Neil MacIver said that there had been 114 incidents since 19th November – about the same level as usual at this time of year.

Peter Long said that he was awaiting the formal approval for the Christmas Eve parade from Highland Council. Adults would be able to purchase wax torches and LED lights would be available for children. The parade would start at 6pm from the Fire Station. Last year there were around 20 volunteers and he hoped for around 25 volunteers this year. Neil MacIver suggested that some senior school pupils might be prepared to volunteer as this would earn them credit for community involvement.

Action: Kathleen Cameron to contact the High School.

9. Business

a. Village Green – Legal costs and transfer to ACE

Peter Long said that the lawyers were still awaiting some documentation from AVCC members but were moving forward with the transfer in the meantime. They had provided an estimate of around £680 and Peter Long said that he hoped the cost to ACE would be similar.

b. Planning Appeal – The Sweeney Group, Dunroamin Guest House.

Peter Long said that the Community Council had drafted an objection to the appeal. Eilidh McLeod said that the objection addressed misinformation in the appeal ie the character of the street, the adjacent property not being shown in the plans and adding 6 bedrooms to what had previously been used as B&B letting bedrooms.

Jeni Pacitti proposed sending in the objection, seconded by Peter Long.

c. Planning Applications - Unit 6, Aviemore Retail Park, McDonald's restaurants.

Peter Long said that the plans included an extension, ventilation and changes inside. The Golden arches had already been approved by Highland Council along with the change of use which cannot be commented on. The changes include an extension - a shipping container sized structure to the right-hand side of the premises which will require land to be dug out. The proposed extension will hold waste materials.

Peter Long proposed that the Community Council object on grounds of scale, disruption, inappropriate finishes, visual impact, litter and noise. Seconded by Kathleen Cameron.

Action: Al Dargie to submit the objection.

d. Glenmore Parking Charges – response from Highland Council

Peter Long said that Highland Council had responded to the AVCC objections. AVCC are asked to confirm that our objections have been addressed or the issue goes to the Area Committee.

Peter Long proposed that we remove our objections to lack of overnight parking and lack of enforcement but keep our objections regarding inconsistency of charging and financial impact for regular local users. Seconded by Jeni Pacitti

Action: Peter Long to submit the AVCC objections.

e. Village centre – Glass recycling facilities

Kathleen Cameron said that the recycling bins at Tesco were often overfull and dangerous.

Kathleen Cameron suggested that there should be more bins in the town centre or the bins at Tesco should be emptied more frequently.

Action: Peter Long to write to Bill Lobban and the Highland Council recycling person.

f. Nomination of 2 AVCC members to ACE Board

Peter Long said that ACE like to have 2 members of AVCC on the ACE Board. This is important to AVCC given that all assets are being handed over to ACE. This is a formal way of maintaining a link between ACE and AVCC. The ACE Board currently includes Peter Long and Kathleen Cameron and four other people.

Kathleen Cameron proposed Jeni Pacitti, seconded by Peter Long. Peter Long proposed Al Dargie, seconded by Jeni Pacitti.

Action: Peter Long to write to ACE.

10. Reports from other organisations

a. CNPA report - none

b. Highland Council report

Peter Long said that Bill Lobban said that the Short-term Lets Control was going ahead but with modifications – implementation in the Spring.

c. ACE board member report

Kathleen Cameron said that Rothiemurchus had taken ownership of the portacabin. John Grant said that this would be used for a laundry at the Rothiemurchus campsite.

Kathleen Cameron said that the winter lights are up and those needing repair have been identified and repairs will be made.

Next year's floral display is in question given the cost of watering.

The Christmas Eve Parade will start at the Fire Station at 6pm, following the pipe band and Santa and reindeer. Adults will be able to purchase wax torches. Volunteers should arrive at the Fire Station at 5.30pm.

The Burnside Park project is raising funds in collaboration with ACE, and costs and designs are being sought.

d. AGCT report

None received. Al Dargie and Peter Long are hoping I meet with Kirsty Bruce to catch up on issues.

Action: PL to circulate AGCTs response re the potential community asset transfer for Glenmore.

e. FLS report

Cameron Boyle presented the report from FLS.

11. Secretary's update on correspondence and meeting arrangements

Peter Long said that problems with Al Dargie's and his AVCC email addresses had been resolved. Eilidh McLeod said she still had problems with hers.

Action: Eilidh McLeod to meet with Al Dargie to resolve the problems with her email address.

Peter Long said that he would circulate relevant papers in batches or during the month as they arrived.

Highland Council want email addresses for all AVCC members. The standard addresses for the office holders will be used and the personal email addresses for other members.

Peter Long said that further complaints had been received from the Ukrainian refugees in the MacDonald hotel. These had been partly due to miscommunication and the Highland Council Resettlement Team were addressing the problem.

Peter Long had been contacted by Anna Ronayne who asked if she could use a previously sent letter of support for a current Active Travel project. Peter Long had agreed.

He said that John Smith, owner of the old water treatment site, might be coming back to AVCC for support for a new project. Eilidh McLeod said that the site was currently up for sale.

As previously mentioned, a generous donation of over £600 has been received from the Reidhaven Estate.

Action: PL to acknowledge the donation, and to provide details for direct payment in future.

The Food Hub had been in touch asking for suggestions for food parcel recipients. It was not felt appropriate for the CC to get involved in this.

Peter Long will circulate a list of meeting dates for 2024.

12. AOCB

Kathleen Cameron said that a very old scruffy rubbish bin had been placed between the benches at Myrtlefield.

Action: Peter Long to include this in his letter to Bill Lobban.

John Grant asked about progress on the Community Plan which has to be done by May. Eilidh McLeod said that a subgroup had been set up and would be meeting in January.

13. Date of next meeting – Thursday 11 January 2024

Peter Long gave his apologies that he will not be able to attend this meeting.

14. Close 8.40pm

Aviemore & Vicinity Community Council

TREASURER'S REPORT 15th December 2023 Aviemore

Treasurers Account

£

£

Balance at 30th September 2023

£3,336.83

Income

Expenditure

SSE

£32.00

Balance at 31st November 2023

£3,360.83

Cyclists Club_balance

£135.00

Business Reserve Account

Balance at 30th September 2023

£10,097.94

Income

Craft fair

£ 260.00

Interest

£ 12.91

£ 11.97

Expenditure

Craft fairs refund due to Bad weather

£220.00

Any Jobs

£210.00

Balance at 31st November 2023

£9,952.82

Deposit Craic events

£ 50.00

Deposit Sam cairns

£ 50.00

Streamline joinery

£ 50.00