

**AVIEMORE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**7pm Thursday 9 May 2024, Aviemore Community Centre**

**MINUTES**

**1. Present**

Al Dargie (Chair), AVCC	Elsbeth Byrne (Minutes), AVCC
Eilidh McLeod (Vice Chair), AVCC	Jeni Pacitti, AVCC
Kathleen Cameron (Treasurer), AVCC	Neil MacIver, Police Scotland
Peter Long (Secretary), AVCC	John Grant, Rothiemurchus

**2. Apologies for absence**

Laura Nicholl, FLS	Bill Lobban, Highland Council (arrived later)
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**3. Welcome and introductions**

Al Dargie welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**4. Declarations of interest - none**

**5. Minutes of April meeting**

**Eilidh McLeod proposed acceptance of the April minutes, seconded by Kathleen Cameron.**

**6. Matters arising from April meeting**

Kathleen Cameron said that she had passed Al Dargie's contact details to Any Jobs Aviemore.

Peter Long said that transfer of the Village Green from AVCC would be covered under item 9a.

Al Dargie said that the service point and Tourist Information Office issues would be done this week.

**7. Treasurer's report**

Kathleen Cameron presented the Treasurer's Report. She said that deposits would be subsumed into the pot.

**Al Dargie proposed acceptance of the report, seconded by Jeni Pacitti.**

**8. Police report**

Neil MacIver said that there had been 104 incidents between 11<sup>th</sup> April and 9<sup>th</sup> May – it had been quieter than recently. House breaking enquiries were still ongoing but there were positive leads.

Neil MacIver left the meeting.

## 9. Business

### a. Village Green Transfer to ACE

Al Dargie said that this had taken about 7 years.

Peter Long said that, at long last, the transfer from AVCC to ACE went through on 7<sup>th</sup> May and both the AVCC and ACE lawyers confirmed that all was in order. Al Dargie, Kathleen Cameron and Al Dargie had signed the transfer documents. AVCC's responsibility for managing the Village Green is now ended. All that remains is for AVCC to divest any interest, including the web site references and insurance.

Kathleen Cameron said that £620 would be returned to AVCC for the reduced insurance requirement. In future only public liability insurance and insurance for defamation, injuries to volunteers and loss of cash would be required. There will be a bill from the AVCC lawyer to pay and the ACE bill for conveyancing will be passed to AVCC for payment. Kathleen Cameron said that after the remaining bills were paid, the RBS Business Reserve Account would be closed.

**Al Dargie proposed that, after all bills have been paid, the residual amount should be transferred to ACE for use on the village green. Seconded by Jeni Pacitti.**

**Action: Kathleen to contact Steve Byrne to have required changes made to the AVCC web site.**

Al Dargie thanked Peter for all his work involved in achieving the transfer.

### b. Planning Application 23/02921 Cairngorm Crossfit

Al Dargie said that we had objected on the grounds of noise, parking congestion, environmental concerns and the retrospective planning application. He said that Cairngorm Crossfit had confirmed that they now have a quiet generator and their own parking spaces. Regarding the environmental concerns about heating during the winter, they did not heat the premises. They said that the retrospective planning application was due to having to act quickly when they were let down over the accommodation arrangements.

**Peter Long proposed that we withdraw our objection but make a point about the inappropriate use of a tent on the site and the retrospective planning application. Seconded by Kathleen Cameron.**

**Action: Peter Long to write to planning authority.**

### c. Highland Council survey on Community Council Support and Guidance

The AVCC members agreed a response.

**Action: Peter Long to enter response.**

**d. Aviemore Town centre lighting**

Al Dargie said that lights had been replaced from the Ambulance Station down to the Winking Owl – there is progress. He said he had noticed the Council working at the Railway Station – digging out the old bases for the wooden lampposts. One of these had fallen, about 5-6 years ago, so the Council took all the posts down. The reason for the fallen post was that a ventilation hole had been sunk, hence the wood had rotted. We have asked for updates on replacement of the lights – asking for something a bit more elaborate than the normal lamp posts. The staff working at the station area suggested that AVCC was part of the delay, Al Dargie had then written to John Allen. Al Dargie's letter and the response were circulated to members.

Al Dargie was most concerned about Dell of Spey where no lights are working. He would like some lights at the Railway Station modified. Timescales are required for the work. Al Dargie said that, on a previous occasion, Bill Lobban had said that money had been set aside for lighting and paths.

**Action: Al Dargie to write to John Allen again.**

Peter Long said that this process has reoccurred many times. The frequency of the lights failing suggests that the lights are at end of life and there needs to be a better grip on maintenance/inspection routine. The current street light provision is not fit for purpose.

**e. CC response to potential windfarm developments**

(NB no decision will be made at this meeting.)

Al Dargie said that there are two planning applications – near Slochd and Kincaig.

Peter Long had written to the CNPA who said that they may wish to consider concerns about the visual impact. Our comments will have to be made to the Highland Council but we cannot do this yet – we have to await the formal response time. CNPA advised that we should work on our response in the meantime.

Al Dargie said that significant money could come to the community if the windfarm developments go ahead. He said we need to get the views of the community. AVCC will be one of 5 or 6 community councils who can give support or object. The meeting discussed ways to get community views – newspaper advert, information in the library, a meeting, etc. It was important to represent the views across our community – not the views of AVCC members.

Bill Lobban joined the meeting.

John Grant asked if any of either development was in the AVCC area and how the share of any money from either development was allocated. Al Dargie said

that neither development is within the AVCC area, but the AVCC area is within the radius for which views are sought. The method of allocation of any money from either development needs to be explored.

Eilidh McLeod asked what benefits Carrbridge got from the windfarm development affecting their area? Al Dargie did not know but said we would ask them.

Peter Long asked if community councils have to apply for funds for a specific project? Bill Lobban said that any funding available would have to be applied for. Al Dargie said that both projects say how much will be paid per megawatt generated.

## **10. Reports from other organisations**

### **a. CNPA report - none**

### **b. Highland Council report**

Bill Lobban said that the Highland Council had approved £2 billion of investment over 20 years. He said that this is the most important investment in a generation.

He said that there had been a lot of discussion about the 20mph speed limits. Peter Long said he did not understand the process for the 20mph being decided on – it was introduced as a temporary measure during Covid and then became permanent. Bill Lobban said that the 20mph limit saves children's lives and he hoped that AVCC would support the Highland Council on this.

Elsbeth Byrne said she was concerned that Police Scotland will not enforce the 20mph limit. Bill Lobban said that he was meeting with a senior Police Scotland personnel soon.

Al Dargie said that Community Councils are invited to comment on policing annually and that if all Community Councils objected, then this might make a difference.

Peter Long said that there are 20mph limits in much of Edinburgh and 20mph has become the norm.

**Peter Long proposed that AVCC continue to support the 20mph limit, seconded by Jeni Pacitti.**

**Action: Peter Long to write to Malcolm McLeod.**

Bill Lobban said that a lot of the investment funding would go to schools.

### **c. ACE board member report**

Kathleen Cameron said that the winter light competition had been up on the AVCC Facebook page, in the library and on the noticeboard at the Post Office. The competition closes tonight.

d. **AGCT report - none**

e. **FLS report**

AI read out the report from FLS

11. **AOCB**

Community Payback Orders

Kathleen Cameron said that she had had an email about Community Payback Orders. Works would include a tidy-up at Dell of Spey, painting of bins, the pass from the burn to the Old Bridge Inn. She asked that if anyone had anything else to add then please email Peter Long who is the contact for AVCC and ACE.

**Action: Peter Long.**

Article by the Scots Magazine

Peter Long said that he had been contact by The Scots Magazine with a lastminute request. They are writing a piece on the rural housing crisis ie that there is not enough affordable accommodation for workers, and would like to speak to people about this. They would like to know who to talk to by Monday.

**Action: Al Dargie to contact someone who might be able to contribute.**

**Action: Eilidh McLeod to contact someone she knows.**

Al Dargie said that people need to work in the area where they live to achieve net zero.

John Grant said that accommodation near place of work is important where people work anti-social hours when there is no public transport.

12. **Date of next meeting – Thursday 13 June 2024.**

Jeni Pacitti gave her apologies for the next meeting.

13. **Close 20:37**

## Aviemore & Vicinity Community Council

### TREASURER'S REPORT 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024 Aviemore Community

#### Centre meeting room

<u>Treasurers Account</u>	£	£
Balance at 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2024		<b>£3,385.30</b>

#### Income

Interest	£	
Sum up payment	£	59.03

#### Expenditure

OVO	£	28.00
Chq 315 (insurance)	£	775.65
Sum up payment (Ace)	£	59.03

<b>Balance at 30th April 2024</b>		<b>£2,581.65</b>
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Cyclists Club_balance	£135.00	
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#### Business Reserve Account

Balance at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

#### Income

**£10,129.68**

Craft Fairs	£550.00
Tayside young fiddlers	£ 55.00
Interest	£ 13.62

#### Expenditure

Any Jobs invoice 3234 initial tidy up	£150.00
Invoice 3262 first cut	£ 60.00
Invoice 3302 new flower bed	£184.31

**Balance at 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**£10,353.99**

Deposit Craic events      £ 50.00

Deposit Sam cairns      £ 50.00

Streamline joinery      £ 50.00