

Dulnain Bridge community Council minutes April 19th 2017

PRESENT:

MEMBERS: Colin Hill (Chair) John Bruce (Secretary), Ann Campbell (Treasurer), Ewan Cameron, Donnaie Macdonald, Ron Macwilliam, Malcolm Cooke, Charlie Whelan

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: John Boyce, Nigel Williams

HIGHLAND COUNCILLOR: Jaci Douglas

1. Welcome. Colin welcomed everybody, and said that future meetings would be different as 2 members are standing for election to the Highland Council next month, and Jaci was retiring as our local Highland Councillor.

2. Apologies for Absence Karen Derrick, Sgt. Simon Filer

3. Previous minutes (08/03/17) Proposed by Donnaie Macdonald seconded by Ewan Cameron.

4. Matters Arising Nigel Williams reported that ha was working with COAT on the problems with the riverside path.

5. Treasurer's Report – The balance is £4119.74

6. Bridge & Speeding The bus company have been specifically instructed to conform to the bridge weight limit. Jaci will ensure that the area they use will be added to the priority gritting list for the future.

Highland Council and the police are confident that the current signs are legal and correct to ban ALL vehicles over 7.5ton from using the bridge.

7. Community Housing. Colin and Ron attended a meeting with Grant Moir and other CNP staff to progress plans to build affordable housing locally. It is necessary to set up a body in Badenoch and Strathspey to formally apply for funds etc as the next step. A community development trust would then be able to oversee individual village schemes. Although Ron is in the process of moving from the village he has agreed, as our main driving force up to now, to continue to help us with this project.

There is plenty of support from the Highland Council, Housing Associations, CNPA and the SCHAT for our plans. FIT Housing are planning to come to our June meeting to discuss what they can do to assist in any scheme to build housing for senior citizens behind the church.

8. Community Emergency Plan & Scotland Resilient Community Fund Colin suggested that it would make sense to set up a small group to produce a comprehensive plan. We discussed what alterations would be needed to make the sample plan suit Dulnain Bridge. Colin has asked a member to fill in the form to apply for a grant from SSEN in time for the June deadline. Colin will circulate the amended plan for members to consider.

9. Any Other Business.

Planning. Plans have been submitted to extend 9 Fraser Rd for disability use.

A copy of correspondence between Bill Lobban/HC/CNPA would seem to indicate that if the CNPA take over all planning matters in their area from the Regional Councils, community councils will not be seen as representing the view of their area and would only be considered as equivalent to any single resident. It was agreed that if this were to become the case we would need to object strongly and get the support of other Ccs.

Flowers. It was agreed that we get the Heather Centre to spruce up the floral display tubs.

Xmas Tree Colin will ask Kenny Macdonald if he is able to remove the Xmas tree, as John McCafferty is unable to do so this year.

Forestry Charlie suggested that we contact Reidhaven Estate to ask them to give more notice of forestry operations, and to get them to reinstate any paths damaged during work. They could also be asked to extend paths where it makes sense to do so.

Hall Key Donnaie passed on a request for a hall key to be put in a key safe to enable easier access to the hall. This request will be considered by the hall committee as there are a lot of keys in circulation already.

Noticeboard Donnaie has been asked if the noticeboard could be repositioned at the hall, and after discussion this idea was rejected.

Milestone 'The Friends' asked if they could make a feature of the milestone near the village boundary. Jaci will check on the HC opinion on this.

Wild Fire apparently a fire pit has been constructed behind the tin church and there were a lot of empty drink cans in the area. A watch will be kept to find out who is responsible so that this fire risk can be stopped.

Play Park there have been complaints of dog mess in the play area. This is partly due to the access gate being left unlocked by the grass cutting contractor. Jaci will get the gate locked and ensure that the HC team that now do the grass cutting will keep it locked in future. Jaci will also alert the dog warden to the problem, to get the dog owners to obey the law.

Telephone Boxes Ewan has now managed to contact Donald Gray to ensure that our objections to the removal of the box are registered, he is awaiting confirmation appearing on the website list.

Defibrillator Ewan supplied information of excellent training videos available online for use of the defibrillator and how to do CPR. It was agreed that we send details via the email list to the village residents to make them aware that the unit is available to be used in an emergency.

Garage Colin has given a key to the garage to 'the friends' so that they can also use it for storage.

Abandoned car A damaged car has been left abandoned in a field at Lynchurn for some months, creating an eyesore on the A95. Colin has contacted BofG CC and asked them to deal with getting it removed.

10. Date of next meeting - 10th May at 7.30pm

11. THANKS TO JACI Colin finished by thanking Jaci Douglas for everything she has done for us over the past decade of service as the local councillor. He gave her a small gift from the CC, and wished her well in her new job.