

GRANTOWN ON SPEY and VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on 21st August 2018 at The Grant Arms Hotel Granttown –on – Spey at 19.00 Hrs

Present: Linda Coe Chair (LC)
Ewan MacGregor Vice Chair (EM)
Beatrice Oliphant Treasurer (BO)
Martin Bradshaw Secretary (MB)
Catriona Brown (CB)
Bill Sadler (BS)
John Halliday (JH)

Also present:

Muriel Cockburn Councillor (MC)
Jeanie Munro Resident (JM)
Margaret Ross Resident (MR)
Stuart Dick Resident/GI (SD)
Gavin Myles CNPA (GM)
PC Michael Baptie Police Scotland (MP)
PC Caroline Gray Police Scotland (CG)

Apologies:

Bill Lobban Councillor

1. Welcome:

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending

2. Police Report:

MP indicated major concerns were bad driving and road policing and Police Scotland were working with local officers to reduce incidence of speeding, dangerous driving and defective vehicles. He confirmed there were no police concerns about anti-social behaviour at Thunder in the Glen [TiTG] or the Highland Games

He confirmed that apart from the road policing issues Granttown had been relatively quiet since the last Police Report to the CC

EM mentioned the problem of cycling on the pavement particularly outside the Co-op. MP confirmed that this would be raised at the next police visit to Assembly at the Grammar School JM enquired about the proposed TiTG route round Lochindorb; SD provided the details from the floor and confirmed that arrival was planned to commence at 1.15

LC thanked MP for his Report

3. Minutes of last Meeting:

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 17thg July were approved

Proposed EM: Seconded BS

4. Matters Arising:

4.1 New Spey Bridge Lighting

BS visited the bridge recently when there was no floodlighting at all. He has raised the matter with Transport Scotland and will receive a reply 'in due course'. He will continue to monitor

Action : BS

4.2 Clock

LC is liaising with HC and this is ongoing. MC stated that it was a question of ownership but LC stated that the clock is in the HC Asset Register

Action LC

4.3 Old Spey Bridge

LC confirmed ownership remains an issue but discussions are ongoing with HC to have them take over ownership of the whole bridge. MC advised that matter with the HC Legal Department

Action LC

4.4 Skating pond:

LC said that there were ongoing discussions with GI. GM said that the ownership rested with the Anagach Woods Trust (AWT) but it had cost £2000 for 2 days work last year and quote for the 5 days require to complete the works was £5000 but AWT did not have the funds. He reported that Seafield Estates would be only too happy for AWT to do the work.

LC said there was a proposed meeting between CC GI & AWT to discuss future progress. SD confirmed that GI were anxious to get the matter resolved. EM advised that grants for such works were available, he had provided information to AWT but they had to apply because they own the land. Steps to be taken to organise the proposed joint meeting

Action LC

4.5 Health Centre:

LC stated that NHS Scotland want a meeting with CC, GI and Gordon Strang and that steps are being taken to arrange this. SD said that Roger from Dementia Project should also attend and EM confirmed he was the CC link with Dementia Project

Action LC

4.6 Ben Mhor Notice Board

LC confirmed that she had given the key to the hotel as it was to be no longer used

No further action

4.7 Salt Bin

MC confirmed this should be funded by HC and CC should deal with by Richard Porteus at HC

Action Planning Group

4.8 Community Asset Transfers:

(a) BS had raised the old council yard as being suitable for much needed additional parking/ primary school drop-off point and/or storage and meeting place potential. He added that HC appeared to place the site on the open market as soon as he had raised the matter. It was agreed that a list of all interest in the site back to Nov 2017, when the matter had first been raised at the Consultation Meeting should

be drawn up and a detailed plan be prepared. JM queried the purpose of any buy-out and BS repeated reasons given previously **Action BS**

(b) SD reported that GI had enquired about a storage container in the BT yard. The response had been “will get back to you but unlikely”

(c) Strathspey Hotel site: owned by HC and they seem determined to put in affordable housing but their plans are considered unsuitable. CC would like support from GI, CNPA & Councillors for their position

MC advised that she was aware of just how many houses were required across the whole of Badenoch & Strathspey but she did not know the position in Grantown.

GM said the existing planning permission will remain in force until something else is applied for. It was clear that information was required from HC re Grantown’s specific housing needs, not for the whole area

BS to prepare a discussion paper for the next CC meeting **Action BS**

4.9 Map

JH said Seafield Estate had provided good information and he now had a good idea of Glenbeg & Lochindorb boundaries. Matter is ongoing **Action JH**

4.10 Grantown in Bloom

BO reported on useful joint meeting and wanted to acknowledge and thank all the volunteer effort which had resulted in a very successful outcome. It was mentioned that the rubbish bins in the Square were CC responsibility. Agreed that next step was to establish a sub-committee with all stakeholders to take the matter further. LC stated that BO was to set up such committee and co-opt any members she thought appropriate **Action BO**

4.11 Birchview House

CB reported that still operating as a Party House even though planning application had been withdrawn. LC advised that this was a matter for the Planning Group to review and propose a way forward **Action BS**

5. Co-opting further members:

LC reported she had received interest from Tim Artus who had recently moved into Grantown. It was agreed to co-opt him as a member of the CC

Proposed LC: Seconded MB

6. Treasurer’s Report:

BO reported that there was £2,727.77 in the Bank Account with a cheque for £21.00 waiting to clear. She advised that she had submitted the application for his year’s grant but Shaitron who would be dealing with this was on holiday.

7. Planning Report

(a) Conservation Area proposals: BS advised these were presently with Ward Group whom he believed supported the proposals; next step is to go to South Area Planning Group and then on forward to produce a Management Plan to be agreed with Conservation Officer and CNPA. When all this is in place it could possibly lead to funding

(b) Bus Shelter: CC view is that it is not suitable where required in planning permission condition (outside Ritchies) in High Street but needed opposite the Craiglynn Hotel GM confirmed that CNPA supportive of re-siting outside Craiglynn. JH asked why not place outside Health Centre, MR

supported this idea. The CC considered that moving the shelter from outside Ritchies to opposite the Craiglynn had support from the Community. BS stated he had requested Stagecoach to change route of Nethy Bridge Bus to avoid the left turn at the traffic lights but had received no response. MC said that after her meeting with Stagecoach the mid-afternoon service had been re-instated on Fridays because of the needs of schools/colleges. BS advised her this was inadequate and it should be re-instated on a daily basis not just on Fridays

(c) Local Development Plan it was noted that the site by the Caravan Park has been allocated for housing; CNPA want community views on the development as a whole but there was no knowledge of the number of houses required or the number that would be allowed. GM said that there were concerns about the traffic implications as it was not a great junction at the present time and any development could make it worse. JM expressed general concern at the apparent lack of information. It was agreed that the suggestion that there be a new access route to the proposed site from the rear of the Health Centre should be pursued.

Action: Planning Group

8. Toilets:

LC advised it was not clear if Burnside was closing, SW High Street was open or whether a Comfort scheme was to be proposed. The latest information she had was that turnstiles had been fitted in SW High Street and it should open at the end of the month but still not clear about closure of Burnside. It was reported that the Grantown Museum was not necessarily proceeding with a Comfort Scheme.

MC advised that SW High Street are ready but not yet open, she reported that Bill Lobban was speaking to officers and would report back on 22nd August. She added that there would be no closures until the end of October but that there would only be one set of toilets in Grantown It was agreed that a strongly worded letter should be sent to HC from the CC insisting on information as to how this decision had been reached and what is going to happen in the future.

LC to liaise with MC

9. Parking:

It was reported that there will be a meeting with HC to discuss the matter further but the Road Engineer's Report stating the precise reasons for the implementation of the present position is required for consideration before any such meeting.

MC made it clear that all 4 Highland Councillors and not just Bill Lobban should be involved in any ongoing discussions

10 ICH:

LC reported she had written to the Cabinet Secretary for Health requesting a review of the decision of NHS Highland to close ICH. Fergus Ewing had agreed to take up the matter and she was waiting to hear. The New Hospital Project Team would be at the next CC meeting to advise the CC of the details of the project and the provision of palliative and end of life care in Grantown

11 Trees:

BS reported the trees in The Square are HC responsibility and they are in a bad way a good number need felling and Debbie Smith at HC has been advised accordingly. The trees in Church Avenue are the responsibility of Seafield/ Reidhaven Estates

12 New Distillery:

BS reported that there will be a public consultation on 10th October.

13. Twinning:

It was agreed that EM would give a speech at the Reception on behalf of the CC and also that LC and EM would 'process' to the Highland Games on 26th August

14. Correspondence:

LC reported she had received:-

- An email from Drew Hendrie about a fund raising fair in Inverness Town House on 7th September,
- an email from Liz Henderson regarding registration of the location of defibrillators in Grantown,
- she had been advised of the Deloittes Ride-across-Britain event and that the cyclists would be in Grantown on 15th September,
- the CC has received an invitation to the open day of the new care home in Seafield Avenue on 7th September

LC would circulate to the CC for action as appropriate

Action LC

15. AOCB

LC reported on the useful and constructive joint meeting with GI and that it is proposed there should be 3 such meetings per year. The purpose of such meetings would be to identify projects and consult fully with the community so as to establish the priority of funding and efforts.

JM enquired whether such meetings were open meetings and SD responded that GI meetings are open to members only.

JM added that she was concerned that CC meetings were to be held every two months in future and that this could cause difficulties for example with planning applications and issues. LC advised that there is a planning group which could be emailed if such matters arose.

JM asked whether the CC would support the process of connection the mains water supply from Grantown to Dava, the wind farm developers would make £5000 available to help if Dava raised matched funding. LC stated that the CC would strongly support this process but could not do so financially.

LC again suggested that a Dava representative should join the CC but JM said that she could not do so but that she would raise the matter once again with Dava Residents

16. Next Meeting:

Date of the next meeting is 18th September 2018 at 19.00

The meeting closed at 21.15