

BALLATER & CRATHIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL (B&CCC)

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Minutes of a Meeting held on 10th June 2013 at The Bothy, Ballater

<p>Present: Sheila Sedgwick (SS) (took Chair) Susan Matthews (SM) Secretary Jane Angus (JA) Pat Downie (PD) - Finance William Duguid (WD) Ruth Sim (RS) PC Jeff Hall for Police business</p> <p>Cllr Geva Blackett (CGB) Cat Houston (Minutes) Members of the public</p>	<p>Apologies received: Graham Adams (GA) Chair Francis Duguid (FD) Vice Chair Ian Cameron (IC) Anne Reid (AR) Cllr Peter Argyle Cllr Katrina Farquhar</p> <p align="center">For a copy of these minutes in a larger font contact the secretary on 0785 2414024.</p>
<p>1. Welcome & Apologies for Absence. As above. William (Billy) Duguid was welcomed as a member of the Community Council following the recent election.</p>	<p align="center">ACTION</p>
<p>2. Police Report. PC Jeff Hall reported that the most serious incident in the area over the past month was an RTA involving two motorcyclists, which had required the services of the air ambulance. He also referred to some reports of antisocial driving, and urged that the public should report such incidents so that the drivers may be spoken to. PC Hall reiterated that the Grampian Police force had recently been renamed Police Scotland and added that there was a new 101 number for use by the public for non-emergencies. Cllr Geva Blackett appealed for an increased police presence during the summer months. PC Hart added that the force was contactable through its website and email as well as other methods.</p>	
<p>3. Minutes of the May meeting. The minutes of the May meeting were agreed as a correct record of the meeting, with some amendments approved.</p>	
<p>4. Matters Arising. The issue of a proposed meeting with representatives with the CNPA was raised. It was discussed if such a meeting should be open to other groups in the village. It was suggested that the CNPA be offered a selection of general meeting dates and to see what suits them. Phil Swan enquired as to progress on the rusting manhole cover on the walkway approach to Monaltrie Park. CGB to follow up.</p> <p>4a. Ballater Skatepark. Garth Tosh and Aiden McMahon made an appeal for support for a skatepark in the village. They were advised to approach the BRD (Ballater Royal Deeside Ltd) and to formulate ideas on funding and a site before moving forward. It was also suggested that they approach the Aboyne Wheelers in order to benefit from their recent experience. CGB offered them assistance in these formulations.</p>	<p align="center">SM</p> <p align="center">CGB</p>
<p>5. Reports Aberdeenshire Council. CGB made the council aware of a document which clarifies the understanding of "Material Consideration" within Planning Matters. It could</p>	

<p>provide comments from Community Council's with a stronger say on planning applications if referenced.</p>	
<p>6. Vision. Nothing to report</p>	
<p>7. Ballater News. BRD reported that the village had a successful Walking Week in May, with 93 participants and lots of positive feedback. Ballater Community Enterprise (BCE) has proposed plans to rebuild the warden's office at Ballater Caravan Park. It was established that the refurbishment of the Monaltrie Park toilets was not a BRD project. A feasibility study is to be carried out into the possibility of creating a Heritage Centre in the village with a view to earmark a possible site.</p> <p>The Ballater Business Association has expressed its concerns regarding the planning application by the Co-operative to occupy the Stagecoach garage site, in terms of what goods would be sold, the impact on employment and the consequent two empty buildings, possible planning gain and potential traffic problems.</p> <p>The open-top bus (Ballater to Glen Muick) had experienced some congestion problems.</p> <p>Ballater Victoria Week plans are well under way.</p> <p>Digging at Tullich to extend the burial ground has led to the discovery of two symbol stones from the 7th or 8th centuries. They have been sent away for cleaning but will be displayed within the new site on their return.</p> <p>CGB advised that eight new houses will be built at the (play park) end of Sir Patrick Geddes Way, perhaps by the end of this year, by Aberdeenshire Council.</p>	
<p>8. Scottish Government Consultations. It was reiterated that the deadline for contributions to the National Planning Network consultation is July 5 2013.</p>	ALL
<p>9. Planning Matters. The intimation that Phil Swan had resigned from the committee was met with regret. It was established that the council would need to produce a volunteer to replace PS's efforts as regards Planning Matters. CGB stated that she needed input and comments on planning proposals from groups such as the council to help inform planning decisions at shire level.</p>	
<p>10. Finance. Nothing to report.</p>	
<p>11. Correspondence. No actions required.</p>	
<p>12. AOCB. It was agreed that the council could co-opt former candidate James Anderson (known as "Wee Jim") following the resignation of Phil Swan. Jim had stood as a candidate in the recent election. The council agreed that they would co-opt Jim to the council for six months with full voting rights, after which time there could be an election.</p>	
<p>13. Response to the CNPA Local Development Plan. There was some discussion about the council's response as a unit and as individuals to the LDP. It was suggested that the council hold a special meeting to discuss this single issue before deadline, on June 24 at 7pm in the Victoria Hall kitchen.</p>	ALL
<p>14. Date of Next Meeting. Monday 8th July at 7pm in the Mike Sheridan Room, Ballater. The meeting closed at 21:00hrs.</p>	