

BALLATER & CRATHIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL (B&CCC)

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Minutes of a Meeting held on 11th October 2013, Crathie Church Hall, Crathie

<p>Present: James Anderson (WJ) Jane Angus (JA) Ian Cameron (IC) Billy Duguid (BD) Acting Chair Susan Matthews (SM) Secretary Cllr Geva Blackett (CGB) Cllr Katrina Farquhar (CKF) (also CNPA elected rep) David Horne for Ballater Royal Deeside Ltd (BRD) PC Donald Macleod, for Police business</p>	<p>Apologies received: Graham Adams (GA) Chair Pat Downie (PD) Finance Francis Duguid (FD) Vice Chair Anne Reid (AR) Sheila Sedgwick (SS) Ruth Sim (RS) Cat Houston (CH) Val Norton Cllr Peter Argyle (CPA) Nick Mardall (Deeside and Donside Development Projects Manager)</p>
1. Welcome & Apologies for Absence.	ACTION
<p>2. Police Business.</p> <p>2.1. A report has gone to the Procurator Fiscal re recent thefts in Ballater. Further actions had been taken re the one way system on Viewfield Rd, to follow up on reports received from residents and remind users of the one way system. Billy Duguid stated that he had earlier reported problems being caused by vehicles parking on Bridge Street outside Deeside Books/opposite the larger Co-Op, where there is a bus stop and parking restrictions. Officer Macleod said he would follow up on it directly after the meeting.</p> <p>2.2. The Community Council has received a briefing pack and request for comment on proposals on the "Public Counter Service Provision" and the "Traffic Warden" review from Police Scotland. The proposals will change the public counter service in Ballater from 0800 to 1200hrs Monday to Friday, to 0900 to 1700hrs, Monday to Friday. The role of traffic wardens is to be withdrawn and "where parking is dangerous or causes significant obstruction Police Scotland will task officers to resolve the issue using the appropriate enforcement activity". Cllr Blackett alerted the meeting to the fact that the proposals mean there will be no weekend public counter service in the Marr Area. The meeting asked the secretary to respond to the proposals stating the Community Council's support for the proposed public counter service in Ballater, that we do not expect the traffic warden withdrawal to change anything locally, as it is considered to be currently ineffective in Ballater, and a request to review the provision of weekend public counter service in the wider Marr Area.</p>	
<p>3. Minutes of the September meeting.</p> <p>The minutes of the September meeting were agreed with a minor amendment. It was agreed that the secretary will include Gillian Sinclair, of BRD, in the distribution of the agenda and draft minutes for passing onto any member of BRD who is to attend the following Community Council meeting. (Draft minutes are circulated to members of the Community Council and Aberdeenshire Councillor's that regularly attend and, where relevant, to people that attended for specific items).</p>	SM

<p>4. Matters Arising from the September meeting. Ballater Post Office has remained open, with replacement staff found by the PO at "the eleventh" hour. It is understood that this arrangement is in place for one year. The Community Council has received a letter via Robert Smith, MP's, office attaching a response from OfCom re Royal Mail deliveries in the area. "Royal Mail is required to deliver....six days a week...The AB postcode is one of only 14 postcode areas that have met their annual quality targets of service target for each year since 2008". Another letter, to Sir Robert, from Royal Mail Group states, "Royal Mail has absolutely no plans to move or close Ballater Delivery Office at the current time.... Ballater has three long term hire 4x4vehicles in place" These responses appear to address most of the issues that have been raised over the last year, although a delivery round was missed Friday 11th October due to staff shortages. It was agreed we would continue to monitor performance, which was best done via the rural rounds.</p>	SM
<p>5. Reports. 5.1. <u>Aberdeenshire Council (AbCo):</u> 5.1.1. There was further discussion concerning the Ballater/Glengairn A939 and its condition and width for the number and type of vehicles that use it. Cllr Blackett and some representatives from the Community council will carry out a site visit and compare conditions with the standards laid down for "A" road classification. 5.2. The "Main Issues Report" (which is a significant document in the Aberdeenshire Council Development Planning cycle) has been issued and meetings arranged for public and community groups. Although Ballater area development comes under the CNPA, Aberdeenshire Council cover items such as education and transport. 5.3. <u>Cairngorm National Park Authority (CNPA):</u> Cllr Farquhar reminded the meeting that there was a "Developers Forum" meeting at Granttown-on-Spey Thursday 14th to which we are invited and also provided a copy of the recently issued CNP Partnership Plan Annual Progress Report for 2012/13, which is available from the CNPA website.</p>	WJ, CGB, BD
<p>6. Ballater News. Nothing new to report as there had been a recent joint BRD/Community Council meeting.</p>	
<p>7. Scottish Government Consultations. SM had distributed the short list of recent consultations and there was nothing of note.</p>	SM
<p>8. Planning Matters. The decision on the application for a Co-Op at the site of the existing bus station in Golf Rd was deferred by the CNPA Planning Committee, who requested more information re the Viewfield road side of the site.</p>	
<p>9. Finance. Pat Downie to provide a forecast for the financial year end.</p>	PD
<p>10. Correspondence. Nothing additional to report.</p>	
<p>11. AOCB. There was no AOCB</p>	
<p>12. Date of Next Meeting. Monday 11th November at 7pm in Mike Sheridan room, Ballater, V&A Halls. The meeting closed at 9.00pm</p>	

For a copy of these minutes in a larger font contact the secretary on 0785 2414024.