

BALLATER & CRATHIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL (B&CCC)

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Minutes of a Meeting held on 9th September 2013, Mike Sheridan Room, Ballater

<p>Present: Graham Adams (GA) Chair James Anderson (WJ) Jane Angus (JA) Ian Cameron (IC) Pat Downie (PD) (Finance) Billy Duguid (BD) Francis Duguid (FD) Vice Chair Susan Matthews (SM) Secretary Anne Reid (AR) Sheila Sedgwick (SS) Cllr Peter Argyle (CPA) Cllr Katrina Farquhar (CKF) (also CNPA elected rep) PC Donald Macleod (for Police business)</p>	<p>Present (continued) Paddy Wright (for Ballater Royal Deeside Ltd (BRD)) Member of the public: Graeme Eldred Apologies received: Ruth Sim (RS) Cat Houston (CH) Cllr Geva Blackett (CGB) Nick Mardall (Deeside and Donside Development Projects Manager)</p> <p>For a copy of these minutes in a larger font contact the secretary on 0785 2414024.</p>
<p>1. Welcome & Apologies for Absence. Ruth Sim was unable to attend the meeting, despite attempts to do so, as the refurbishment work at the Halls did not provide for access for people with restricted mobility and no alternative room could be found.</p>	ACTION
<p>2. Police Report. The written report from the police had been circulated earlier in the day via e:mail. An attempted car theft had been prevented by the police and another was leading to a positive line of enquiry. Police patrols are taking measures to prevent such further incidences. The police had followed up on problems associated with the Viewfield Rd one way system where several incidences have been reported of drivers ignoring the signs.</p>	
<p>3. Minutes of the July meeting. The minutes of the July meeting had been circulated and comments received incorporated. These were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.</p>	
<p>4. Matters Arising from the July meeting. Again the question of possible traffic calming measures on a stretch of the B976, between Ballater and the Glen Muick Bridge, such as reinstating the central white lines was raised. This option had been refused by the Roads department as they consider the road too narrow. Cllr Farquhar said that negotiations on a path for the walkers were progressing. BD reported that bicycles could be taken on buses wherever it was advertised, for example both on the Glen Muick and Blairgowrie routes.</p>	
<p>5. Marr Area Partnership (MAP). Lizzie Shepherd and Natasha Pawlukiewicz of MAP made a short presentation on the purpose of MAP. MAP is an independent community development organisation, which supports the Marr Area communities in a number of diverse projects, such as halls refurbishment, community transport schemes, composting services etc. They run quarterly Community Ward Forums on</p>	

<p>behalf of the Marr Area Community Planning Group which Community Councils are encouraged to attend. (Some members of the B&CCC are/have been attendees). These forums act as a communication link with the major agencies providing public services, such as Aberdeenshire Council, NHS Grampian, Police and Fire Service. They also support and run training programmes for Community Councils. The following discussion was aimed at what Community Council Members found useful in previous forums and what topics they would like to hear more of. See www.marrareapartnership.org.uk.</p>	
<p>6. Reports. <u>Aberdeenshire Council (AbCo):</u> Cllr Argyle reported that by January 2014 the plan for rolling out broadband across Aberdeenshire would be announced. AbCo are funding £16 million of this Scottish Government project to ensure that Aberdeenshire is well served. BT is the sole contractor. There are also additional telephone masts being installed to cover the current "dead areas". The Community Council requested that the masts are all shared by the providers to maximise the benefit. Look out for these in planning applications. <u>Cairngorm National Park Authority (CNPA):</u> The Chair has met with the Chief Executive, Grant Moir, and been informed that the CNPA are relocating the planning service to Grantown-on-Spey to make their office organisation more effective. The majority of planning applications being considered by the CNPA, and the largest ones, are located on the western side of the CNP. They are considering plans for use of the office as they want a presence in Ballater. They are in discussion with a number of different parties, so if you have an opinion, let them know. Paddy Wright reported that BRD are concerned about the move and will be participating in the discussions.</p>	ALL
<p>7. Ballater News. The usual projects were reported on. The caravan park has enjoyed a successful year.</p>	
<p>8. Scottish Government Consultations. SM had distributed the list of most recent consultations (quite a long one). There is one on "towards a litter free Scotland" that may be of interest and Ruth Sim is looking into one on provision of specialist residential chronic pain services. The list is posted on the village notice board along with approved minutes of the last meeting.</p>	SM
<p>9. Planning Matters. SM had distributed lists of recent planning applications (since Phil Swan's resignation). Members are asked to look into those that are of interest and let other members have comments by e:mail as there is insufficient time between meetings for a regular Community Council meeting. Planning application documents are available at the CNPA office and from the AbCo website. Application number APP/2013/2590, Glenbardie House and Bothy, was discussed in some detail and it was agreed to put in an objection, with a suggestion on how to avoid having a second entrance/exit. It was noticed that trees had already been felled ahead of planning approval. Billy Duguid agreed to take on the role of leading up the planning sub group. SM will provide him information on training courses she attended and found useful. SM will inform the CNPA office that Billy has taken on this role. While Billy gets himself familiar with the system SM will continue to alert members to the most recent applications. At the next Annual General Meeting, in April, the community council will review how the process is working, thus allowing Billy has some time to learn more</p>	SM SM/BD

