

Boat of Garten and Vicinity Community Council

Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 March 2022 via Zoom.

1. Record of attendees and Apologies received.

Community Council Members: Caroline Holroyd, Alan Bennet, John Dickson, Kathryn Gillings.

Ex Officio: Muriel Cockburn and Willie McKenna

Members of the public: Jackie Wilson

2. Minutes of Meeting of 14 February 2022

The minutes were proposed as an accurate record of the meeting by Alan Bennet and seconded by Kathryn Gillings.

3. Matter arising from the Minutes

None

4. Declarations of Interest

None

5. Treasurers Report – Alan Bennet

The balance in the Treasurers account has reduced to £1551.60. We had three items of expenditure, annual insurance renewal with Zurich Town and Parish of £86.00, £18.00 to the Community Hall for room rental and £660.00 to Highland Council to pay for the village Festive lights. We also received £45 from a BoG Standard advertiser.

There was no change to the environmental account.

No surprises and overall, we are where we expected to be.

Treasurers Account

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|----------------------|----------|-----------------------------|
| Balance at 10/02/22 | £2270.60 | |
| Balance at 07/03/22 | £1551.60 | |
| Credits this period: | £ 45.00 | Advertisers in BOG Standard |

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|---------------------|----------|---------------------------------|
| Debits this period: | £ 18.00 | Hall Rental |
| | £ 660.00 | Highland Council Festive Lights |
| | £ 86.00 | Annual Insurance Renewal |

Environmental Account

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|----------------------|----------|
| Balance at 03/10/21 | £3829.82 |
| Balance at 10/02/22 | £3829.82 |
| Credits this period: | £0 |
| Debits this period: | £0 |

Alan suggested adding John Dickson as an approved signatory. This was agreed by Councillors.

6. Planning Matters

Electricity / Battery storage facility was the main area of discussion. Councillors felt that it was not appropriate positioning for this facility on the grounds of environmental safety, noise and light pollution and generally not aesthetically pleasing. John commented that he did not understand the reasoning for this proposal as it would surely be more appropriate to position something of this nature on an industrial site close to a substation. All councillors agreed and questioned that the National Park would accept it.

Willie McKenna then told Councillors that the National Park have called it in and will be discussing it on live stream during a forthcoming meeting. Willie encouraged councilors to watch the stream.

7. Reports

Police - A report was requested from the Police but nothing received as yet.

CNPA – Willie let Councillors know that he had spent a lot of time already reviewing responses to the National Park’s Plan and would continue to do so and then brief Councillors with overall themes.

NHS – Muriel informed Councillors that the hospital in Aviemore is struggling due to staff shortages from Covid and that Covid is having a massive impact on all communities locally at the moment.

Highland Council – Muriel informed Councillors that Highland Council had their last full meeting last week before elections.

8. AOCB

Church at Kincardine – The council had received an email from James Dunbar outlining concerns about the future of the church at Kincardine as the Church of Scotland are looking to close it.

John advised us that he was aware of the detail around this issue and that a group of approx. 40 residents have created a charity – Kincardine Forward – to try and save the church. Due to its historic and local importance. They need atleast 50 people to be able to go to the church and say they wish to take the church over so that it is saved from being sold and used for something else. James wanted to make the council aware and also spread the word in case other locals are keen to get involved.

Queens Jubilee – Sue Murray and Jackie Wilson had enquired if the council were planning any celebration and also the merits of possibly joining forces with the community company and Hall if we were to do so. Caroline contacted both groups and no plans had been put in place for anything. John had been told that the Boat of Garten Ladies Guild were happy to do something but weren't sure what at this stage.

Support for Ukraine – Jackie Wilson had emailed the Council to ask about the Councils role in supporting the government initiative recently announced for people who would like to offer Ukrainian refugees a place to stay. Jackie's question was primarily about if we felt that we could create a support network of some type.

Muriel advised that the Highland Council would be coordinating any such activity and that the Community Council would be asked to provide feedback on collaboration. It was agreed that local organisations would need to work as a collective.

Resignation – Caroline let Councillors know that she was resigning from the Community Council due to the fact that she was relocating. Councillors and ex-officios thanked Caroline for her work and contribution over the last 2.5years as Secretary. The impact of this does however mean that the Community Council can no longer continue until other members are found as the numbers are now too small with only 3 Councillors remaining and no Chairperson or Secretary.

The meeting closed at 20.10