

BOAT OF GARTEN AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 11th April 2023 in Boat of Garten Community Hall

1. Record of Attendees and Apologies Received:

Community Council Members: Kathryn Gillings, Alan Bennet, Valerie Fairweather, Alison Morris.

Ex Officio: Rebecca Watts – Conservation Officer, CNPA; Neil Maciver – Police Scotland

Members of the Public: Don Walker, Sue Murray, Chris Carter, John O'Donnell

Apologies: Muriel Cockburn – Member, Highland Council

2. Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 13th February 2023:

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

3. Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising that were not on the agenda.

4. Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Finance:

Alan Bennet presented the Treasurer's Report. A copy is attached to these minutes.

6. Planning Matters:

6.a Strathspey Park

Alan Bennet will attend at a site meeting on 7th May 2023.

7. Reports:

7.a Police:

Incidents from 13th February 2023 to 11th April 2023:

Animals on Road	2
Suspect Persons	1
RT Accidents	1
RT Matters	4
Alarms Activated	1
Abandoned 999	4
Concern for Person	3
Abandoned vehicle	2
Domestic Incident	2
Drugs	1
Disturbance	1
Loud Music	1
Dog left in Car	1
Report of Wildlife Crime	2
Total	26

Report by Neil Maciver, Police Scotland

7.b CNPA:

Rebecca Watts, Conservation Officer, gave information regarding proposed sites for not mowing verges, as part of conservation of native species of grasses and other fauna. Possible objections to proposed sites are: looking unkempt, money saving. A suggestion was put forward for signage, to include the reasons why and benefits of the verges not being mown.

8. Feedback from the Badenoch and Strathspey Community Council Forum on 16th March 2023

Representatives from Boat of Garten were Alan Bennet and Kathryn Gillings.

A copy of the report from the Forum was given to community council members.

9. Bog Standard

Steve Goodall has stood down from editing the BoG Standard, as of the recent Spring 2023 issue. Our good wishes and thanks were expressed to Steve for all his time and effort in producing the magazine. Also thanks were expressed to James Morris for his work as Technical Editor. We are now seeking an editor and also someone to assist with advertising. Suggestions were made for improvements.

Sue Murray asked whether smaller adverts were possible and also put forward a suggestion of working with the Hall and the Community Company to save the BoG Standard. John O'Donnell asked whether the Standard could continue by itself, financially. To this end it was proposed that the Community Council seek the views of the Community Company and the Community Hall for potential ideas, with the intention being to call a public meeting for any interested parties, using the mailing lists of all the groups.

10. Play Park and Equipment

Chris Carter expressed his views that the play equipment outside the community hall is in poor and unsafe condition. He has taken his young grandchildren to use the facility and found it wanting. He also mentioned a possible funding route to improve the situation.

11. Highland Council Local Transport Strategy

There is an online proposal to improve the transport network in the Highlands. A comment was made that improved facilities for cyclists on public transport would also be needed.

The questionnaire and the full Case for Change Report are available at:

<https://forms.microsoft.com/e/pBqra9zs4h>

The consultation period will close on 29th May 2023.

12. Potholes and other state of the road matters

Minor improvements have been made locally, but only by patching. There still exists a backlog of repairs to pavements and roads in the areas leading to residential properties.

Highland Council have increased their road repairs budget for 2023-24.

13. Any Other Competent Business

13.a Condolences

Valerie Fairweather informed the meeting of the death of Alison Fielding, a former long-serving member and Chair of this Community Council, for at least 12 years. The meeting expressed condolences to her family - Shona, Lorna & Karen.

13.b Coronation Picnic organised by the Church

Kathryn Gillings advised that the event is to be held on Sunday 7th May 2023 in the Church car park at 12 noon.

13.c Urgent need for new members for the council

Valerie Fairweather, a long-standing member of the council, expressed her intention to step down in the foreseeable future, for health reasons. The council currently only has 4 members out of a possible 7. The council quorum is 4. Below this, the council would no longer be quorate and would be unable to conduct any business on behalf of the village and vicinity.

14. Questions and Contributions from the Public

Sue Murray and Rebecca Watts expressed their thanks to the Community Council.

10. The next ordinary meeting of the Community Council is scheduled for Tuesday 9th May 2023 at 7.00pm in the Boat of Garten Community Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Boat of Garten and Vicinity Community Council

Treasurers Report for meeting 11/04/2023

Treasurers Account	£	
Balance at 12/02/23	2233.37	
Balance at 10/04/23	1308.51	
Credits this Period	225.00	BoG Standard advertising
	437.14	Highland Council admin grant
	662.14	
Debits this Period	557.00	Printing BoG Standard
	34.00	Hall hire x 2
	660.00	Festive lights-Highland Council
	250.00	Treasurers honoraria 22/23
	86.00	Annual Insurance - Zurich Town
	1587.00	
Environmental Account		
Balance at 12/02/23	3829.82	
Balance at 11/04/23	3829.82	

Alan Bennet, Treasurer

Boat of Garten & Vicinity Community Council

10/04/23