

BOAT OF GARTEN AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 12th June 2023 in Boat of Garten Community Hall

1. Record of Attendees and Apologies Received:

Community Council Members: Kathryn Gillings - Chair, Alan Bennet - Treasurer, Valerie Fairweather, Donald Walker, Alison Morris - Secretary.

Ex Officio: John Bruce - Highland Council

Members of the Public: Rebecca Watts - CNPA, Ben Sparham, Lesley Taylor, Kevin Redgewell

Apologies: Neil Maciver - Police Scotland, Muriel Cockburn - Highland Council

2. Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 9th May 2023:

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

3. Matters Arising:

Additional information was provided by Muriel Cockburn (Councillor) concerning the play park in Grantown, that the Dulaig park play project was a stand alone project achieved by a fundraising committee.

4. Co-Option of Lesley Taylor to Community Council:

Lesley Taylor was co-opted as a member of the community council. This was agreed by all members.

5. Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

6. Finance:

Alan Bennet presented the Treasurer's Report.

To comply with Bank rules for use of accounts, £170.18 was moved from the Treasurer's Account to the Environmental Account. Income from BoG Standard advertising was £225.00 and hire fees of £36.00 for meetings at the Community Hall

were the only expenditure. The Treasurer's account now stands at £1327.33 and the Environmental account stands at £4000.00.

7. Planning Matters:

7.a Short Term / Holiday Lets

This was again discussed in the light of more applications. Access to the Highland Council Planning Database for all community council members is being looked into. Community council awaits an update from Highland Council on any potential changes to short term let requests following a recent High Court case regarding Edinburgh.

8. Reports:

8.a Police:

The below figures represent the incidents in the Boat of Garten area between 08/05/23 and 12/06/23.

Animals on the road - 2

Campfire causing concern - 2

Alarm Activations - 1

Reports of Drug Driving - 2

Road accidents - 1

8.b CNPA:

Rebecca Watts (CNPA) gave the final update for the Mini-Meadows project. There was a mixed reception from residents consulted to these proposals. The Highland Council were not quite willing to commit themselves at this time. Donald Walker questioned how long the verges would be left untended at the end of growing season, would the verge be cut or left to next year and she intimated it would be cut. Ben Sparham, who lives on Grampian Crescent, raised ideas regarding a community orchard / vegetable beds. He expressed concerns that the Highland Council would not be interested if they went ahead with the verges project. He exchanged his ideas with Rebecca Watts.

9. Any Other Competent Business

9.a Position of Secretary

The current Secretary, Alison Morris, expressed a desire to step down due to personal reasons and has asked Lesley Taylor to succeed her. Lesley has kindly accepted. This was agreed by all council members.

9.b Water Treatment Works

Scottish Water provided an update on the waste water treatment works, reflecting the final finish details which they had agreed with Highland Council in compliance with their planning approval. They feel the changes will improve the appearance of the site.

9.c Strathspey Railway

Alison Morris had been advised that instructions had been given to the Railway that they could no longer transport deliveries via Deshar Road and to use the road past the old sawmill in future. Concerns have been raised that this is inadequate and impractical for this purpose. John Bruce (Councillor) has asked for further details, and who issued this directive.

9.d Visitor Behaviour Issues

Community Council raised concerns with Cllr Bruce regarding the increasing 'visitor behaviour issues' currently impacting on Loch Morlich but spreading into the wider communities including recent incidents at Loch Pityoulish. Community Council asked what involvement Highland Council had and what actions could they initiate? He stated there was a stakeholder meeting being held the next day at Glenmore Lodge. We await an update.

10. Questions and Contributions from the Public

No questions or contributions at this meeting.

11. The next ordinary meeting of the Community Council is scheduled for Monday 14th August 2023 at 7.00pm in the Boat of Garten Community Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.30pm.