

**BOAT OF GARTEN AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
(BoGCC)**

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting
Monday 13th May 2024 in Boat of Garten Community Hall

1. Record of Attendees and Apologies Received:

Community Council Members: Kathryn Gillings (KG), Chair; Alan Bennet (AB), Treasurer; Alison Morris (AM); Lesley Taylor (LT), Secretary; Don Walker (DW)

Ex Officio: Muriel Cockburn (MC), Member, Highland Council

Members of the Public: Valerie Fairweather (VF); Sue Murray (SM); John O'Donnell (JOD), Community Housing Trust; Jackie Wilson (JW), BoG Standard

Apologies: Neil Maciver (NM), Police Scotland

2. Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8th April 2024:

The minutes were proposed as an accurate record of the meeting by DW, seconded by AB.

3. Matters Arising

3a. **Old Sawmill site** - there have been further enquiries from members of our community about what is happening with the site. KG said we were still awaiting a decision from Highland Council about plans for the site.

AM asked if the land had been surveyed to inform the best use of the site. MC said that it had been but as the land is privately owned HC cannot force plans for the site. MC suggested we write to CNP as they develop their next partnership plans.

- ***LT to write to CNP to ask if they would consider use of site in local plans***

SM asked about the plans for a development of twelve affordable homes and associated infrastructure on the outskirts of Boat of Garten which was granted planning permission in February 2020.

- ***LT to write to Seafield Estates to ask for an update***

3b. Unpleasant smells in the village - update from meeting of February 2024

There was a further note of concern from the community received on 1st May.

LT had logged previous concerns received on the HC Environmental Health portal.

Bob Murdoch (BM), Environmental Health has been in touch and advised that, while he understands our concerns, there are no specific regulatory controls on the spreading of manure and many of the new slurries. He recommends South Ayrshire Council website for further information [Agricultural Odours or Smells - South Ayrshire Council](#)

BM agreed to speak to the farmer and highlight the community's concerns.

4. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Reports

5a. Police

Incidents from 8th April to 13th May 2024

Parking on Pavements (forwarded to Highland Council)			1
Medical Matters – 1	1	Drunk Persons	1
Suspicious Persons – 1	1	Theft of Oil	2
Animals on Roadway – 2	2	Miscellaneous matters	1
Careless Driving – 1	1	E-mail scam	1
Total 11 Incidents			

VF expressed concern about parking on the pavement which has been happening in the village, mainly on Deshar Road. MC clarified that this was the responsibility of Highland Council to enforce regulations.

MC advised that members of the public can report concerns on Highland Council website [Parking and car parks | The Highland Council](#)

- MC to ask traffic warden to visit Boat of Garten

VF was also concerned about people cycling on the pavement.

DW pointed out that some of the paths around Boat of Garten are dual purpose, for pedestrians and cyclists.

AM observed that many pavements in the village are in poor condition. MC said that it was important to report these concerns to HC online [Roadside problems | The Highland Council](#).

5b. NHS Highland

MC gave an update on Grantown Health Centre. Additional services will start once the building is complete, hopefully in July 2024.

KG spoke about how helpful it would be to have pharmacies within the health centres.

MC said that Grantown Health Centre does deliver prescriptions but SM said that this is only for some people with long term conditions.

6. Finance

Treasurers Report for meeting 13/05/24

On the main treasurers account, we had income of £285 from BoG Standard advertising. Expenditure was one hall hire and the refund of an overpayment to one of our advertisers at the end of march.

There were no transactions on the Environmental account.

Treasurers Account	£
Balance at 01/04/24	2173.47
Balance at 06/05/24	2320.47

Credits this Period 285.00 Bog Standard advertising **285.00**

Debits this Period 120.00 Advertiser's overpayment 18.00 Hall hire April. **138.00**

Environmental Account	£
Balance at 01/04/24	4000.00
Balance at 06/05/24	4000.00

No transactions for this period.

AB is updating signatories for the BoGCC bank accounts.

It should be noted that Caroline Holroyd left the community council in March 2022 and John Dixon left in January 2023. Both were authorised signatories of the BoGCC accounts. AB is working with the bank to add the present office bearers, KG and LT, as signatories on both accounts.

7. Planning Matters

No planning matters requiring discussion received this month.

8. Correspondence

8a. Shona Fielding kindly donated a number of items found when clearing her mum's house. It included shields, mainly community gardening awards, and a framed print from an outing to RAF Kinloss arranged by the community council for Boat Senior Citizens in 1997.

All were grateful to receive these items and agreed it would be good if they could be stored/displayed in the village hall.

- ***LT to contact A Gristwood about possible display***

9. BoG Standard Update

JW and AB gave an update and KG registered thanks on behalf of the community council for the hard work carried out by the BoG Standard team. JW mentioned Julie Mossman in particular as a linchpin of the team in chasing up people for articles, etc.

JW suggested that KG's AGM report could be included in the next issue of the BoG Standard. All agreed that this could help raise the profile of BoGCC and perhaps encourage new members. Today is the deadline for submission of articles but JW agreed to accept our submission tomorrow.

- ***LT to send copy of KG's report to JW tomorrow***

10. AOCB

10a. Strathspey Park/Community Housing Trust

John O'Donnell gave an update. The planning application had been called in by CNPA. JO'D said that this had been expected and was subsequently approved. The planning application is still with Highland Council planning department awaiting a decision.

- ***MC to check the progress with this***

Once the planning application is approved JO'D is fairly confident things will go ahead.

St Columba's Church, Boat of Garten have spoken to JO'D to express an interest in one of the plots for sale. JO'D has directed them to contact the sellers, Seafield Estates.

10b. Dates for meetings in the coming year

These dates will be particularly important as, with only 4 members on the community council, all will need to attend for the meetings to be quorate. Meeting dates for the 2nd Monday in the month were provisionally agreed:
8 July, 9 September, 11 November, 9 December 2024
10 February, 10 March, 14 April 2025

- ***LT to book the meeting room in the hall for these dates***

11. Questions and Contributions from the Public

All questions or contributions from the public were covered during the course of the meeting.

12. The next ordinary meeting of the Community Council is scheduled for **Monday 8th July 2024** at 7.00pm in the Boat of Garten Community Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Community Councils are comprised of people who care about their community and want to make it a better place to live. If this sounds like you, we would love you to join us! For more details please contact boatofgartencc@gmail.com

COMMENTS AND FEEDBACK WELCOME

The Community Council exists to see that the opinions of local residents are properly taken into account by official bodies and generally to foster local interests. Your opinions matter and we would like to hear any comments you have on what the Community Council does or does not do.

Residents are welcome at all our meetings and, subject to the guidance of the Chair, may contribute to all discussion. The Community Council is registered with the Information Commissioner in terms of the Data Protection Act 1998.

Copies of agendas and minutes, besides those circulated to members, Highland Councillors & officials etc.; can also be sent to residents who have expressed an interest in the work of the Council. If you would like to be included in this e-mail circulation, please contact the Secretary at boatofgartencc@gmail.com.