

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

**Draft Minutes** of the Ordinary Meeting  
**Monday 17th February 2025** in Boat of Garten Community Hall

**1. Record of Attendees and Apologies Received:**

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

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

**Members of the public:** Julie Mossman (JM), Jackie Wilson (JW)

**Apologies:** Ali Pressey

**2. Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 9th December 2024:**

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

**3. Matters Arising**

**3a. Village signs**

DW has been unable to establish who is responsible for the signs. The Repair Cafe have said they would be willing to look at what could be done to improve the signs but want clarification of who is responsible for them first.

Jacquie Macintyre (JMac) had posed the same question in the most recent edition of The BOG Standard but JW and JM confirmed that as yet there has been no response from the public.

- **DW to liaise with JMac**

JW asked if the Community Company could apply for funding to improve the signs.

- **LT to email H Goodall, Secretary, Comm Company**

There was discussion of an email from CNPA re Visitor Infrastructure Improvement Programme-Development Phase Funding. This email was received after our last meeting in December and has a closing date of 31st January 2025. However, the email does state that “applications may be accepted after that subject to budgets.”

Agreement that this may be of interest to the Community Company in terms of the village signs.

- **LT to forward to H Goodall, Secretary, Comm Company**

AB commented that this may emerge as an issue from the village ‘Community Improvement Plan’ consultation currently taking place.

#### 4. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 5. Reports

No reports received this month.

#### 6. Finance - Treasurers Report for meeting 17/02/25

##### Boat of Garten and Vicinity Community Council

##### Treasurers Account

£

Balance at 02/12/24 2607.03

Balance at 17/02/25 **3542.03**

Credits this Period	770.00	BOG Standard advertising
	600.00	Reidhaven Trust donation
	<b>1370.00</b>	

Debits this Period	417.00	Printing BoG Standard spring
	18.00	Hall hires
	<b>435.00</b>	

##### Environmental Account

Balance at 02/12/24 4000.00

Balance at 17/02/25 **4000.00**

No transactions for this period.

AB reported that expenses such as insurance and payment to The Highland Council, for the festive lights, would be due soon.

#### 7. Planning Matters

There were no planning matters requiring discussion.

#### 8. Correspondence

##### 8a. Ex-sawmill site

An update email was received from the company Totally Sustainability re the ex-sawmill site. In March 2024 they contacted the community council to outline their proposals for some sort of "Circular Economy Hub" .

They report that when the selling of the site did go to a closing date in August 2024, they offered the ultimate owners, Binderholz, significant business benefits, in return for getting community access to the site rent free for 10 years. This bid was unsuccessful.

DW raised concerns re the poor state of the site, particularly given that it is within a national park. All agreed that the site is an eyesore and not a welcoming entry point to the village. MC felt that there was no excuse for the site not being tidied up and 'made presentable'. All agreed that it had a negative visual impact on the village.

DW voiced possible plans for CNPA to be based here with the addition of small business units, visitor centre, cafe, etc. All agreed that this could provide an opportunity to 'visit CNPA in the heart of the park'.

- **LT to write to Grant Moir, Chief Executive of CNPA expressing concerns**

## **9. BOG Standard Update**

JW and JM updated the council on the current state of play with The BOG Standard.

JW said that the team were concerned by the lack of contributions of articles from the 'pillars of the community' such as the church and the community council.

She said that the latest edition, at the printers at the time of meeting, would be the smallest edition to date, due to lack of contributions.

JW said this led the BOG Standard team to question whether or not the village valued the newsletter.

There was agreement from community council members that the publication is valued and there is an interest in it from the residents of the village.

JM wondered if there may be feedback on how the village values the newsletter via the present Community Action Plan consultation. Community council members agreed that they could highlight this on their forms.

After discussion it was agreed that there should be a summer issue in 2025.

- **BoGCC to monitor relevant info re The BOG Standard coming from the consultation process**

## **10. AOCB**

### **10a. National Speed Management Review**

DW spoke of his concerns about The Scottish Government National Speed Management Review to examine the potential effects of changes to speed limits across Scotland.

The consultation can be found online at [National Speed Management Review - Scottish Government consultations - Citizen Space](#)

This consultation invites feedback on proposals to lower the national speed limit on single carriageway roads from 60 to 50 mph and to increase speed limits for goods vehicles exceeding 7.5 tonnes on single carriageways from 40 to 50 mph and dual carriageways from 50 to 60 mph.

DW expressed concerns about the effects that these proposals could have and asked that all consider responding.

MC confirmed that The Highland Council have submitted a response.

- **LT to respond on behalf of BoGCC**

#### **10b. Changes of dates**

KG is unable to attend on 17th March due to another engagement. All agreed to move the meeting to Tuesday 18th March 2025.

MC gave her apologies for this date but said she would arrange for another councillor to attend.

- **LT to change booking for meeting room to 18th March**
  - **MC to organise a councillor to attend**

#### **11. Questions and Contributions from the Public**

As detailed in item 9.

**The next ordinary meeting** of the Community Council is scheduled for **Tuesday 18th March** at 7.00pm in the Boat of Garten Community Hall.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.40pm.

***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](mailto: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](mailto:boatofgartencc@gmail.com).***