

BOAT OF GARTEN AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting

Monday 14th August 2023 in Boat of Garten Community Hall

1. Record of Attendees and Apologies Received:

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

Ex Officio: Muriel Cockburn (MC), Member, Highland Council; Neil Maciver (NM), Police Scotland

Members of the Public: John O'Donnell

Apologies: None

2. Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 12th June 2023:

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

3. Matters Arising

3a Short term lets

MC advised that a ruling is still awaited in the Edinburgh situation. Highland Council's position will be clarified after this. Licensing and Planning Permission continue to be required in the meantime.

VF asked if the Community Council can still respond to planning permissions for change of use in the meantime. MC confirmed we can.

4. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Finance:

AB presented the Treasurer's Report. A copy is attached in Appendix 1.

6. Planning Matters

6a. DRUMUILLIE FORESTRY, DEISHAR WOOD, A95, BOAT OF GARTEN, PH24 3BX - Pre Consultation of Telecommunication Installation

The Community Council will wait till this application comes through Highland Council to respond.

6b. Development of shochu distillery/office/workspace, Pityoulish

It was agreed that no Community Council response is required.

6c. Lost Forest WC Phase 2

After discussion it was not thought to be part of Boat of Garten Community area.

- *MC will ask Highland Council for clarification of boundaries to be sent out.*

7. Reports

7a. Police

Incidents from 12 June - 14 August 2023

Neighbour Disputes	1	Abandoned Vehicles	1
Frauds	2	Road Traffic Matters	2
Alarm Activations	1	Miscellaneous Matters	3
Road Accidents	3	Domestic Incidents	1
Sudden Death	1	Abandoned/silent 999 call	4
Animals on Road	1	Licensing complaints	1
Medical Matters	5	Communication Offences	1
Threats	1	Concern for Person	1
Assaults	1	Campers with Illegal Fire	1
Total 31 Incidents			

There were discussions around the challenges of local policing.

MC advised that Highland Councillors are meeting with the Chief Superintendent next week to discuss.

Mental health

MC said initiatives relating to de-escalation seem to be working well in Inverness but do not benefit rural areas.

New 20mph Speed Limit

VF expressed concern that the 20mph limit is being consistently broken.

KG asked if speed limits are enforceable 24 hours a day. NM confirmed they are.

- *NM agreed to feed back community council concerns.*

7b. NHS

MC reported that there are 16 active beds in B&S Community Hospital. Staffing shortages continue to be an issue both in the NHS and care sector.

VF observed that affordable accommodation for staff is part of the issue.

MC will be attending NHS B&S Community Partnership planning meeting on 16th August and will give feedback at the next meeting.

8. Cairngorms 2030, Active and Sustainable Travel Programme

The Community Council continues to be supportive of the work of this programme.

9. BoG Standard update

KG has attended 2 meetings of the new BoG Standard team and provided an outline of the plans for the coming year.

Objectives of BoG Standard have been agreed 4 publications a year are planned.

KG will keep the Community Council updated on progress.

10. Visitor Management Update

There were further discussions of local concerns around issues of visitor management.

No feedback was available as yet from the summit at Glenmore Lodge which took place in June.

MC advised that there is a CNPA summer and winter plan for visitors.

- *LT to ask a member of the CNPA Visitor Management team to attend a future meeting.*

11. AOCB

11a. Litter Picking

A date of **30 September 2023** was agreed for the litter pick.

AB advised that he has the Community Council litter picking equipment and that CNPA can provide further equipment if necessary.

- *AB to look in to the arrangements eg uplift of rubbish, etc for next meeting.*

11b. Community Council Elections Timetable for 2023

MC has sent the details of the timetable to the community council. Papers, etc will be sent out by Highland Council nearer the time of the nominations/elections.

Last meeting of the present council will be 11 September 2023.

AB asked for clarification of the guidance. It states “Existing Community Councils that are uncontested to be dissolved at 11.59pm.” It is unclear when the council can reconvene.

- *MC to seek clarification from HC on this.*

11c. A9 Dualling Petition

Sandy McCook (chair Nethybridge Community Council) will represent all community councils in B&S at a meeting with the chairman of the Petitions Committee, Jackson Carlaw, in Kinraig and will report back.

The petition remains open:

<https://petitions.parliament.scot/petitions/PE1992>

11d. Visitor Levy Bill - Consultation Extension

Community council discussed. The online conversation on the Scottish Parliament Scrutiny of the Visitor Levy (Scotland) Bill has been extended until 15th September.

Individuals can respond via the link below:

<https://engage.parliament.scot/group/29673>

12. Questions and Contributions from the Public

No questions or contributions at this meeting.

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

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

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.

Appendix 1

Boat of Garten and Vicinity Community Council

Treasurers Report for meeting 14/08/23

Treasurers Account £

Balance at 01/06/23 1327.33

Balance at 07/08/23 **1534.33**

Credits this Period 135.00 BoG Standard advertising 125.00 Honoraria returned
260.00

Debits this Period 35.00 Information Commissioners 18.00 Hall hire
53.00

Environmental Account

Balance at 01/06/23 4000.00

Balance at 07/08/23 **4000.00**