

BALLATER & CRATHIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL (B&CC)

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Minutes of a Meeting held 9th March
2020 in Michael Sheridan Room at 7pm

Present:	Apologies	Also present:
James Anderson (WJ) - Chair	Emma Stewart (ES)	Allan Harrison (AH) - BCE
Jo Croll (JC) - Vice Chair	Richard Frimston (RF)	Cllr Geva Blackett (CGB)
Fiona Presslie (FP) - Secretary	Jane Angus (JA)	Cllr Paul Gibb (CPG)
William Braid (WB)	Tony Cox (BFRG)	
Pat Downie (PD) - Treasurer		
Ian Latta (IL)		
Lisa McMahan(LMM)		
Lewis Macdonald (LMD)		
Francis Duguid (FD)		

1 Welcome and Apologies for Absence

2 Emergency services

Nothing to report

3 Minutes of February's meeting were passed.

Action Tracker updated.

Sign at Deebank Road limits access only to HGV. **CPG** to request limited access for caravans as well.

Bridge of Gairn repairs still unsightly, **CGB** to follow up.

IL attended bus consultation meeting in Aberdeen. **WB** reported yet another bus had broken down in Ballater.

CGB will pursue the possibility of 30mph speed limit at Crathie, but suggested that a pedestrian crossing between the car park and the church might also help and should be looked at if the current proposed policy changes are approved

WJ raised the issue of road safety crossing the bridge from the car park to the entrance of Balmoral. **FP** to write to Balmoral Estate Factor seeking their views on a pedestrian bridge over the Dee as well as adding support to a request for a pedestrian crossing on A93 combined with speed restrictions.

4 Reports

BRD

FP is now vice chair of BRD and reported that finance is almost now in place for work on Cambus 'o' May Bridge (although the turnstile has been stolen).

BCE

AH reported that the site opened on 28th February with over 30 tourers and almost half of all seasonal sites are booked.

Aberdeenshire Council

CPG indicated that the signage in Dinnet regarding snow road conditions had been placed to make them visible from various directions. JC pointed out that the bus sign blocked visibility of the sign when travelling from Aberdeen. CPG will follow this up. The problems with the foot-path on Provost Craig Road have been referred to Housing for repair. The Infrastructure Services Committee will be completing a policy review of speed limits and crossings and CPG has ensured that all CC will be consulted. He asked if BCCC would support his request that when determining crossings, planning should consult with the head teacher of each school regarding safe routes to that school and secondly, the measurement of a child should not be limited to those under 12 years of age, but to any young person wearing a school uniform. It was pointed out that school patrol crossings were funded from the school budget.

CNPA

CGB was at CNPA's Climate Change Conference in Aviemore on 9th March, attended also by the NFU, RSPB and Heritage Lottery Fund, amongst many others.

CNPA is currently reviewing the Grouse Management report, the main area of concern being the possibility of licensing grouse moors at some future date. The recommendation in the Review Report is that this will only take place if estates do not comply with recommendations in the next five years.

Flooding Issues Group (FIG) RF had circulated a terms of reference document for the setting up of the sub-committee, FIG. All approved.

CAP

A meeting is planned for 25th or 26th May in Victoria Halls during which BBA, BRD and BCCC will have a ten-minute presentation and there will be an update on

the village website and village calendar. Still require a leader for the Care part of the CAP as well as someone to conduct the village audit of facilities. The Chairman of the Action Team has been in office for two years and a replacement will now be required, possibly from the ranks of BRD.

Halls

WB reported that the granite for the façade had arrived. A problem with the roof is currently being fixed above the Michael Sheridan Room.

Enhancement Group

Work to improve the Church Green will start when weather improves. Green will have to be closed during this time. The Farmers' Markets have agreed to rotate location. The Group is seeking further finance for more lights on the trees on the Green.

Ballater Improvement Group

There is a further meeting Thursday 12th March. PD/FP to attend.

Paths

John Burrows had e-mailed a circular seeking volunteers for path repairs.

Housing

JC reported a grant of £3,000 from CNPA to conduct a feasibility study with respects to a potential site.

5 Planning Matters

FP to write to the architect responsible for the Glen Lui planning application seeking clarification on which trees are to be felled. **FP** will also express the disappointment of BCCC and the wider community at the tone of the viability report which accompanied the Glen Lui planning application.

A planning application has also been made for a further 26 parking spaces at Loch Muick. **LMM** commented that there was very little information about the road conditions, particularly in winter, at the foot of the glen. **PD** hoped that this might reduce the numbers of vehicles using passing places and the road verge to park. **FD** thought that access to the area was being made too easy for the potentially inexperienced. **WJ** felt that limiting the number of car park spaces would not limit the volume of traffic up the glen.

6 Correspondence

FP had received an e-mail from a member of Lumphanan Community Council who had attended a resilience conference which focussed on pandemics. FP to pass this information on to Linda Drever. FP had received an e-mail from the Association of Cairngorm Communities requesting a nominee to attend a meeting on 25th March at the Lecht. FP to check if JA will attend

7 Finance No change

8 AOCB

PD asked if any dates had been proposed for Community Council elections. FP responded that no confirmation received from Alford. PD also queried the status of the Glen Gairn road as an A class road, as it was particularly narrow and lacking in sufficient passing plates near Delnabo Farm.

The meeting finished at 8.15pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 13th April in Crathie Church Hall at 7pm