

BALLATER & CRATHIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL (B&CCC)

www.ballaterandcrathiecommunitycouncil.com

Minutes of a Meeting held 12th October

2020 via Zoom at 7pm

Present:	Apologies	Also present:
Jim Anderson (WJ) Chair Jo Croll (JC) - Vice Chair Richard Frimston (RF) - Secretary Pat Downie (PD) - Treasurer William Braid (WB)	Francis Duguid (FD) Cllr Peter Argyle (CPA) Cllr Geva Blackett (CGB) Emma Stewart (ES)	Cllr Paul Gibb (CPG) John Bannerman (JB) Ellie Kinghorn (EK) Tony Cox (TC) John Burrows (JB-CAT) Gareth Johnston (GJ)

1 Welcome and Apologies for Absence

2 Co-Opting new Member Vote & Proposal

Ellie Kinghorn and John Bannerman were unanimously voted to be Co-opted and welcomed onto Community Council.

Gareth Johnston has also been proposed to be Co-opted and will be voted at next meeting.

3 Emergency services

Police report received 18 September 2020. No serious incidents to report.

There have been small number of driving related incidents & Police continue to urge public to contact them in the event of anti-social behaviour. Roads network across the Deeside area is being patrolled, with assistance from Road Policing colleagues. Over weekend 29th and 30th August 2020, as part of motorcycle weekend of action, North East & Tayside Road Policing Officers carried out joint days of action focussing on A93 from Aberdeen through to Ski Centre at Glenshee & into Tayside. Overall, 4 motorists reported for speeding & further 25 educated. In addition, crews attended at the Glenshee Ski centre and engaged with groups of bikers. The recorded number of people educated over entire route over both days was 287. As lockdown restrictions continued to ease parking related issues continued particularly at Loch Muick & Muir of Dinnet, however work ongoing with Aberdeenshire Council & CNPA Rangers to ensure any issues addressed quickly. There have also been a couple of vandalism incidents in Aboyne & Tarland.

4 Minutes of September's meeting were approved. Action Tracker updated.

5 Planning Matters

No planning matters of concern.

6 Reports

BRD

WB advised defib recently installed outside Park House. BRD have paid for replacement pads where required.

The following defibrillators are registered with 'The Circuit' which is a national network database within the UK

A) Park House, Ballater Caravan & Camping Park, Anderson Road, Ballater.

B) Victoria & Albert Halls, Station Square, Ballater.

C) Public Toilets, Church Square, Ballater.

D) Sheridans Butcher, Bridge Street, Ballater.

BCE

No report

Aberdeenshire Council

CPG reports that CPG, CGB & CPA had a meeting regarding Spaces for People which looks into making outside spaces safer. Previous project had been to widen pavements in larger towns such as Banchory to allow social distancing of pedestrians. Question was raised as to whether this was suitable for Ballater & Braemar but findings were that this was not suitable.

Also reported that both CPG & CGB had written on the issue of the removal of Saturday Bin Lorry. Committee has met and this was voted against. B&CCC joined forces with Braemar CC & raised joint petition which will be sent the Chief Exec Jim Savage tomorrow (**Action RF**). CPG suggests the decision will not be overturned. Justification on cost & that waste should be split & recycled.

CNPA No report

BFG/FIG

BFG - TC reports that the prioritisation process has been pushed back due to current pandemic to at least end of 2021.

Although the ultimate proposal has been examined, SEPA have come up with more requirements to do with consequential effects of putting flood defences into Ballater.

FIG - RF reports FIG's drive has been community communication and are putting together reports & building on work that Tony & Doug did prior. Expect

Community consultation responses by end Oct, final report to be issued to BCCC at Nov meeting.

In short term looking at question of enhancing the bund.

FIG needs to keep an eye on Japanese Knotweed issue

WJ & RF in discussion with Invercauld estate regarding tree debris and tree looking likely to fall & solutions.

TC & RF to discuss further how 2 groups can work together on alternate strategies.

CAP

JB (CAT) reports that a CAT update meeting held last week. All themes updated with status. It was found some actions were progressing well, others stalling. The role of the CAT (Community Action Team) is to follow up with the respective groups for an update and where a group is stalling to report & look at how this action group can be given assistance or decision made to shelve for now.

Halls

WB reported the granite frontage engraved BALLATER COMMUNITY AND HERITAGE HUB has been installed along with new front windows & doors, inside the HUB new fire door has been installed between the HUB & new toilet area, final fix electrics along with some minor wall repairs have still to be completed.

Enhancement Group

PD reports enhancement group will look after council beds again next year. Group will be looking for plant donations as Council not able to supply. However, Alford supplying free compost, WJ to arrange transportation & storage.

Improvement Group

PD reports that the application for Phoenix Fund for improvements to the Green has been successful. JB (CAT) reports that there is a fantastic plan to improve and enhance village centre with this fund and funds gained from other sources.

Paths

JB (CAT) reports that Ken Gibson has conducted an audit and plans being drawn up for waymarkings, route maps etc and is in initial stages of seeking funding options. Poss funding from CNPA.

7 Correspondence

BCCC contacted by Gordon Rattray from Dee Valley Driving School re finding an alternative location to base the driving tests from in Ballater, **WB** confirms in communication with halls. **Action WB**

JC contacted by Jenny Gow. Wish to erect a 'chat bench' in memory of Eileen Collins, with the idea that anyone sitting on it, others would know you'd be happy to have a blether. **Action - JC** to put Jenny in contact with David Cobban re village centre improvements

8 Finance No change. **CPG** suggested that Community Resilience funding may be available to pay for subscription to full package of Zoom. **Action - RF** to contact Janelle Clark

9 AOCB

Outgoing secretary Fiona Presslie has relocated to Newfoundland. Secretary duties handed over to **RF**. **TC** wished as a member of the public to note thanks Fiona for her dedication and professionalism.

Fiona was presented after last meeting with flowers and card from B&CCC as a token of thanks.

TC also asked who he should speak to as a Disability Rep wrt pathways, spaces, etc. . **WJ** suggested Ruth Simm - **TC** to make contact

TC also raised the condition of toilet facilities available in Ballater in readiness for increase in visitor numbers from cruise ships.

JB expressed an interest in joining FIG and agreed to be BCCC rep on CAT

Remembrance Sunday 8th Nov. **Action - RF** to contact Francis re laying the Ballater wreath. **ES** has agreed to lay the Crathie wreath, **Action - WJ** to deliver

RF raised issue of Old School Drains, contractor clearing drains and has made comment that pretty clear drains not satisfactory for extra volume. **Action - RF** to contact CNPA

JC raised issue of path from South Deeside Road towards Cambus O'May Bridge has been washed away. **Action - RF** to bring up with Paths group

PD & RF to complete new bank signatory forms

The meeting finished at 8.40pm.

It was agreed the next meeting should be the AGM & is scheduled for Monday 9th Nov ember at 19.00 hours, location and method to be confirmed, but likely to be Zoom.