

KILTARLITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THURSDAY 15 OCTOBER 2015

1. PRESENT

Members: N Grant (Chair), E Ramsden (Vice Chair), D Ward (Treasurer), R MacLean, H MacLennan and Councillor Helen Carmichael.

Also present: Bill Fraser

2. APOLOGIES

Elaine Cameron (Secretary), Sandra Johansen, Cllr Margaret Davidson

In the absence of the Secretary Ron MacLean agreed to take the Minutes.

3. POLICE LIAISON

No Police representative was able to attend but a report had been submitted. In the last period there had been a non-reportable minor road accident, and an arrest had been made in Balgate Drive. This did not represent any concerns for the community.

4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17th September had been circulated and were approved on the motion of Eunice Ramsden seconded by Dorothy Ward.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

Balgate Mill

Although the further clarification requested had not been received, the proposal for an additional block of flats to be part of the latest phase of the development approval had been granted by Highland Council. It was agreed that subsequent development in the site needed to be very carefully monitored. Councillor Helen Carmichael agreed to look into the circumstances of the recent approval and there was general concern expressed on the possibility that any more blocks of flats would be proposed.

Council By-election

It was noted that the councillor elected to replace Drew Hendry in the Aird and Loch Ness Ward was Jean Davis, the Liberal Party candidate.

CC Website

The Secretary was in the process of making contact with the manager of the website.

Local Authorities Boundary Commission

Ron MacLean reported on his submission (which he had previously circulated) to the Commission on behalf of the Community Council. In it he had expressed dissatisfaction at the proposed further reduction of councillor and ward numbers and at the general lack of local power and accountability represented by the proposals.

Community Relationships

Since 12th November was the last date when the present Community Council could meet it was agreed that date should be used solely for that purpose. It was agreed a meeting to discuss a date for a general community social meeting was not necessary. The Secretary and Chairman would contact the various social organisations and invite them to organise and

participate in an open community social meeting to be held In the Hall on a Saturday early in the new year, at which interested groups could publicise their activities to the general public. A suitable date would be arranged in consultation with the Hall Association.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

There was no change since the previous meeting.

7. COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The failure to form a new Community Council was discussed and actions that would need to be taken, especially regarding finance.

It was noted that the CC had failed to re-form because Elaine Cameron's nomination had not been received by Highland Council although she believed that she had submitted it properly and in time. The problem had been discussed with the Ward Manager, Charles Stephen, but it appeared that nothing could be done to validate the nomination. Highland Council had now written to members with arrangements for a re-run of the election in the new year. Provided that at least four nominations were received in January 2016 and there was no requirement for a vote, the new CC could be in operation in February. In the event of a vote being required the new CC could be in operation in March.

Since the present Community Council would cease to exist on 17th November and the bank account would be frozen until a new Community Council was formed, discussion took place on the three main items which would require to be funded by the Community Council in the next two or three months:

- the senior citizens' Christmas Party;
- forthcoming Kiltarlity News;
- Place-name book.

It was agreed:

Party

The fixed costs could be paid right away in advance from existing funds eg the outside caterer, drinks etc. Donations coming in subsequently could be channelled through the Hall Association which would pay these over to the new Community Council. Costs arising after 17th November could be paid by the Hall Association on behalf of the CC or paid after the formation of the new CC.

Kiltarlity News

Ron MacLean could contact the printers, For the Right Reasons, and arrange to pay for the printing of a set number of copies in advance.

Place Name Book

After discussion with his colleagues Ron MacLean could arrange with For the Right Reasons to pay in advance for the cost of printing the book (in accordance with the quote already agreed), or to agree with the printer that their account could be settled after the formation of the new Community Council.

It was noted that funds for all these items were already reserved and identified within the total sum held in the bank by the Community Council.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

No relevant applications were reported.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Election

The Chairman reported that he had been contacted by residents concerned with the failure of the CC to form who had said they were willing to become members to ensure its continuance. It was agreed they should be informed about the arrangements for a re-election.

Congratulations

Cllr Carmichael explained that Highland Council proposed to officially recognise the victory of the Lovat shinty team in the Camanachd Cup. She noted comments made in a discussion about the form this might take.

The Secretary had received an email from Lovat Shinty Club Secretary Mrs Bell (who had attended the previous Community Council meeting) expressing regret that the CC had not officially sent good wishes for success to the Club before the Cup Final. It was agreed that it was more appropriate for the CC now to send a letter to the Club congratulating the shinty team on its magnificent achievement and that this should be done.

It was agreed also to send a letter of congratulation to the Hall Association for achieving the complete re-clad of the Hall without appeal for extra funds from the community.

SSE

Bill Fraser reported on progress he had made in making contact with an SSE representative who had been given the jobs responsible for sorting out all the problems left from the installation of the Beaully Denny power line. He might also be able to arrange for some peripheral work for the benefit of the community. It was agreed that he should be given relevant information regarding outstanding problems, particularly regarding the potholes between Black Burn corner and Bruiach road end, and also fences required to be provided or repaired around the shinty pitch.

10. NEXT MEETING

Thursday 12th November 2015