

# ABERFELDY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Aberfeldy Town Hall.

***Tuesday 4th February 2025 at 7.30pm***

## **MINUTES**

### **Present**

Victor Clements (Chair), Lorraine Reed (Vice Chair), Elaine Fraser Murdoch (Secretary), Jean Duff (Treasurer), Val Ferguson, Rob Stubbs

In attendance: One member of public attended.

### **Apologies**

Cllr John Duff and Susan Craik

### **Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes were taken as read, proposed by RS, and seconded by LR.

### **Matters Arising**

VC had written to PKC planning in relation to potential flooding issues arising from taymouth development.

The reported “frayed” cables on the Wobbly Bridge appeared to be from some sort of balloon or such like, and now believed not to be a problem.

The beavers had taken down a number of trees between the caravan park and the industrial estate, but the matter seems to be under control at the moment, with trees lying on the ground to give them a food source and keep them away from other trees.

### **Crime Prevention and Community Safety**

Reminder that legislation re pavement parking is now being enforced, with penalties charged as required.

There had been some activity by Police in relation to drink driving in the town, with issues in different areas, and some offences detected. All reminded that this was an ongoing problem that we needed to be aware of.

The Safer Community team is being disbanded, and while current warden is likely to be re-deployed, that current role will no longer be getting filled. The community warden position has been hugely important in the town for the last 10 years or so, and we thanked Norma for her effective and enthusiastic service over all that time.

There is an off-road bike being a nuisance around the town at the moment.

People should also be aware that there has been a number of break-ins recently, targeting machinery and equipment, and everyone should be vigilant about this.

## **Focus Topics:**

### Taymouth Development

There was nothing specific about Taymouth itself. There will be a liaison meeting with community councils in March.

However, DLC have indicated that they wish to bring forward a planning application to achieve a change of use of some of their cottages at Moness from visitor accommodation to full time residential homes for their staff. Initial indications are potentially 77/106 cottages, with the remainder and the hotel being retained as a tourist/ accommodation business. To this end, DLC are planning a drop-in event at Moness on 18<sup>th</sup> March, and there will be a second event in April, prior to any planning application. All invited to attend if they can. There will likely be advertisement of the events closer to the time.

### Moness trees

The felling licence application for taking down trees is currently on the public register to 20<sup>th</sup> February.

### Resilience Plan

Awaiting feedback from PKC on current draft plan.

### Community planning

There has been a lot of work going on at the moment finalizing a plan of priorities for the town, and this should be ready by March. The CC will have action points arising out of this, and we will have to support others in their efforts to take forwards parts of the plan.

## **Griffin Community Benefit Panel**

### Micro grants

There were no applications to be decided after the meeting

### Main Fund

Attempts to get an endowment fund set up now looked more positive.

## **Reports**

### Chair

The bank of Scotland in Pitlochry would be closing, meaning that there would now be no banks either there or in Aberfeldy. There had been some discussion locally on having a banking hub, with some additional thoughts around this recently. VC to check would current position on this was.

JD would look to take over the website from Pat Spicer, who was leaving Aberfeldy. The CC would like to thank Pat for all the work he had put in, as a community councillor, for looking after the website and FB account, and for his work with the road safety group.

We had previously been informed about 2 X wind turbine projects locally, with a third believed to be in planning to the north of Comrie. There had been no further communications on these projects, but they are something we will need to be aware of. They are likely to go forward for permission to the Energy Consents Unit in the Scottish Government, and bypass the usual local government planning process.

### Secretary

No report

### Treasurer

We currently had £1180 in defibrillator money, £665.11 in microgrant money, £254.22 in resilience money and £477.95 in administration grant money. We will write to PKC regarding getting an increase in administration grant money, as JD had to recently pay herself for hall hire until money was forthcoming. The admin grant of £700 had not been changed in many years, and all expenses had went up. It was quoted that £1 fifteen years ago had the same value as £1.65 today.

### **Housing/Planning**

The CC had written in support of plans to build 7 X residential properties on the former Cottage Hospital site, the plans having changed from a previous application to build holiday accommodation there.

The CC also discussed the demolition of house/ work units on Mill St to build 3 X new houses. CC to write in support of this application, as it was felt that it would tidy up that area, potentially provide more night light, and deter vandalism to the public toilet and other problems.

As above, DLC to have a drop-in event at Moness on 18<sup>th</sup> March to discuss their plans for converting former timeshare cottages in to residential accommodation. This will potentially be the most important planning application we have to consider as a CC this year.

### **Cllr Reports**

No councillors Present

### **AOCB**

We would check what road safety equipment was currently held as we had to pay insurance on this. If equipment is no longer being used, we would look to give to some-one else.

There was no security light working at back of hall, and poor lighting at front door for people with mobility issues walking up and down the steps in dark. VC to contact Locus Breadalbane about this.

Some stones had been knocked out of bridge at Bridgend. VC to speak to John Duff about this. Also, to enquire about whether toilet block will be getting reopened or not.

**Date of Next Meeting**    Tues 4th March 2025