

ABERFELDY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Aberfeldy Town Hall.

Tuesday 6th February 2024 at 7.30pm

MINUTES

Welcome

All were welcomed to the first meeting of 2024.

Present: Victor Clements (Chair), Lorraine Reed (Vice Chair), Jean Duff (Treasurer), Rob Stubbs, Karen Mackay & Susan Craik.

In attendance: Cllr Duff, Norma Carr (Community warden), Mary MacDougall (Aberfeldy Development Trust)

No members of public in attendance.

Apologies

Elaine Fraser Murdoch, Val Ferguson, Provost McDade.

Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes taken as read, proposed by JD, seconded by RS.

Matters Arising

VC had written to PKC Environment Services re problems at caravan park, but had not heard anything yet, and will pursue.

VC had written to Provost indicating CC support for bid for Tay Forest National Park. PKC had since published their consultation response, which showed just over half of responses from individuals being supportive, but nearly 80 percent of land managers against.

Crime Prevention and Community Safety

There were few particular problems at the moment. A successful grant application had been made to replace the pads and batteries on defibrillators.

The toilets were not yet open.

Focus Topics:

Taymouth Development/ Moness

LR had met with DLC and other CC areas for their regular liaison meeting.

DLC were now actively supporting a number of community projects within the area, including the Hogmanay and Christmas events.

They are to hold a careers fair at Breadalbane Campus.

In Kenmore, they are fixing the toilets at the beach, and the shop is on schedule to open in the spring.

They are expecting guests at the castle from June, and will be recruiting people well before then.

At Moness, a significant number of people had given up their timeshares. A planning application for change of use for some of the cottages was expected within the next three months.

Moness trees

VC had been in contact with contractor who was to put in a felling application for the area of trees by Moness Crescent. At this stage, it looks as if the boundary trees and others within the grounds may not be removed.

Common Good Fund/ Griffin Endowment Fund

The purpose of including these 2 X items on the agenda was so that we could consider the future availability of grant funding for community projects in the town.

The Griffin/ Calliacher Community Benefit scheme was now approaching its 14th year, will another 11 years left. There was ongoing frustration that the proposed endowment fund had not yet been set up, and it was felt important by those present that this now be implemented as soon as possible. VC would write to Douglas Craik suggesting that this process be completed this year, That should then secure at least some local funding beyond the period of the current scheme.

The Common Good Fund currently stood at £125,000, and interest payments have risen sharply this year to £4200. The policy of the Common Good Fund committee is to spend up to the value of interest accrued, but not beyond this, in order to protect the capital value of the fund.

It was agreed unanimously as a CC that we would ask the Common Good Fund to cap grant payments to £1000 or so, so that we could take advantage of the better interest rates at present and grow the fund. This would be important because future grant funding from Griffin/ Calliacher would be less, and we should try to grow the value of the Common Good Fund now if we can. Almost all small projects in the town are more easily funded through micro grants and the main Griffin Fund anyway, so restricting payments will not cause any hardship.

VC to write to CGF in relation to this matter, and ask that this initiative be discussed at next meeting.

Post Office

The PO was in the process of being moved to the Breadalbane Stores, and due to open there in March. The meeting thanked Cllr Duff for his help in supporting the Post Master in the transition.

Graveyard

Derek Wittman had been in contact with PKC, and it seems they have initiated the process of looking at possible graveyard site above town. It may take some time to do that and report back.

Resilience Plan

This item will form one of the core items for March agenda, where we will review incidents taking place during the year, and the Emergency Plan document.

Griffin Community Benefit Panel

Micro grants

One micro grant to be decided after meeting.

Main Fund

See discussion under Focus item. LR is to ask panel about getting an increase in micro grant funding for Aberfeldy.

Reports

Chair

No additional Report

Secretary

No additional report

Treasurer

We currently had £343.11 in micro grant money, £459.70 in administration grant money and £11.87 in road safety group money. JD to pay this to group so that we no longer had any road safety group funds in our account.

Housing/Planning

Two planning applications were mentioned (1) Erection of industrial shed and fencing at the quarry at Cultullich road end, and (2) Internal changes to lay out of Perdie & Boo to include a seating/ café area. No comments on either application.

Cllr Reports

The PKC budget to be announced shortly will be very challenging, with cuts to services very likely.

The Friends of Wade's Bridge will be having their first meeting shortly.

AOCB

John Devine, head teacher at the Campus, will be retiring at the end of this school year. The parent Council will be co-ordinating the recruitment process, and this will also include Cllr Duff.

Aberfeldy Development Trust (ADT) have received £23,000 of funding to allow them to undertake a community development planning process in the town. Their development officer will be invited to March meeting to discuss their plans.

ADT are also looking to develop six houses on the old Slaughterhouse site, and it is anticipated that a planning application will be submitted in the next few months.

The old Golf Clubhouse is due to be demolished in March this year, prior to construction of a new building. An event is planned this Saturday to allow people to share their memories of the building. Chairs and other furniture will be made available to the public on payment of a donation.

The landslide on the road at Grandtully is due to be fixed from 19th February, with the road closed from 8th March for four days before re-opening.

Date of Next Meeting Tues 5th March 2024