

KINGUSSIE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 6th SEPTEMBER 2011

Present: Councillors Ms Gwynneth Wright (Vice-Chairman), Mr Joe Taylor (Treasurer & Projects), Mrs Mairi Brown (Projects), Mrs Ailsa Schofield (Planning & Acting Secretary).

Apologies: Val Emmett, Councillor David Fallows.

Visitors: Mrs Jane Adamson (Kingussie Business Forum), Mrs Karen Derrick (V.A.B.S) and Pc's Keri Jones and Neil MacIver (Northern Constabulary).

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 2nd August 2011.

The minutes were accepted as a correct record with the following amendments:

"Police Matters" page one. The person taken into Police Custody was involved in a domestic disturbance which was a separate incident to the late night disturbance reported on the High Street.

"Am Fasgadh Regeneration company" Page three para three. Comments were incorrectly attributed to Cllr Taylor. The "comments" were actually a direct quotation taken from the objection letter drafted by Cllr Schofield on behalf of the Community Council.

"Our Community A Way Forward Progress Report" page four para one. The correct acronym for the Am Fasgadh Regeneration Company (Kingussie Ltd) is A.R.C.

Proposed: Cr Brown, seconded: Cr Taylor.

2. Matters Arising

- (i) **Town Clock and Saltires for the Old Court House and Clock Tower:** Cllr Taylor reported that the clock had been repaired and was now striking properly. Replacement Saltires although ordered, had not yet arrived.
- (ii) **Small community Projects:** As Cllr Davidson was unavailable to report on this, it was agreed to carry the issue over to the next meeting.

3. Police Matters (Pc's Keri Jones and Neil MacIver)

The officers reported that although it had been busy, with 1,377 incidents having been dealt with throughout Badenoch and Strathspey since 15th June 2011, crime rates for Badenoch and Strathspey continued on a downward trend. They then gave a brief resume of the type of incidents which had been dealt with.

Long serving Kingussie officer Pc Ian Campbell retired in July, after thirty two years service. His post would be advertised. Two new Police Cadets were due to start in Aviemore.

4. KVCC Treasurer's report. (Cllr Mr Taylor)

Cr Taylor presented his monthly report (copy appended to the minutes) and said that he had investigated the possibility of a better account for community council funds. Regrettably, there was nothing available for Community Councils which gave a reasonable rate of interest.

5. **Planning Matters** (Cllr Mrs Schofield)

(i) **Highland Council's applications to build on part of the Am Fasgadh site.**

Objection letters to Highland Council in respect of both of these applications had been sent, but Highland Council's Planning Committee had subsequently determined the application for the Manse Road site and granted planning permission in principle.

(ii) **Weekly list of planning applications.**

1. A supporting letter had been sent to the CNPA regarding the application to replace the footbridge over the R. Gynack near to Strathlyne.

2. Demolition of the former keeper's house and erection of new guest accommodation on the Pitmain Estate. A supporting letter had been sent to the CNPA re this application, which appeared to be a continuation of the improvements to Pitmain estate housing stock.

3. Installation of two hydro power schemes and reconstruction of dam, Pitmain Estate.

Discussion ensued re this. Concerns were raised regarding the impact of heavy construction traffic on the fabric of Ardbroilach Road, and the possibility of impaired access on Ardbroilach Road owing to parked vehicles outside the tennis club. Cllr Schofield was asked to draft a letter of support including these concerns.

4. Allt Duine Wind Farm – Section 36 Addendum. RWE had circulated an addendum to their initial application which included a significant amount of supporting documentation. Cllr Schofield said that she had drafted a response using notes supplied by Secretary Val Emmett.

6. **Our Community A Way Forward – Progress report** (Crs Mrs Brown, Mrs Schofield, Mr Taylor)

Cllr Brown reported that the multiple applications to register community interest in the right to acquire the former Kingussie Folk Museum site had been submitted to the Community Assets Branch in Edinburgh. This had entailed hours of work to compile a 200+ page package. Councillors expressed their thanks to Cllr Brown for the fantastic job she had carried out in putting together and submitting the application. At a recent Ward Forum meeting, a conversation with Highland Council Corporate Manager Mr William Gilfillan had resulted in the promise of a meeting between Highland Council officials and Am Fasgadh Regeneration Company to discuss the issues of the old Folk Museum site and the old Courthouse building. Cllr Brown wished to thank all those, within and outwith Kingussie who helped by giving advice and information re the applications.

7. **Voluntary Action Badenoch And Strathspey**

Mrs Karen Derrick from VABS gave a presentation on the Cairngorms National Parks latest consultation "Your View" impressing on how important it was for everyone to take part. The consultation related to the draft new local plan for 2010 – 2017, and would be the last opportunity for people to make their views known before the plan was formally adopted.

8. **Community Council Website** (Cr Mrs Schofield)

There was discussion regarding setting up a dedicated Community Council website. It was felt that it would be sensible to go ahead with this while it was still be affordable. A dedicated website could be tailored exactly to the needs of the Community Council and mean that new information could be

easily up-loaded without delay. A unanimous decision was made that Cllr Schofield should approach Fergus Thom of Wee Epics to initiate the order, at price and details as previously discussed and minuted.

9. AOCB

(i) A86 Trunk Road – Kingussie High Street.

Cllr Schofield read out a reply from Mr Bob Mitchell, Area Manager for Transport Scotland in response to a letter sent to Transport Scotland on 2nd August 2011. This related to painting the lamp standards on the High Street, rectifying parking bay markings etc. The reply was generally felt to be ambivalent, as it did not specify when or even whether any of the requested works were likely to be carried out. Cllr Schofield was asked to send a reply which included a specific request to remove the delineating markings from the parking bays, which would result in one continuous parking “lane” and address the problem of the undersized parking bays on Kingussie High Street. This system currently operates in Grantown High Street and seems to work perfectly well.

(ii) State of the High Street.

There was discussion regarding the generally run down appearance of the High Street, and what could be done to encourage property owners on the High Street to tidy up their street frontages. Cllr Brown said that she had contacted Richard Porteous from Highland Councils Tech Services Dept to advise him re the dirty state of the public seats on the High Street.

(iii) Highland Community Council Elections.

There was discussion re this, and nomination forms were distributed.

10. Correspondence Received

(i) Letter from Mr Bob Mitchell, Transport Scotland Re Kingussie High Street (Discussed under AOCB).

(ii) Highland Council Quality Awards, inviting nominations. Discussion ensued re this and it was decided to nominate Robert Kelly for the fantastic job he does keeping Kingussie’s streets litter free, and Charlie young and his team for the wonderful work they do to ensure that Kingussie has an award winning memorial garden.

(iii) Royal Horticultural Society publicising “Britain in Bloom”.

Date of Next meeting: Tues 4th October 2011 at 7p.m. in Talla Nan Ròs

APPENDIX TO KVCC MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 2011

TREASURER’S MONTHLY REPORT OF ACCOUNTS.

KVCC Current account

Balance £3698.90

There have been no transactions.

Reserve Fund

Balance £1816.62

Senior Citizens’ Account

Balance £5065.99

Children’s Community Christmas Party Account

Balance £2017.15

J Taylor
Treasurer