



KINGUSSIE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 2nd JUNE 2015

Present: Community Councillors: Mrs Schofield, Mrs Emmett, Mrs Brown, Ms Wright, Mr Taylor, **Highland Councillor** Mr Fallows.

Visitors: Mrs J Cushing (Ruthven Steading)

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the Previous AGM held on 6th June 2014.

The minutes of the 2014 AGM were approved and signed as a correct record. (Prop, JT, Sec. MB)

2. Matters Arising

None

3. Chairwoman's report (Mrs A Schofield)

Mrs Schofield presented her annual report:

Having unexpectedly taken over as Chairwoman in December of last year, for me it was very much a case of hitting the ground running and I would like to thank everyone for their on-going support. I would also like to thank everyone for the terrific amount of work carried out over the last twelve months, both within the Community Council and with other community organisations and initiatives. I must also acknowledge the valuable contributions made by our previous Chair, Councillor Alan Davidson and Councillor John Patchett, while members of this Community Council. Regrettably they are no longer with us having both chosen to retire, and their presence is sorely missed. This places us in a potentially difficult position, as it means that there are now four vacancies on Kingussie Community Council. In the short term this does not present a problem as we are still quorate, but in the long term the situation could change should anyone decide that they do not wish to stand for re-election in November. Disappointingly, my efforts to encourage potential new councillors via an appeal on Facebook have not been successful.

On the plus side, it is good to see how much we have achieved since our last AGM in June 2014. We have been involved in various consultations with Highland Council over the Kingussie Court House re-development, and the replacement of Ruthven Bridge. Although the Ruthven Bridge saga is still on-going, I hope that our involvement in both projects will ultimately be of benefit to our community. I am also optimistic that the strenuous representations we made for the retention of Kingussie's highly valued Customer Service point will eventually bear fruit.

The representations we made to the Bank of Scotland regarding the reduction of opening hours at their Kingussie branch and those we made against Highland Council's withdrawal of support for Caberfeidh Horizon's Kingussie

Hub project and Highland Books Online fell on stony ground, but at least we tried. We did have a huge success (despite some people saying that we were wasting our time even trying!) in persuading City Link to re-instate their arbitrarily withdrawn 09.24 M91 bus service, as we knew how important this was to Kingussie people and those in surrounding communities. As far as I am aware, this service still continues to be well used.

The organisation and running of the Senior Citizens and Children's Christmas parties was transferred into the capable hands of the Kingussie Festivities Committee, who kindly offered to take over the organisation and running of both functions. As this organisation is better equipped than the Community Council to run such functions, I know that they will do an excellent job. All of the monies held by the Community Council expressly for this purpose have now been passed over to them.

On the planning front we looked at or commented on 25 planning applications, and were directly consulted by Dochfour Estate regarding a proposed application they wished to submit. We are also represented at CNPA Planning Representatives Meetings.

We made a donation to the highly successful Heritage Festival, which commemorated the 250th anniversary of James McPherson's combined works including his Ossian Odyssey. This resulted in an influx of visitors to the town, which can only have been beneficial. We also made a donation to the Mail Coach 100 run, organised to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the last Mail Coach to run from Kingussie to Roy Bridge and which will take place tomorrow.

Who knows what the following year will bring but whatever it is, I know that everyone will do their level best for our community and I am proud to be part of a team of such dedicated people.

4. Treasurer's Annual Financial Report (Mrs J Taylor)

Mr Taylor circulated copies of the financial statement and gave his report. He expressed his thanks on behalf of KVCC to Mr Peter Munro who has audited the accounts.

The Community Council has not been involved in any major projects this year. The Senior Citizens' Party Fund has now, at last, been successfully transferred to the Festivities Committee's account. The transfer of the Children's Christmas Party fund went through earlier. He assured members that if Kingussie & Vicinity Community Council was temporarily disbanded, the funds in the KVCC accounts would be held in trust by the Highland Council and then given back when the Community Council was resurrected. At the end of his report, Mrs Schofield expressed thanks, on behalf of fellow councillors, to Mr Taylor for his continued efficiency in administering KVCC's accounts. Mrs Emmett agreed to scan in a copy of the audited accounts to send to Highland Council along with the AGM report.

5. Election of Officers for 2015

Mr Fallows took the chair.

All the officers agreed to continue in their current posts until the elections in November and this was unanimously agreed.

Chairwoman: Mrs Schofield

Treasurer: Mr Taylor

Secretary: Mrs Emmett

Planning Subgroup: Mrs Schofield.

Mrs Emmett agreed join Mrs Schofield to help deal with planning applications.

The resignation of Mr Patchett during the year means there is currently no vice-chairman. Councillors agreed not to elect a replacement for him for the few months remaining before the elections.

Mrs Schofield resumed the chair.

6. Representatives on Outside Bodies

Councillors agreed to continue in their current posts to represent KVCC on outside bodies. This was agreed.

Kingussie Community development Company: Mrs Schofield

Association of Cairngorm Communities: Mrs Emmett & Mrs Schofield

CNPA Planning Reps. Group: Mrs Schofield.

Kingussie Business Association: Mrs Brown

Health matters: Mrs Brown

The youth group appears to have gone into abeyance and the councillors decided therefore not to elect a replacement for Mr Patchett on the group.

7. AOCB

- (i) Ms Wright provided a brief oral report on behalf of the Festivities Committee's fundraising activities and programme of events: The recent jumble sae was successful in raising funds, but the bad weather on the day of the car boot sale adversely affected sales and hence funds raised. The Duke of Gordon Hotel has been chosen for the Senior Citizens' Party on the 13th December. It is hoped not to have to levy a charge to participants this year, but they may have to pay towards the festive meal from 2016 onwards.

There being no other business, the meeting ended and was followed by the routine monthly business meeting.