

# Approved

## Minutes of Braemar Community Council meeting Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October

1. **Attendees** – Alasdair Colquhoun, John Torrance, Trevor Garlick, Elliot Perkins, Shaila Daniels, David Sherrard, Ian Fowler, Aimi Blueman  
**Councillors** – Geva Blackett  
**Apologies** – Jackie Maclean, Paul Gibb  
12 members of the public and Belinda Miller (Aberdeenshire council)
2. **Minutes from last meeting**  
Minutes for meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> August were proposed by **Ian Fowler** and seconded by **David Sherrard**
3. **Matters Arising from Minutes**  
There were no matters arising from the minutes
4. **Change of Secretary**  
**Trevor Garlick** has stood down from the role of secretary after standing in for the last 20 months, **John Torrance** has taken on the role. Thanks to Trevor for his work.
5. **Balinda Miller – update on proposals for car parks.**
  - Update – Internal funding was found for upgrade to car park in Games Park,
  - Coach parking lines have been painted in the Mews Car Park
  - Plans to improve Brown tourism signs, new large brown signs 1 mile out of village, and remove some of the clutter from existing signs.
  - Option for mobile homes to use the games park over night has been removed.
  - Toilets in games park to be upgraded for use by coaches parking in games park.
  - **Balnellan and Mews Car parks**  
Belinda showed the proposed options for upgrading the two main car parks  
**Mews carpark** – to be changed into coach drop off site with space for two coaches dropping of or picking up, with the creation of 8 stree side parking spaces on Clunie road and a further 4 spaces in front of the Mews.  
**Balnellan car park** - 4 option for changes were shown, community councillors felt option 4 which created the maximum number of extra spaces was the preferred option.  
Plans for both car parks to be posted on the Community face book page for public comment for 1 week, hard copies also available at Gordons Tearoom.

- Plans need to go to Visit Scotland for funding application by end of November.
- Plans then need to go through planning process.

#### 6. Report from Aberdeenshire councillors and CNP

- **Councillor Geva Blackett**
- **Bridges – Invercauldbridge** most likely to have traffic lights as permanent fixture, to push traffic onto middle of the bridge to limit further damage. Surveying to continue with some repair work carried out in 2020.  
**Gairnshiel Bridge**, flood study has pushed planning back a couple of weeks, planning application for new bridge should be lodged in January. A second application will be lodged at a later stage around parking and future use of the cut off bit of road.
- **Sunday bus service** – Numbers using the Sunday services have indicated that Some sort of Sunday service is required. Online Consultation out, link has been posted on Braemar community forum.
- **Pot luck lunch** – to be organised for 28<sup>th</sup> December in Crathie Kirk hall
- **Dogs** – raised issue with noise disturbance from barking dogs in the community.
- **Councillor Paul Gibb**
- **Buses** – Clean sheet review of the local bus service, online survey seeking the views of Aberdeenshire residents and communities to identify travel priorities.  
Gave update on report that was returned to Mar area committee on 20<sup>th</sup> August
- **Balnellan car park toilets** – Funding was made available for the extra hours of servicing the toilets over the Games weekend.
- **Letter from Royalty and Specialist Protection** – Letter from Zander Gibson OCU Commander was forwarded and read out, thanking the Braemar and Ballater communities for their support while officers were on duty in the area.
- **Invercauld Bridge** – Updated on current situation with the bridge, forwarded report from Infrastructure Services regarding work undertaken to assess the condition of the bridge.
- **Cairngorm National Park (GevaBlackett)**
- The parks Local Development Plan 2020 has been sent to Scottish ministers and is now subject to examination by an independent Planning Reporter.
- Economic Action Plan – Consultation has now closed.
- Housing– A study has shown that Braemar via BCL could build up to 14 units to benefit local people.
- Deeside Way – Planning for section of Deeside way from Invercauld Bridge to Lions Face quarry has been approved, looking for potential funders for the construction of the path.

## 7. Police Report

Nothing to report for the Braemar area.

- Brian Wood informed of an incident of vandalism which has recently taken place at the society office and invercauld mews which has resulted in broken windows.

He expressed some concern at the over the lack of response from the police in attending and following up on the incident.

BCC to write to Keith Greg to express concern over the lack on response to the case of vandalism in the village and the message the portrays to the offenders.

## 8. BCL Update

- **Braemar Castle** – Season end this week, visitor number up on past year. Focus is on bid for Heritage Lottery Fund to reharl the Castle, and improve visitor experience. All going to plan castle will close in September 2020.
- **Auchtavan**–open days held and staffed by local volunteers.
- **Braemar outdoor Group** – have decided not to hold mountain festival in 2020 but plan to return in 2021.
- **Housing** – Feasibility study indicates a viable scheme for 14 units on site beside Kindrochit court. New access road to be formed coming off golf course road. Pre application planning notification has been submitted.

## 9. Planning Update

- Only a few planning applications in the past couple of month, BCC had no issues to raise about any recent planning applications.
- Appeal for 3 and 4 Castelton Terrace – a letter was received from objectors to the application requesting a member of the CC to attend the site visit. David Sherrard pointed out that BCC was no longer a consultee on the application as it is now in the hands of the reporter, but he would go along to the site visit as an observer.

## 10. Post Office

- They seem to have taken better control over posting when they are going to be open.
- New staff are going to be trained how to work the post office but understandably this process take a bit of time.

## 11. BCC Corespondance

- Two letter of correspondence received.
- Caroline Hadley Smith – sent letter requesting a gate to be put onto the section of path that crosses the A93 near the golf course.  
John T to send email to Invercauld Estate with request.

- Gayle Dixon – sent letter regarding the number of Red Squirrels found dead on the road near to the Linn of Dee, requested that there be more Squirrel warning signs closer to the Linn of Dee  
John T to send email request to roads department.

#### **12. A.O.C.B**

- Dave Sherrard – Talked about a scheme called Local Electricity Bill which aim to make it easier for local power generation schemes to connect to the grid. Dave to proposed support for the Bill, CC agreed, Dave to action it.
- Alasdair Colquhoun – Xmas light have been pat tested and Mar Lodge Estate have agreed to put them up again.  
Plants for village planters, for next year have been applied for.  
Coop deliveries have been restricted to after 0830 after complaints from the Fife Arms Hotel regarding the noise from delivery lorries.
- Aimi Blueman – Noted that the paths around the Lions Face quarry are in a poor condition due to the ongoing forestry operations. To ask Invercauld estate when the paths will be repaired.

#### **13. Date of next BCC meeting to be Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 1900 in Braemar Primary school.**