

Approved Minutes

Minutes of Braemar Community Council meeting Monday 16th December 2019

1. **Attendees** – Alasdair Colquhoun, Shaila Daniels, David Sherrard, Aimi Blueman, Jackie Maclean

Councillors – Geva Blackett, Paul Gibb

Apologies – John Torrance, Ian Fowler
6 members of the public

2. **Minutes from last meeting**

One amendment was made to the draft minutes to make clear that the CNPA report had been given by Geva Blackett. With that the minutes for meeting on 28th October were approved. Proposed by Aimi Blueman and seconded by Shaila Daniels.

3. **Matters Arising from Minutes**

- Community comments on the parking proposals presented by Belinda Miller of Aberdeenshire Council (AC) at the last meeting were consolidated by the Secretary and forwarded to Belinda.
- The Secretary wrote to Police Scotland regarding their response to vandalism reported at the last meeting. Reassurance was received that the matter had been dealt with appropriately.
- The Secretary has asked Invercauld Estate to consider putting a gate on the east side of the A93 where the new path crosses, for safety. Invercauld will review and respond.
- Invercauld confirmed that they will reinstate footpaths in the Lion's Face area post forestry operations.
- Ian Peacock (AC) will review the signage situation warning of squirrels on the Linn of Dee Rd toward the west. Geva will add her voice to this and revert.

4. **Police Report**

Geva Blackett read out the police report.

- Antisocial Behaviour, Violence and Disorder – small number of reports
- Acquisitive Crime - low
- Road Safety and Road Crime – speeding remains an issue. Police are engaging with schools, this having been found to be effective in other communities
- Wildlife Crime - low
- Other – telephone and internet fraud should be reported

5. **Report from Aberdeenshire councillors and CNP**

- **Councillor Geva Blackett**

- **Sunday bus service** – Ward councillors will meet council officers in the new year, usage has not been great.
- **Winter Road Signage** – New electronic signs will be installed at Dinnet, Pass of Ballater and B976 junction.
- **Invercauld bridge**- most likely to have traffic lights as permanent fixture.
Gairnshiel Bridge -planning application due for first part of bridge work.
- **Housing** – Simon Blackett (BCL) and Dave Sherrard (BCC) will meet Mar Estate in the new year to progress community acquisition of the Kindrochit site. CNPA helping with project management funding.
- **Royal Protection** – had lunch with the new Chief Inspector and two officers.
- **Pot luck lunch** – will be on 28th December in Crathie Kirk hall, everyone welcome.
- **Councillor Paul Gibb**
- **Sunday Bus Service** - The Council’s Clean-Sheet Review of the local bus and dial-a-bus services that the Council supports has belatedly commenced; a paper is expected to be presented to Infrastructure Service Committee [ISC] in the New Year. However, if there are any recommendations they will come too late to be included in the budget for 20/21. Paul has pressed Officers for answers to the request made by the BCC and by himself at Marr Area Committee for “review of the six day timetable to allow for a seven day service within existing budget”. The council have advised that any further work will only be taken forward as part of the work on the Clean-Sheet Review of Support Bus Services (i.e. too late for next year’s budget as noted above).
- **Braemar Primary Parent Council** - At the last Primary Parent Council meeting on the 4th November there was interest in finding ways to make children more visible in the dark mornings and evenings. Paul put the Parent Council in touch with the South Marr Community Safety Group [who have a small funding pot] and the children are now kitted out with flashing devices.
- **Pedestrian Crossings** - Paul met with John Bruce [Roads Policy Officer] on the 12th November to discuss the provisional draft of Policy 15 – which dictates whether a pedestrian crossing can be installed and made suggestions. The draft will be presented to MAC on the 28th January and will then go to ISC and will be considered at their meeting on the 12th March. If the new policy is agreed, new surveys will need to be undertaken to acquire the data that will then feed into the policy model from which a determination of need can be made.
- **Cairngorm National Park (Geva Blackett)**
- Geva has attended various meetings in role of Deputy Convenor, including one on the Climate Emergency. The Board have decided that the Climate Emergency should be a central theme in the next Partnership Plan (2022-27). Also agreed that CNPA should aim to achieve zero direct emissions. The

Board heard a presentation on snow cover climate effects from Mike Rivington of James Hutton Inst.

- Economic Action Plan – 2019-22 plan is approved.
- Geva is talking with various stakeholder to try to develop a single message re littering.

6. BCL Update

- No report.
- The Chair asked what impact a Kindrochit community housing project would have on the St. Andrews site. DS will inquire.

7. Planning Update

- DS reported that the Scottish Government Reporter has upheld the 3-4 Castleton Terrace appeal. Planning permission for the Pod has been granted.
- It was noted that there were two neighbour objections to the Wilderbank application, with regard to road flooding and drainage, parking and over development. The community council had not objected. Ongoing.
- In response to a question Geva explained the CNPA LDP process. All comments from the final consultation were passed to the Scottish Government Reporter along with CNPA staff views, the Reporter will make final recommendation to Ministers before the LDP is signed off. The query related to the numerous community comments on the final draft.

8. Christmas Lights Fund

- The Treasurer reported that BCC hold £562-65 of Christmas Lights funds.
- She will discuss further with the Tourism Group their interest in taking over responsibility for the Christmas lights. The Chairman noted that the responsibility includes: licencing, PAT testing, putting them up, taking them down, and storage.

9. Report on Complaint Raised

- A complaint has been received that a Community Councillor has broken the code of conduct. The complaint has been passed to Aberdeenshire Council will establish a panel to meet the complainant and appellant in the new year.

10. BCC Correspondence

- Three letters of correspondence were received.
Mairi Beattie of the Judy Murray Foundation has offered a starter tennis workshop. Jackie Mclean (head teacher) will follow up.
- Andy Anderson reported that the school speed lights are not working. Paul Gill will follow up.

- Linda Milne (AC) asked for any information on local events to mark the 75th Anniversary of VE Day. The Chairman will pass on to Braemar Castle and St Andrews.

11. A.O.C.B

- The Chairman has reported two potholes. One has been fixed.
- The flagpole by the war memorial has been taken down as the securing bolts are corroded. The Chairman will ask the Highland Society to store it pending repair in spring time.

12. Date of next BCC meeting to be Monday 17th February at 1900 in Braemar Primary School.