

KINGUSSIE AND VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 6th July 2010

Present: KVCC Councillors: A Davidson (Chairman), G. Wright (Vice-chairman), V Emmett (Sec.), J Taylor (Treasurer), A Schofield, M Brown.

Apologies: Cr M Stone and Highland Cr D Fallows

Visitors: Sgt Crawford (Northern Constabulary); Ms F Young and Dr A Michie (on behalf of Kingussie Primary School Parents Assoc.)

1. Minutes of the Last Meeting (held on 25 May 2010)

The minutes were accepted as a correct record: (a) of the AGM, prop. Cr Taylor, sec. Cr Schofield; and (b) of the Council meeting, prop Cr Wright, sec Cr Schofield.

2. Matters Arising – none.

3. Police Matters (Sgt Crawford)

- (i) **20 mph speed limits.** The secretary reported on recent discussions and communication to the Highland Council Ward Manager requesting follow up to the suggestion for 20 mph speed limits along the High Street and other main streets used by children on their way to and from school. Ms Young reported the school's and parents' concerns about traffic speeds along the High Street and along Ruthven Road from the Insh direction, and also the obstruction caused by parked vehicles outside the Osprey Hotel very close to the junction with the main road, and of tour coaches parking outside the Duke of Gordon Hotel directly opposite the Ruthven Road junction at times of day when pupils were travelling to school.

Sgt Crawford reported that the police had carried out a traffic speed survey some time ago and they were aware that traffic was not slowing quickly enough as they approached the speed restriction signs from the Insh direction. He undertook to speak to the managers of the hotels to ask that vehicles should not park and cause obstructions. Councillors pointed out the Duke of Gordon had sufficient coach parking behind the hotel and there was no need for their passengers to exit from the main entrance down the steps, when they could join their coach at the rear of the hotel more safely.

Sgt Crawford also expressed the view that parking on the Ruthven Road, by parents bringing and collecting their children by car, increased the problems. It was agreed the School's Parents' Association should write to all their parents asking them to use the Station car park as the drop off point and not park along the Ruthven Road. Sgt Crawford agreed to write a piece on road safety for the school newsletter. The parents reported that the road marking signs on the road outside the school were faded. Renewal was said to be a task for the Highland Council's roads dept.

In discussion about the possibility of installation of a "smiley face" sign it was pointed out there would be a cost to the Community Council.

- (ii) Sgt Crawford reported the Police will be carrying out a speeding campaign shortly after the start of the new school term. He also reported the appointment of a new Traffic Warden.

4. **Highland Councillor's report.**

In the absence of Cr Fallows this item was not taken.

5. **Planning Matters.**

Cr Schofield reported only one item in the local weekly list – an application for a conservatory on a house in Acres Road. No objections.

Water Treatment Works She reported she had drafted a response to the CNPA about the application by Scottish Water for renewal and upgrading of the water treatment works. She commented on the difficulties she had encountered in getting responses from Scottish Water to questions and requests for clarification.

Housing development She reported on a recent letter from Johnston's, consultants to Davall Developments, saying they would be consulting the Community Council and the wider community about some of the conditions imposed by the CNPA when permission for the housing development was granted. Mr Ogilvie of Johnston's had declined an invitation to attend the July Council meeting however.

In response to a question by Cr Brown about planning gain, Cr Schofield reported that due to the timing of the original application by Davall, there was no legal requirement by the Planning Gain team to consult the Council.

6. **Modification to the CNPA Local Plan**

Discussion about the modification to the CNPA local plan was deferred to the September meeting.

7. **Our Community A Way Forward**

Cr Brown reported on developments concerning interest in the former Museum buildings and land. Investigations are at an early stage. She proposed a working group be set up to consider acquiring the buildings and land for community use; she was investigating the mechanisms for taking this forward and had been in contact with the Community Land Unit and the Scottish Community Asset Branch. She had also spoken to Ms Karen Derrick, the OCAWF project officer. (Mr Mercer has recently retired from the project and Ms Derrick will be our contact point in future.) Cr Brown also reported on a Scottish Govt instruction to COSLA to encourage communities to acquire redundant sites and buildings for community use.

8. **Correspondence**

Cr Emmett reported recent correspondence:

- (i) **Planning Gain** A letter had been received from the Aberdeenshire Planning Gain team about the late offer by Davall to hand over the playing field site off Dunbarry Road to the Community as part of the planning gain requirement imposed on the developers. Cr Schofield was dealing with this matter.
- (ii) **Wind Farm on the Monadhliaths** A request was received for a meeting with councillors by **rwe npower renewables** concerning a planning application for a wind farm on a high site adjacent to Pitmain estate, but on land owned by Balavil, Dunachton and Alvie and hence part of "Kincraig territory". Councillors agreed a date to meet representatives.
- (iii) **Rural Broadband** Letter from the Scottish Government about funds to boost rural broadband coverage. The timing of applications for projects was considered to be too short for it to be dealt with– 13th August.

9. Community Newsletter

Cr Schofield reported on developments with the drafting of the Community Newsletter.

10. Forthcoming Ward Forum – Wed. 18th August - Topic - Community Care

Cr Emmett reported that a Ward Forum was proposed by the Ward Manager for Wed 18th August on the topic of the “Future of Community Care” and to be held in Talla Na Ròs.

Crs. Emmett and Brown agreed to liaise with Ms Palmer and help with the catering and other arrangements.

11. 20 mph speed limits for Kingussie streets – dealt with in Item 3.

12. AOCB

Cr Schofield reported briefly on discussions with Mr Tait re the management of the Glebe Ponds. She requested a small meeting with him and several councillors and agreed to organise it – she suggested Tues 3rd August and councillors, who could attend, agreed to do so.

Cr Wright reported that the funds for the Karnival event had been swelled by a big donation from the Ben Alder Estate.

Cr Davidson said he had been contacted by the Factor of the Pitmain Estate. The Estate would like to donate the proceeds from the sale of fishing permits to a good cause in Kingussie. Councillors expressed their thanks. The item to be placed on the agenda of the September meeting – councillors to suggest a suitable cause.

13. Date of Next Meeting: Tues. 7th Sept. In TNR at 7 p.m.

The Chairman gave his apologies in advance, he would not be able to attend; he would be away on holiday.)