

Kingussie and Vicinity Community Council
Monday 13th December 2021
Zoom Meeting at 6pm

Minutes

Present: Ruairidh Ormiston (RO) Margaret Bentley (MB) Louise Thomson (LTh)
Janet Kinnaird (JK) Lisa Taylor (LT) Esther Botha (EB)

Member of the Public: Emma Folan

Apologies: John Craig

Declaration of Interests: LTh LT EB and EF

Previous Minutes: Minutes for November were approved. Proposed by JK and seconded by MB
RO opened the meeting by welcoming those in attendance.

Treasurer's report

LTh has only now received the insurance documents from Zurich . There has been no time to scrutinise them carefully but there is certainly public liability. She will check that we are covered for the Santa Parade. Unfortunately due to banking issues the signatories still have not been transferred . LTh has checked with the Ward manager that the outgoing treasurer can pay any outstanding invoices until the bank matters are settled. The account currently stands at £13135.72 however there are now invoices of £1382 to be paid. These are the Hogmanay Donation, Santa Parade and Kingussie Primary School. The insurance premium is due in March 2022.

*Amendment * KVCC had agreed to pay Santa Parade £582
Hogmanay Event £300 Kingussie Primary School £500

Planning Report

JC unavailable but currently no new plans.

Planning application 21/05250/ful to be deferred until the end of the meeting.

Facebook.

Liz Duncan is no longer an admin and three new admins have been added, MB LTh and JK. RO is pleased we can now publicly post information and thanked LTh.

Co-Opting new members.

Potential new members have now come forward. The following were proposed and seconded as new members. Lisa Taylor proposed by LTh and seconded by MB. Anna Chiesa proposed by JK and seconded by RO. Esther Botha proposed by RO and seconded by JK. RO thanked the new members for being willing to take on the task of community councillor and also thanked the other members for their efforts in securing new members. This ensured that the community council continued to be healthy and represent the community.

Raised drains and Broken Kerbs

This matter was raised with the relevant body and it is on their to do list.

Spey Bridge

JK contacted Highland Council Road Operations re Ruthven Bridge. A response was received stating that the team is aware and it is an on going issue. In the short term temporary repairs are not staying in and following a review signage for uneven road surface and a speed limit would be put in place. Long term. The bridge is under priority review and all parties will remain informed. JK had received a request from a resident as to what action was being taken. JK responded with the above information. As the resident lives beyond Kingussie she also suggested a word with Kincaig community Council might persuade HC to take action sooner.

Santa Parade

The Santa Parade is booked and scheduled for 7.30 on Christmas Eve. The route was discussed and the suggestion is to park in the Iona Gallery car park, along the High Street to the Gynack Gardens. Kenny Deans will be there with mulled wine, the Duke of Gordon will supply mince pies and cups by the Sugar Bowl. LTh will make posters for Facebook and the Primary school will do posters for the town. Buckets will be on hand for collections. A plan will be drawn up **Action JK**
Burrall Fund

JK contacted Kenny Rodgers with three main questions from KVCC. What does the fund stand at? What is the locality that the endowment covers and finally with which groups in the community were discussions held prior to the fund being transferred?

The fund currently stands at £296,677. The endowment covers Health and Social care Services in Badenoch. Prior to the transfer of the funds discussions were held with Mary Ellen Thomson (Friends of St Vincent's Hospital) Mairi Brown. Sheena Slimon and Mairi Palmer. A meeting was also held with the then KVCC.

A discussion was held around how some of this money could possibly be used. LTh suggested as the Duck Ponds represented health and well being within the community an application for funding to restore them might be considered. The other members were in agreement.

Christmas Lighting For Church

An application for £500 has been made to KCDC. This is for an electrical connection. There are concerns over how the Church will pay for the electricity.

Christmas Meal.

RO said that the list of those attending or receiving a Christmas meal is believed to be shorter than in previous years. If you know of anyone who might like a meal then we should get his or her names on the list. RO was unsure if One Kingussie requires funding for the Christmas Meal. Could we find out **Action JK?**

Balavil Estate Forestry Plan

RO said that we needed to provide a statement for the plan. The meeting discussed footpaths and access and how much or little new forestry would impact the area. A statement was agreed asking that the current access for walkers be retained. **Action JK**

Road Conditions Ruthven to Tromie Bridge.

RO had received a few comments and complaints about the road conditions between Ruthven and Tromie Bridge. The road is very muddy and verges have been badly damaged by heavy vehicles. The blame is currently landing on large tractors from the distillery and logging lorries. RO has spoken with one of the drivers from the distillery and will contact them again. Kincaig community council may need to take an interest. **Action RO**

Cairngorm Views Update.

It was agreed that the CNPA consultation was a very lengthy document. Concerns within the Park going forward should be a single statement in response rather than a response to each section.

The main areas of concern for KVCC are

Affordable family housing of a good size and standard.

Rural Affordable Housing of a good size and standard such as in Kincaig.

The current affordable housing being developed in Kincaig is neither affordable nor of a good standard for people working in the local communities yet the CNPA continues to support such planning and development. It is not a local solution.

Small business start up units is required in Kingussie. Other towns and villages have these facilities. It would be a great thing for Kingussie if people could run their business in the town where they live.

Concerns over CNPA green tourism agenda. Eco and green tourism doesn't have a great spend and only produce seasonal jobs on a minimum wage.

Large landowners buying into the area such as Anders Povelson and Brewdog should have conditions attached to their projects to include suitable housing. Carbon Capture and Offset projects need to have a financial spin off for local communities.

Community Councils within the CNPA boundaries can be disadvantaged financially in terms of gain from wind farms. CNPA should provide to allow communities to run one wind generator as a social fund to provide financial support for the community. JK to produce a statement and circulate to everyone prior to sending to CNPA **Action JK**

Planning Application 21/05206/ful

RO asked that those with an interest in this application should leave the meeting. Before doing so he asked if any one with an interest would like to address KVCC. They were offered two minutes and both Esther Botha and Emma Folan chose to speak prior to leaving the meeting. KVCC discussed this application at length and a comment will be made to Highland council Planning. The comment will be based around drainage, screening, lighting . The comment will be distributed to members before being submitted to Highland Council **Action JK**

AOCB

RO to attend the resilience-planning meeting on Wednesday 15th December.

Glebe Ponds should be considered as a project for the future.

SSE. Path from Newtonmore Road to the Railway Station. The electricity sub station in this area is to be upgraded and SSE are suggesting closing the path permanently .This is a well used route by KPS ,KHS and other groups and individual directing them away fro the corner at Ruthven Road. This information should be shared with KPS,KHS and Cycle Friendly Kingussie . and the contact is Catherine Imlay **Action JK**

RO thanked everyone for their work and contribution to the meeting.

Date of next meeting to be decided.