

## Laggan Community Council - Ordinary Meeting

Meeting 5 – 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020

VIA ZOOM @ 1900

Approved Minutes

**1) Attendees:** Chair Colin Morgan (CM), Vice Chair Mignonne Khazaka (MK), Treasurer Gordon Stirling (GS), Secretary Amanda Gallagher (AG), Minute Secretary Liz MacFarlan (LM), Lauren Hendry (LH), Cllr. Pippa Hadley (PH) Highland Council,

2 members of the community present Robyn Woolston (RW) Alison Armstrong (AA) Church

**Apologies received:** Ailsa Morgan, James MacFarlan.

Meeting declared quorate.

**2) Approval of minutes of LCC meeting 4 – 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020.**

Proposed GS. Seconded LH. Approved unanimously.

### **Extra Agenda items**

- Discussion on possible re-naming of Laggan Community Council
- New children road safety signage at Catlodge - AG.
- Associate membership of LCC - CM.

### **Matters Arising**

- LCC Communications AG/LM. A first draft Newsletter was discussed. All LCC members approved inclusion of their email addresses. RW has agreed to help with positive wording to encourage engagement with the wider Laggan community. LCC members to send ideas and improvements to AG or EM by Friday June 19. Newsletter to be emailed to all Laggan residents by Monday June 22.
- To note no applications to SSE Micro Grant fund in June round.
- Discussion on stimulating “recovery fund” ideas – deferred to next meeting.

**Jahama Estates:** CM had follow up phone call – Jahama keen to develop following

- eagle relocation – JE keen for more birds to be re-deployed – link to schools – expect tourism benefit in area.
- paths/trails expansion and cycle development (e.g. Connecting Laggan)
- forestry (local harvesting options); - no advice yet received for local participation
- infrastructure (housing) – no additional information
- possible community stalking options: new item – unclear as to how JE wish to develop
- Kinlochleven Development Company – CM briefed JH on existing Laggan organisations and relationship to SSE CB fund admin.

### **4) Financial report – Treasurer**

- Month-end (May 2020) a/c balance £3822.23.
- GS reported the balance on June 15 was £4224.53 following receipt of HC annual grant of £438.30 and a payment to Calico of £36.00. LCC will be receiving £143.88 from VABS Covid 19 fund for the Zoom subscription. An adjustment of £500 to the SSE “retained” fund for the Christmas lights, as approved by the Micro Grant panel in Dec 19, is to be made.

**5) Statutory Items** for Community Council to note and discuss.

#### **a) Planning update**

- **SSE Cloiche** – agreed response submitted to Energy Consents Unit by required date of 12<sup>th</sup> June. There was very muted support from the CC and some dissenting voices expressed prior to submission. An e-mail has been sent to SSE expressing disappointment that requested background noise studies have not yet been committed to. In response, SSE e-mailed 12/06/20 agreeing to look at the issue again.
- **Glenshero Estate** - Forestry extraction proposals – although NOT a planning issue, this matter is of considerable interest to CC - no dates or confirmed route for this, yet. LCC is concerned that, should the preferred route via a private estate road to Strathmashie and A86 not be used, the default route is via Laggan Village. CM to contact Richard Porteous and/or Craig Irvine from Highland Council to ask for a review of the suitability of the present timber transport route via Laggan Village. AG to photograph pinch points. GS to speak to owners of Coul.
- **Glentruim Farm** – new house – request in since August 2019
- **Crubenbeg Farm Steading** – new holiday let construction proposal – May 2020
- **Cluny Castle** – refurbishment of basement and 2nd floor bedrooms to provide en-suites – part of

plans reviewed previously by LM/CM.

- **Strathmashie/Wolftrax** – EE – Emergency services Telephone mast. Construction to be completed by October 2020. Possible restriction to paths/trails to be advised.
- **Forestry Land Scotland - Timber Harvesting and Extraction** to start on **15th June 2020** above Strathmashie House. MK to find out the dates and times of extraction. Intention to inform Strathmashie residents of these. Noted these dates are also on the Wolftrax website.

**b) Licensing update** – none – PH advised that Licensing Board re-starting deliberations.

**c) Roads update** – A86/A889 no update.

Signage for “Gateway proposals” – Discussion with Bear – quite positive – but advised to contact Transport Scotland who may offer design requirements. CM to contact TS. Sign guidelines available on line.

**d) Report from Public Sector Agencies – Police** – to note traffic complaints. GS expressed continued concern at the speeding of motorbikes and high performance cars on the A86 and A889. PH suggested a request for traffic cameras on the A86. CM to email Vince Tough and request attendance/regular report to LCC.

**e) Highland Council** – update on “**Amenities**” – grass cutting has started and need for pavement clearance and repair has been logged with Sean Malone. CM to also raise blocked drains near School & the removal of an abandoned car.

CM has asked Liz Cowie to send Highland Council guidelines for the re-opening, cleaning and maintenance of the Public Toilets. It was noted that LCT is keen that the septic tank issue is resolved before any re-opening. Public Toilet Consultation – a security camera may be employed outside the Laggan Public Toilet to deter any anti-social behavior such as the dumping of chemical waste.

“**Education**” – PH spoke of the need for parents with any concerns about pupils returning to local schools to express those concerns to the schools as soon as possible, in order to help them with their planning.

“**Lighting**” - Report on poor condition of village lamps to be sent and raised by CM with Sean Malone.

**6) Community Development/Action Plan** - delay on priority projects and next steps due to C19.

**7) There were no other Questions/contributions from the members of public present.**

**8) Any other agenda items**

- The name of the Community Council was discussed briefly. It was suggested that the existing name may not be as inclusive for all constituents of the Laggan Community Council area. Any change of name would be a change to the CC constitution and need to be approved by HC. Matter to be explored at future meetings. Noted that the LCC boundary map had been published on website and Facebook
- AG had been asked by a resident about “Slow, Children” road signs for the Catlodge turning off the A889. CM to raise with Transport Scotland/Highland Council –as it is on a trunk road.
- Associate Membership of LCC update. The Parent Teacher Association at Gergask has put forward Julie Wilson as their representative. The Church and Laggan Forest Trust support representation, but no names yet provided. LCT, Laggan Community Hall, Laggan Heritage and the Friends of Laggan Practice are to be emailed again CM.

**9) Proposed Date and time of next meeting** – next meeting scheduled for Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July at 1900 by ZOOM.

Date of Draft minute – 17<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Approved without amendment – 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020