

Laggan Community Council - Ordinary Meeting

Meeting 9 - 2020 – 16th November 2020

VIA ZOOM @ 1900

Approved Minutes

1) Attendees present. Chair Colin Morgan (CM), Gordon Stirling GS (Treasurer), Secretary Amanda Gallagher (AG), Minute Secretary Liz MacFarlan (LM), Lauren Hendry (LH), Cllr Pippa Hadley (PH).

Apologies: Mignonne Khazaka (MK) joined meeting midway, Muriel Cockburn (MC).

1 member of the community present.

CM welcomed everyone. Meeting declared quorate.

Extra agenda items:

- a) Fire Alarms Safety leaflet CM
- b) Native Woodlands plan – Ardverkie Estate CM
- c) Core Paths at Pattack discussion - CM
- d) Scotrail Train timetable change - CM

2) Approval of minutes of LCC meeting 8 – 19th Oct 2020

Proposed: AG Seconded: LH - Approved unanimously.

Significant Matters Arising

- **Village Christmas Décor** arrangements. LM reported thanks to SSE for £500 micro grant and to Ardverkie for donation of tree. Tree delivery expected Nov 27, to be erected beside main village noticeboard and decorated over weekend of 28/29th by volunteer team. Planter decorations also in hand. CM to email village about lighting plans and decision not to use HC lights, this year.
- **Next Newsletter.** AG reported that a bumper edition is in the pipeline. Most contributions are with the editors – still some chasing-up. LM reported new liaison with Creag Meagaidh National Nature Reserve and the promise of regular input from them.

3) Financial report – Treasurer

Month-end (October 2020) a/c balance and brief report

- The Balance on the Account at 31/10/2020 was £10,257.41. That includes £6000 for the SSE Covid Fund and £2590.11 for the SSE Micro Grant Funds.
- Since 1 November two payments have been made - £35 for the purchase of a Poppy Wreath and £500 from the Micro Grant Fund for Christmas Lights.

4) Statutory Items for Community Council to note and discuss.

a) Planning updates – new and O/S applications

- Crubenbeg Farm Steading – Outstanding with no new documents on portal.
- Cluny Castle – Padel Court and Canopy – retrospective permission requested. CNPA no objection.
- Glenshero Wind Farm – Public Enquiry took place “on line” 10-13th Nov and 17/18th. Archive available.
- Cloiche Wind Farm: no response visible yet from SNH/CNPA/HC
- Emergency Services Telephone Mast – due south of Moy Lodge on Ardverkie Estate.

b) Licensing update - none

c) Roads update – A889 update – Dalwhinnie Bridge Repairs. A889 re-opened, but full closure requested from Nov 23 – 25 inclusive, to complete resurfacing works and installation of permanent traffic lights. Awaiting approval from Transport Scotland. Community to be advised of this once confirmed.

d) Report from Public Sector Agencies

- **Police report.** No new cases for the area reported.
- **NHS report.** None
- **Highland Council - Amenities**
- Safer Routes Response. Still no response from HC (since initial July 7 email and recent follow up email). PH to investigate and suggest alternative contact?
- Good news about removal of dumped car in Laggan layby and Waste Management team's responsiveness to clearing of fly-tipping and rubbish at Pattack.
- Additional dumping of black bags on A889 past Halfway House noted. PH suggested reporting to Police. GS reported fly tipping on Ben Alder land.
- **Education** – no response. New Headteacher Sarah Fraser to be contacted re possible SSE Covid funding for Chrome Books at Gergask

5) Laggan Public Toilet – no progress to resolve present septic tank situation reported. Awaiting quotations. Comments made that smell in area continues. No progress either on potential transfer of Toilet building to LCT.

6) Community Development/Action Plan

- Connecting Laggan Paths/Trails – at the final stages of the feasibility 1 study with Sustrans.
- Village Amenity – working hard on Christmas lights. GS reported that funds for planter flower replenishment is running low. CM to email Sean Malone at HC to enquire about future plant supply plans and planting for May/June 21.

7) Other Questions/contributions from the members of public present – none.

8) Any other agenda items:

a) Fire Alarms Safety leaflet – CM. Matter raised by concerned resident on receipt of marketing leaflet from AICO purporting to have sanction from Scottish Government. Issue is that all properties (homeowners and landlords) will require to have an “interlinked” fire alarm system installed by February 2021. Leaflet is misleading.

PH reported a delay in the legal implementation until Feb. 2022, but was reassuring that the process of compliance is straightforward and not costly, using Bluetooth. LCC may have a future role to communicate process to residents.

b) Native Woodlands plan – CM. Premier Woodlands on behalf of Ardverikie Estate has issued a pre formal consultation for native woodland creation proposals along the River Pattack. These are complex. CM to follow up with Phil Lloyd.

c) Core Paths at Pattack discussion – CM. Forestry and Land Scotland (FLS) is proposing:

- to remove a core path at Pattack – the yellow trail. Consultation with community members has shown that this is vigorously opposed and seen as a backwards step at a time when Core Paths need expansion.
- to improve way-marking and the route to Druim an Aird – this is seen as a long overdue necessity. There is a responsibility to re-instate paths disrupted by felling, to maintain paths and ensure that adequate signage is provided.
- To rename the car park – Pattack Falls, Druim an Aird ruins – this is seen as a good idea
- Other local bodies to be asked their views on this – CMNNR (LM)
- PH said that HC is firmly for the extension and promotion of the core paths network.

d) Scotrail Train timetable change – CM. Scotrail is removing 4 trains between Inverness and Edinburgh from the timetable because of Covid travel restrictions and a huge reduction in passenger numbers. PH suggested that this is a temporary reduction.

9) Proposed Date and time of next meeting – next meeting scheduled for **Monday January 18th 2021** at 1900. The planned December meeting is cancelled.

Date of Draft Minutes
17th November 2020

Approved at LCC meeting on 18th January 2021

Residents may intimate topics for the Community Council to discuss by contacting chairlcc@laggan.com or secretarylcc@laggan.com