

Laggan Community Council – Ordinary Meeting

Meeting 15 – 2021 19th July

Via Zoom @ 1900

Approved Minutes

1. Attendees present: Chair Colin Morgan (CM) Vice Chair Mignonne Khazaka (MK) Treasurer Gordon Stirling (GS) Secretary Amanda Gallagher (AG) Lauren Hendry (LH); Minute secretary Karen Thew (KT) Highland Councilor - Muriel Cockburn (MC); Apologies noted from Bill Lobban. Also in attendance: Jonathan Hart (JH) representing Jahama Estates

Meeting declared quorate. Chair welcomed and thanked KT for agreeing to be minute secretary for LCC meetings.

Extra items for agenda: Jahama Estate update; Motor Cyclist issues; “Beware of Goat” signs (A86); Village Water capacity.

Jahama Update: Confirmed won funding from Nature Scotland and now advertising 3 Seasonal FT visitor/customer facing posts with one assigned to GlenShero Estate. To be shared with Laggan Community Facebook page.

- Confirmed support for Badenoch Great Place Festival 18-25 September 2021 with Walks around GlenShero to show reclamation and biodiversity works.
- Current concerns: No. of visitors, additional waste, wild camping, bothy break-ins and substantial fire risk. Signage is to be placed on the estate emphasising the present high fire risk. Advised that Melgarve Bothy on the estate will remain closed in line with present SG guidance. Jahama participates at a weekly “visitor issues” meeting coordinated for various agencies by Highland Council.

Following update JH left the meeting.

2. Approval of draft minutes LCC meeting 13 – 14th June 2021

Proposed: MK Seconded GS. Approved unanimously without amendment.

Matters arising:

Village noticeboard – MK advised that land ownership question still unresolved. Awaiting HC Property group to return calls. **Action - MK to copy email MC.**

Extension of Bus Route 40/Transport to New Hospital – plans for new ‘hospital bus’ not yet under discussion. CM reported that chair of Transport group for hospital had recently demitted and Bill Lobban was temporarily in chair. Unlikely that any extension of existing public bus service to Laggan would occur as Stagecoach contract runs out in 18 months. MC suggested contact with GP locality meeting to request if Laggan requirement had been tabled for transport to new hospital. **Action - MC to raise at progress meeting mid Aug and advise LCC.** Community Transport (Maggies Bus) - to be pre booked and currently accommodates 4 passengers only; cost to use potentially prohibitive [http://www.ct4u.co.uk/about-us/about-us- to add link to Community Contacts page \(CM\).](http://www.ct4u.co.uk/about-us/about-us- to add link to Community Contacts page (CM).)

September Newsletter: AG reported that she and Jill Warner are meeting in the next week to start preparations with inputs to requested from local organisations by 14th August especially “summer photos” of the area.

3. Financial report – Treasurer

The balance on the Current Account is £8843.96 following receipt of an Amenity Grant for £400 from CNPA and £438.30 from The Highland Council as our Annual Grant. This figure includes £5000 ring-fenced to the SSE Covid-19 Fund and £1590.11 for the SSE Micro-Grants. Our Available Funding is therefore £1853.85 excluding the SSE ring-fenced funding and the Grant Funding from Cairngorm National Park.

Action - Bank account signatory resolution to be followed up - GS

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

a) Planning updates – Nothing new to report.

b) Licensing update – Nothing new to report.

c) Roads – Updates for A86 and A889.

i) A86 at Creag Dhu – investigation works 25-28th July inclusive – night-time closure – local access only – no through access allowed ii) Plans for closures at Cluny Farm and Strathmashie House on A86 had been intimated for w/b 15th August. **N.B. After meeting, these plans were advised to have been postponed to end September. In addition, the Creag Dhu investigation may result in a resurfacing closure starting 29th August for 5 nights.** lii) A889 – 3 sets of road re-surfacing works intimated for mid to late September 2021 north of railbridge at Dalwhinnie to Catlodge. Confirmation and official consultation letters are awaited. **CM to chase for update.** Iv) **HC Local Roads** No Communication about local road closures/road resurfacing at Balgowan and Glentruim. MC agreed that it was poor. Noted that HC roads team had now apologised.

d) Public Sector Agencies – no Police report provided. Concern expressed about on-going motor bike issue in area. GS/CM to liaise with local police contacts.

e) Highland Council –

- no update yet on Safer Routes – (20mph)
- Kingussie recycling centre opening times - MC has asked for clarity on Granish/Kingussie plans. MC to follow up at local B&S area committee to note concerns from 3 communities – Laggan, Newtonmore and Dalwhinnie.
- Waste Management bins – a weekly uplift of the village bin was expected with the additional funds received. MC agreed to follow up. The village bin continues to be fully filled each week during the summer months.
- Campervan Waste Disposal - Nearest potential site is situated in Kingussie - Details to be confirmed. Also noted that CNPA rangers had advised that Public Toilet should not be used for CV waste and suggested that signs should be removed. CM to advise LCH. CNPA also have an app available to indicate available campervan waste disposal sites.
- Gaelic Medium Schooling: following representations received from NVCC about the present plans, MC clarified the present HC position that Gaelic medium is at capacity and that there was to be a public meeting in late August to discuss future proposals. LCC was unable to comment further.
- Highland Council has appointed a Community Support Co-ordinator in response to the recent COVID resilience activities. Intention is to cement permanent local community response network.

5. Community Development/Action Plan - Updates on priority projects.

- “Connecting Laggan”- nothing new to report.
- Village Amenity – Planting of Summer bedding plants noted. Most of the Litter picking equipment funded from the CNPA Green Recovery fund has been acquired. Next Projects: a) Roadside litter collection at laybys on trunk roads to be planned. b) Village road-side fencing project to be specified - (Laggan Community Housing have agreed).
- Housing Project - AGM of Laggan Community Housing is planned for 18/08/21 with an update scheduled to be included. CNPA have also requested clarification of potential future developments at Strathmashie from Laggan Forest Trust per the CNPA Local Development Plan. CM to clarify with Liz Henderson (CNPA)

6) Other Questions from the members of public present. None.

7) Any other Agenda items

- Signage for goats roaming on A86 – a road safety risk. CM to contact Transport Scotland.
- Water capacity in Village. GS to contact Scottish Water (Gavin Steele) about present issues arising.
- SSE grants. SSE are to be invited to visit Laggan for conversations around future management and organisation of grants process.

- Noted that Laggan Helping Hands may be considering an SSE grant application to place more Automatic Defibrillator devices in the area.

8) Proposed Date and time of next meeting – Monday 20th September at 1900. Venue to be determined.

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

Date of Draft Minutes – 29 July 2021

Minutes Approved without amendment at LCC meeting on 20th Sept 21.