

Laggan Community Council - Ordinary Meeting
Meeting 1 – held in Laggan Village Hall at 18.30 on 20th August 2018

APPROVED MINUTES

Present – Chair: Colin Morgan, Vice-Chair Mignonne Khazaka, Treasurer Liz MacFarlan, Secretary Sheena Slimon, Annette Reavley, Apologies noted : Jo Cumming.
In attendance - Cllr Pippa Hadley, Apologies - Cllr Muriel Cockburn
Attendees from Community - 18 in total.

1) Chair declared meeting quorate

Declaration of Interests for agenda items - Community Councilors – Nil

2) Approval of Minute of Establishment 2nd July 2018 noting appointment of Officers and other community councilors.

It was noted by the Chair, for the benefit of Community attendees, that as the Council could have 8 elected members, 2 more community members may be co-opted and there is an established mechanism for such nominations. Council would consider any Co-Opting applications at subsequent meetings.

It was clarified that Community Council Elections are held every 4 years in Highland Region and the next cycle for ALL Community Councils will be in November 2019 when anyone on the electoral roll in Laggan may stand for election.

Each Councilor introduced themselves to those present.

3) Financial Report – There was no requirement for a written report. The Treasurer explained the tedious process undertaken to open a Bank Account with RBS and advised the meeting that it was almost complete. It was noted that application for an on-line banking facility and a Debit Card had been made. The first Highland Council Grant for running the affairs of the Council will be £438.30p

4) Resolution to Adopt the Model Constitution the Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils in Highland – APPROVED. The following objectives for LAGGAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL, as set by Highland Council, were noted;

- a) to ascertain, co-ordinate and reflect the views of the community which it represents, to liaise with other community groups within the area, and to fairly express the diversity of opinions and outlooks of the people;
- b) to express the views of the community to The Highland Council to public authorities and other organisations;
- c) to take such action in the interests of the community as appears to be desirable and practicable;
- d) to promote the well-being of the community and to foster community spirit;
- e) to be a means whereby the people of the area shall be able to voice their opinions on any matter affecting their lives, their welfare, their environment, its development and

amenity.

5) **Resolution** to Adopt the Community Council Standing Orders – APPROVED

6) **Resolution** to Adopt Code of Conduct for all Community Councilors. From a comment made from a member of the public attending, it was noted that the code may be accessed from the Highland Council Website scheme for Community Councils.

Model Constitution and Standing Orders duly signed by relevant officers.

7) **Future Meetings** – it was agreed that Laggan Community Council will meet on the 3rd Monday of every month.

8) Statutory Items - Chair re-affirmed the statutory items that the Council will review at each meeting where relevant - Planning Applications, Licensing Applications, Roads & Transport update, Any Reports from Public Sector Agencies.

a) Roads - Annette Reavley agreed to be lead councilor for Roads/Transport Issue and gave a brief resume on her dealings with BEAR and state of A86 & A889. It was also noted that LCC will assume responsibility from LCA for the consultation process for A9 dualing and for the outstanding consultation complaint. Council to explore future contract plans for Transport Scotland Trunk Roads maintenance – believed to be soon.

b) Planning – Sheena Slimon agreed to be lead councilor on Planning applications – noted that the plans for the new hospital in Aviemore had been lodged and called in by the National Park. Transport was noted to be an unresolved issue and Cllr Hadley suggested a specific response be submitted from the Council – ***Secretary to investigate further***

c) On public sector agency reports, Cllr Hadley noted that LCC could ask for any Agency to attend to help with a relevant report and discussion.

9) Meeting with SSE (Stronelaig Wind Farm development) - 25th July 2018.

Chair gave a background report. With LCC formally constituted, SSE made an offer to include LAGGAN in the Community Benefit Scheme coming from the Stronelaig Wind Farm. SSE had advised that they expected CB funds to be available early in 2019. For LAGGAN, the proposal was: first 3 years an amount of £46,925 per annum, thereafter £56,925 for next 22 years and index-linked to CPI. As the provider of the Benefit Fund, SSE have indicated some strict criteria and guidelines for use of the funds to ensure future community sustainability. A Joint Panel with other communities benefitting from fund is likely to be set up, with the LCC still to finalise a decision on whether to join or not. The other option available from SSE is for Laggan to set up its own administration process for applications to the fund, also guided by SSE.

10) Community Engagement with SIMEC & RES/ABUNDANCE

Council noted that RES/ABUNDANCE were continuing to inform the community of their wind farm development plans at a drop-in and meeting in the Village Hall on 23rd August. All were encouraged to attend.

11) Community Consultation event 23/08/18 – to start process to update 2011 Community Development Plan. The council noted the above meeting was taking place and encouraged all to attend.

Questions from members of the community about this event were tabled and noted for future use by the Council as it embarks on preparing a longer term Community Development plan. It was clarified by Councilor Hadley that any decisions on future priorities for the Community would be a matter for the Community to determine with the LCC enabling the on-going discussions.

Specifically the preparation of a Vision for the Future of the Community – its “personality” - were noted.

12) Any other business and Questions/Contributions from the public present.

Ensuring that Community Council is accessible and contactable: The chair explained that dedicated e-mail addresses for office bearers (Chair, Treasurer and Secretary) had not yet been able to be set-up, but expected progress by the time of the next meeting. Any and all other possible communication forums will be explored by the Council at future meetings.

Wind-Farm comment: An opportunity for Council to be appraised of the issue of noise from wind-farms was offered by a resident attending. For follow-up at subsequent meetings.

13) Date of Next meeting – Monday 17th September at 1830 in Laggan Village Hall.

It was confirmed that the 3rd Monday of each month would be the planned date of all Laggan Community Council meetings. A request was made from a resident attending to consider a later start time.

Chair thanked all members of the Community for attending and their contributions and then closed the meeting at 2045.

Colin S. Morgan
Chair
Laggan Community Council

Approved
17th September 2018