

Laggan Community Council - Ordinary Meeting

Meeting 4 – 19th November 2018

Laggan Village Hall @ 1830

APPROVED Minutes

1) Attendees present – Chair: Colin Morgan (CM), Vice Chair; Mignonne Khazaka (MK), Treasurer; Liz Macfarlan (LM) Secretary; Sheena Slimon(SS), Jo Cumming (JC). In attendance - Councilor Muriel Cockburn (MC). Members of the community 4 – Apologies noted – Councilor Pippa Hadley. Declaration of Interests of Community Councilors – MK will declare an interest at the planning & licensing part of discussion and will leave the meeting.

2) Approval of Draft minutes of meeting 3 held on 15th October 2018 – Proposed MK, seconded LM – approved without amendment.

Matters arising not on the agenda.

SSE Melgarve Development update - A meeting with site management has been arranged for next meeting on Dec 17th – confirmed for **6pm**. Questions re project timelines, noise and works vehicles on glen road to be tabled. Mike Butterworth Site Manager & Gary Donlin SSE Community Liaison Manager to attend.

Speyside Way Extension – Council supported continuing to press for Laggan's inclusion in the extension to and marketing of the Way. MC suggested contact with David Clyne CNPA (Active Cairngorm) to progress matters. CM to contact Liz Henderson at CNPA.

Wind Farm Developments. CM to contact Liz Henderson at CNPA re Community Benefit schemes negotiations.

3) Financial report – Update from Treasurer – awaiting o/s invoices from Laggan Hall. Noted importance of having all hall invoices paid via LCC to ensure that all relevant running costs of CC are recorded. No cash movements since last meeting. Digital access to RBS account still pending.

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

a) **Planning update** – Glenshero Wind Farm – CC Consultation response extension agreed to 30th November. Chair to prepare draft letter of response to include base line noise assessment request prior to construction, if consented. Highland Council response to SG set at 28th January. Council made aware of 2 individual objections (noise and visibility) and 1 other community council objection (primarily traffic disruption). Other planning applications outstanding noted at Balgowan for a static caravan and Melgarve for a 11KV pylon line – to clarify if over or underground.

b) **Licensing update** – Strathmashie House Planning & License application – MK left the meeting. Change of use for two rooms within Strathmashie House to allow them to be used as licensed premises for private use. Request supported by Community Council. MK returned to meeting.

c) **Roads update** – A9 dualing consultation – Council discussed merits of any additional response and determined that it was probably futile given historical response to LCA and that compulsory purchase order process for planned route had commenced. SS noted a winter maintenance request from HC e.g. possible additional grit bins. SS to contact Ian Reid & MC to contact Richard Porteous re non trunk road winter clearance. Last year's local HC contractor had left the area.

d) **Public Sector Agencies** – NHS - Broader Transport question connecting Laggan to Strath and new Hospital to be explored with G.Rimmel. MC advised

concern expressed in other communities re lack of café provision at new Aviemore hospital. SS to contact Kingussie CC and send a similar response. Police – Noted that businesses in Laggan had been advised of fake £50 notes in circulation.

e) **Review of Community Council Scheme of Operation.** Meeting thanked SS for agreeing to attend the first consultation meeting of the review soon. Issue of funding grants for Council especially those in start-up mode - to be reinforced.

5) To note and record official resignation of councilor – Annette Reavley. Council accepted with regret and thanked her. Council was pleased to note agreement by Lauren Hendry as a possible nominee to be co-opted onto council and will formalize this at next meeting. All Councilors to explore one more co-optee.

6) Community Development Plan – next steps – brief received from VABS. Some clarification required between brief presented and expectations from last meeting. Next steps and possible timelines: Advise all Laggan Groups and request a representative – December; Steering group to meet – January – VABS to chair. Encourage wider community participation and VABS to coordinate and collate their inputs– February/March. A “big conversation” – April. Final report – May.

7) SSE Stronelaig Community Investment Fund - to note establishment of Fund Panel/Community Members – Local Members noted to be Kelly Wainwright, Stuart Lilley, James Macfarlan, Valerie Macpherson with CC member to rotate between CM and MK. SSE is drafting a Memorandum of Understanding between SSE and CC for **a period of 3 years**. Already agreed that SSE will administer funds and applications for grants on behalf of 3 community councils. SSE will only administer grants >£500 and up to £10000 and delegate the “micro grant” process to CC for applications up to £500. All application processes to be explained at a public meeting for all in January.

Local Groups looking for “large grant” funding should meet 3 criteria – a legal Constitution, a formal set of accounts/bank account and an approved charitable or not for profit purpose. SSE will publish guidelines that they would NOT support.

It was agreed that Laggan's SSE Panel Members and LCC itself will agree a local process to decide on the small grant process and how many times a year to meet.

SSE intend to launch the whole scheme in December – 14th noted as possible date. SSE to draft an agreement for Laggan in years 4-25 years agreement

8) Communication / Engagement to community: Acknowledged to be a continuing challenge – no Website presence yet; notice Boards to be explored – CM to discuss options with CNPA liaison officer and Cairngorm Business Partnership who host Boat of Garten website.

9) Other Questions/contributions from the public present – A community member requested clarification of the activities of the Friends of Laggan Medical Practice account. Not considered to be a CC matter but secretary offered to investigate.

10) Proposed Date and time of next meeting – 17th December 2018 at **1800** to accommodate attendance by SSE Melgarve personnel at LAGGAN VILLAGE HALL to be followed by festive refreshments.

Approved at Community Council meeting of 17th December 2018