

## Laggan Community Council - Ordinary Meeting

Meeting 7 – 18th February 2019

Laggan Village Hall @ 18:30

**APPROVED Minutes (by e-mail circulation March 6<sup>th</sup> as no meeting scheduled on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019)**

**1) Attendees:** Chair Colin Morgan (CM), Vice-Chair Mignonne Khazaka (MK), Treasurer Liz MacFarlan (LM), Jo Cumming (JC), Lauren Hendry (LH)

In attendance: Cllr Pippa Hadley (PH); Minute secretary: Elspeth Rae (ER)

**Apologies received:** Cllr Muriel Coburn

2 members of public present

**Meeting declared quorate**

**Declaration of interests:** Jo Cumming – planning application

**AOCB:** Resignation of Sheena Slimon as councillor and secretary of LCC.

**AOCB:** Renewal of village planters

**2) Approval of Draft minutes** of meeting 6 held on 21st January 2019

Proposed LM, seconded LH, - Approved without amendment. CM to distribute to THC.

**Matters arising:**

- Feedback from CM on Active Travel meeting (13/02/19) with David Clyne (CNPA)

Communicated plans from Kingussie (Ruthven Barracks to cycle route), Aviemore (hospital access), Dulnain Bridge (general connectivity). Funding from Sustrans is available for 1<sup>st</sup> stage – feasibility and 2<sup>nd</sup> stage – detailed design.

For Laggan, 2007-8 plan for connecting path from Gorstea to village being re-explored by Laggan Forest Trust.

- Meeting with Kate Forbes (MSP) still outstanding – understood to be 11<sup>th</sup> March.
- Exploration of EV charging points by CM

Still outstanding, question was raised to add charging points for electric bikes to any investigation.

- Badenoch & Strathspey community partnership meeting noted 4 or 5 new attendees.
- Stronelairg MOU for years 1-3 signed & cheque for £5000 received and banked, awaiting micro-grant proposals. First meeting of local panel March 14<sup>th</sup>
- SSE Stronelairg Agreement for Community Benefit Funds for years 4 – 25 still awaited.
- Micro-grant application process – now in place. LCC to communicate that application process is open – to be undertaken via Laggan Community Facebook page initially – action LM
- Laggan Community Development Plan - steering group invitations sent out by VABS to chairs of all groups in Laggan – suggested date for meeting still to be at end Feb/beginning March. CM to discuss further with VABS. CM to represent LCC.
- Laggan.com website: Investigations into laggan.com administration are still ongoing.
- Residents' email list

CM and LM worked on amalgamation of lists as detailed previously. JC to supply a distribution list and tourism related list (used for “Laggan Walks” leaflet distribution). Noted that businesses/estates seemed to be under-represented on existing e-mail lists.

**3) Financial report** – from Treasurer

Balance in account to date £1379.80 + £5000 from SSE “restricted use” namely provision of 2019 SSE micro-grants  
LM recommended NOT pursuing an interest paying bank account with only 0.2% being paid.

**4) Statutory Items for Community Council to note.**

**a) Planning update**

**Noted:** JC declaration of interest on submitted planning application.

None of outstanding planning applications have been called in by CNPA. Planning applications reviewed for December, January and February to date were duly noted. Only the SSE Melgarve proposal requires follow up re “Continued use of temporary compound until July 2020 and to request exit strategy for compound”. ACTION CM.

**b) Licensing update** – none – noted that Strathmashie House Application was being reviewed at the Licensing committee on 19/02/19 and *post meeting*, noted that Secy had sent a supportive letter to the Licensing Authority.

### **c) Roads update**

**A889/A86 update** – state of trunk roads around Laggan to be addressed in meeting on 11/03/19 with K. Forbes (MSP) and Transport Scotland.

**A86 closure** – 18/03/19 till 29/03/19, 7am to 5pm Mon to Fri from Balgowan to Cluny. Signalled official diversion (via Dalwhinnie) and potential unofficial diversion will affect Glentruim road, local businesses and school transport. CM to follow up. Local business may contact BEAR re potential loss of business. Notice had been hand delivered to some residents on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February.

### **d) Report from Public Sector Agencies – NHS, Police, Fire**

No items of significance at recent Badenoch & Strathspey Community Partnership meeting. New police contact [vincent.tough@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:vincent.tough@scotland.pnn.police.uk).

### **e) Highland Council/Community Council Scheme Updates**

Noted that THC will continue to have a difficult budget settlement for 2019/20.

Community Council Scheme review on going; new scheme will be in place in time for CC elections in November.

### **5) SSE Stronelairg Community Benefit Fund**

a) Update on “local process” for micro-grants - Treasurer

LCC communication about micro-grant processes to be made in Splash (link to SSE site with explanatory letter). In short term Laggan Community Facebook page will be explored to disseminate information. LM to action.

### **6) Community Development Plan**

Steering group meeting date still outstanding – still targeting end Feb/beginning March. CM to contact VABS.

### **7) AOCB - Governance**

Council noted the resignation of Sheena Slimon as a community councillor and secretary. This was noted with sadness and sincere thanks to Sheena for her considerable efforts in establishing the Community Council originally. CM will formally advise Ward Manager of Highland Council.

CC formally passed a resolution to remove SS as signatory on bank account, and add MK. LM to follow up with RBS.

Under the terms of the Community Council constitution there appeared no requirement to fill the position of secretary until the next elections.

Noted that LCC can co-opt one further member to committee to help ensure that future meetings will be quorate.

**a) LCA Special Meeting update.** – CM was the only member of the CC in attendance. The tabled resolution was not voted on. LCA committee will be reviewing how to move forward with formation of SCIO or any alternative options.

### **b) Communications/Website update.**

Boat of Garten and Stratherrick websites studied as potential templates for Laggan community council website. Remarked that in short term information can be posted on existing [laggan.com](http://laggan.com) website but could also develop [laggan.eu](http://laggan.eu) website. Webmaster of [laggan.com](http://laggan.com) website to be contacted.

Noted that some CCs publish draft minutes on websites shortly after meetings but LCC understood that only approved minutes should be posted. PH agreed with this interpretation.

### **8) Other questions/contributions from the members of public present.**

#### **Planters at entrance to, and in the village.**

It was noted that the planters were originally provided by Highland Council and are currently in poor condition. HC usually provide plants in June. It was noted that replacement of actual planters by HC would be a low priority.

Idea discussed of replacing planters with new Laggan branded planters which could be placed at various sites around the wider Laggan community – to be costed. (JC and Gordon Stirling)

CM to contact SSE with view to contributing towards new planters given recent lorry damage to an existing one.

#### **“Laggan Walks maps”**

JC reported that 3000 copies of leaflets were received from CNPA to be distributed to and by tourist-linked organisations and businesses. JC outlined history of the walks leaflet creation. The physical maintenance of walks and signposting on an annual basis has been done voluntarily in the past. This has not happened in the past 2 years and it has been noted that some of the physical infrastructure does need to be reviewed and updated. For further discussion.

### **9) Date and time of next LCC meeting - 15/04/19 @ 18:30**

The planned date of 18th March 2019 will NOT take place due to councillors’ holiday and business commitments. It was agreed that any ratification of the SSE micro-grant panel recommendations taking place on 14<sup>th</sup> March would be by intra-LCC email.

Residents may intimate topics for the Community Council to discuss by contacting [chairlaggancc@laggan.eu](mailto:chairlaggancc@laggan.eu) or [secretarylaggancc@laggan.eu](mailto:secretarylaggancc@laggan.eu)