

Laggan Community Council - Ordinary Meeting

Meeting 9 – 20th May 2019

Laggan Village Hall @ 1830

Approved Minutes

1) Attendees: Chair Colin Morgan (CM), Treasurer Liz MacFarlan (LM), Lauren Hendry (LH), Elspeth Rae (ER), Cllr Pippa Hadley (PH)

Minute secretary: Elspeth Rae

Apologies received: Mignonne Khazaka, Jo Cumming, Cllr Muriel Coburn, John Bruce

4 members of community present

Meeting declared quorate

Declaration of Interests: none

2) Approval of minutes of meeting 8 – Proposed LM, seconded LH.

Review of Action Log

- EV & e-bike charging points – no update
- Updated LCC mailing list - LCA to advise community that LCC will assume responsibility for Residents' email list after LCA meeting on May 29th.
- Signatories on LCC bank account - problems to add MK so 2 signatories until November elections.
- Roads – see item 4c) following
- Highland Council/Community Council scheme update - see item 4e) following
- Draft SSE Community Benefit Fund MOU (years 4 – 25) - outstanding
- laggan.com website - awaiting technical solution from Plexus (CM).
- Rubbish bin replacement - in progress (PH)
- Laggan cemetery – HC advised that there is sufficient space for single lairs in the cemetery. Matter referred to Church for any on-going discussion. LCC has replied to original enquiry to this effect.

3) Financial:

Update from Treasurer - Current balance: £5265.30 of which £4038 is “restricted” to SSE local Micro Grant use, leaving unrestricted funds of £1227.30. 2018/19 Accounts audited and will be signed off at AGM, then sent to HC Ward Manager after AGM.

Xmas light funding changes – PH advised that HC had decided to no longer fund Xmas light installation & removal for all. 2018 cost for Laggan was £907.51. In 2019 this service will now be payable by community - approx. £750. Formal details still to be advised. Noted that in future years, HC will undertake a tendering process for such installations. Many communities install Xmas lighting themselves (not Laggan), and HC will now charge a connection, disconnection and safety check cost. Also, Xmas trees will no longer be supplied by HC. Communities would have to make own arrangements if required. CM to write to LCA as part of possible dissolution funds process.

LCC has also proposed taking on responsibility for LCA's Richardson Memorial Fund though felt that sales of Dr Richardson's books should remain with Laggan Heritage. **See also 7) following.**

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

a) Planning update: LCC asked to comment on application for conversion of an existing residential house to staff accommodation/HMO at Laggan Hotel. CC has no reason to object. CM to respond.

Noted that a SG consultation on short-term lets had been received. Not considered relevant by CC for Laggan area.

b) Licensing update: none

c) Roads update– A86: there may have been some infilling along edges, but not sufficient. Noted that “slow” markings have not been done. PH and CM will contact Transport Scotland again.

A889 – Noted that repair works tentatively posted on Bear interactive planning map for summer months have been removed. TS is now considering widening road from Catlodge to Laggan so carriageway unlikely to be repaired in short term. Promised consultation with landowners has not yet occurred. CC will express urgency of repairs on A889, asking for project time lines, and encourage TS to progress consultation re proposed widening in face of concerns about project time scale.

Timber lorries/General traffic speed: discussion of whether a police speed trap would be more effective than a weight restriction on causeway section of road. CM to contact Vince Tough (police) to explore options.

d) Report from Public Sector Agencies – NHS, Police, Fire: none

e) H.C./Community Council Scheme - Consultation Response: reviewed document circulated by CM. LCC found the following 8 proposals broadly acceptable:

Any CC member who moves can stay till next Interim Election or Election; co-opted members can allow CC to continue and not go into abeyance; max number of co-opted members to increase to 4; CC able to offer non-voting associate membership to constituted local groups and under 16s; 2 additional 2-year places with full voting rights for 14 – 18 year olds, if not co-opted; possibility of postal and/or electronic ballot in elections if available and cost effective; declaration of interest to be stated at start of each meeting (nb: LCC already does this); core grant recommended with extra for rural communities.

However, LCC expressed concern that extra time, training and funding would be necessary before taking on additional statutory consultation responsibilities in fields such as adult health & social care, policing and environmental issues. CM to provide response.

5) Community Development/Action Plan: noted Community Survey is in circulation and also available on laggan.com. LCC will remind people about completing survey while encouraging attendance at “Big Conversation” event scheduled for June 12th at 7pm using Laggan Community Facebook page.

“Big Conversation” = filtering of ideas by importance to community, building on previous LCA meeting in August 2018, prior to developing a Community Action Plan.

LM to contact LCA re event planning & CM to contact VABS to check situation.

6) Noted: SSE CB fund large grant award to Badenoch Broadband Company.

Next mini-grant panel meeting Thursday 13th June, applications by end May. LM and Stuart Lilley will promote on Laggan Community Facebook page.

7) LCC Communications/Website: LCC have volunteered to take on responsibility for laggan.com, residents’ email and “Splash”. This will be subject to being accepted at LCA meeting on 29th May, and by Charity Commission Regulator.

8) Other questions/contributions from the members of public present and other matters:

- Concerns raised about speeding vehicles along village roads, and Glen Road. CM to contact craig.irvine@highland.gov.uk Currently 20 mph signs outside village hall. Suggestion to bring to entrance of village.
- 75th anniversary of VE day on weekend of 8/5/2020 (Fri 8th- Sat 9th – Sun 10th). Communities are being encouraged to consider how they will mark this occasion.
- New £11.5m Scottish Government fund opened for applications for investing in Communities, deadline Friday 14th June. Possibility once priorities identified in Community Plan.
- Highland Council CC network meeting Saturday June 8th, taking place in Inverness – CM to book 2 places for anyone from CC to attend.

• **9) Proposed Date and time of next meeting:** AGM – 17th June 2019 at 18:30

As indicated in CC Scheme, office bearers need to be re-elected at AGM.

Residents may intimate other topics for the Community Council to discuss by contacting chairlaggancc@laggan.eu or secretarylaggancc@laggan.eu

Minutes Approved at LCC meeting 10 – 17th June 2019.