

Draft Minutes

Laggan CC – Ordinary Meeting No. 19.

16th February 2025 - 18:30 Laggan Village Hall

1. Attendees: Alison Armstrong, Amanda Gallagher, Cath Hamill, Valerie Macpherson, Karen Thew, Kenny Deans (CNPA), Donald Cowan, David Narro, Hazel Narro.

Apologies: A Todd, K Fletcher, M Khazaka, R Jones (THC)

2. Approval of Minutes December 2025. Nominated AG, Seconded CH

3. Matters Arising and Actions from previous meeting

Round table meeting 24 Feb – Holyrood Community Council Convention. It is a round table event the purpose of which is to bring together delegates from the 3 conventions which have been held across Scotland. Cllr Helen Crawford will chair the meeting. The opportunity was offered to CC members at this meeting with no uptake. It is felt that given the format of the meeting attended by KT and AG in Inverness we would not be given an opportunity to speak. AG will respond and express our support but advise that we can't attend.

4. Loch Earba Pump Hydro Storage Update

No update available for this meeting. However, we have had information that an annual ski meeting held in the area to be developed may not next year. This is in line with previous information we have received about anticipated project commencement date.

5. Financial Report

Treasurer report Laggan Community Council

1 December 2025–31 January 2026. Prepared by C. Hamill

<i>Previous bank balance: £5387.12</i>	£	£	£
	Previous sub-totals	+/- since previous meeting	
Council funds:	128.04		
Highland Council Annual Grant		+438.30	566.34
Lottery licence		-20	546.34
Balance Subtotal			546.34
Ringfenced:			
SSE Micro Grant Fund	2708.01		
Laggan Hall hire After Dark Club November (2 x 1.5 hours)		-30	2678.01
Balance Subtotal			2678.01
SSE Student Grant Fund	2500		
Student Grant 18 December	500	-0	2000
Balance Subtotal			2000
CNPA funds (environmental/litter projects)	51.07	0	51.07
Balance Subtotal			51.07
Current bank balance (546.34+2678.01+2000+51.07)			5275.42

6. Laggan Community Action Plan - Active Travel/Connecting Laggan, CNPA (Cairngorms 2030), Christmas Lights, Village Amenity Group, Public Toilet

- **Laggan Community Development Trust - progress report.** LCDT has held several meetings since obtaining charitable status. The board of Trustees is now in place: Angus Armstrong (Chair), Patrick Gallagher (Treasurer), Karen Thew (Secretary) Amanda Gallagher, Nathan Grant, Tony Groom. There have been meetings with SSE and Foundation Scotland to discuss management of Community funding and management. Work to set up a bank account is ongoing. There will be series of “launch events” from March through to summer. Membership drive has commenced with a leaflet drop. VM advises that there are three new households within Creag Dhu and she has kindly agreed to distribute leaflets to them.
- **Active travel- Community Connections** Dalwhinnie CC members have applied to be minibus drivers for the Community Connections minibus. We have members and resident who are already engaged in the Connections car scheme.
- **CNPA – 2030 Panel Fund (request for applicants)** Paid positions across the National Park, applications for these positions close next week. Information has been distributed on Facebook and info@laggan email.
Any funds granted from the 2030 CNPA fund must be spent within 2 years of receiving.
- **Christmas Lights** – KT to email Highland Council to ascertain that we are on the forthcoming “budget list” for upgraded lampposts to house next year's lights
- **Paths update – park redevelopment/planters** No progress with Dalwhinnie representative Jen Dickinson and CNPA representative Adam Streeter-Smith in respect of reinstating the Old Drovers Road between Feagour and Dalwhinnie. Cristian Pizarro (LFT) is currently preparing a path audit and the report is imminent, he has apologised for the delay. The report will detail where the short/med/long term plans lie. D Narro (LFT) advised the meeting that plans remain very dependent upon landowners and stressed that it is vitally important to keep them updated and informed prior to any proposals.
Routes on FLS land: there is a mid-management change over in early March, so things won't move until the new person fully takes over. Routes that are within the Core Path Strategy will need to be addressed by FLS, although they are likely to say they won't have any money, then up to us to raise funds and arrange permission with FLS. Within these paths, Drum an Aird is a good example, which is included in the audit with some recommendations to improve the downhill boggy section among others. information being made public.
LFT are seeking volunteers for a paths restoration group. Kingussie paths group have offered an open invitation for us to go to one of their meetings to observe how they work.
Play park and pond area is in hand, a consultant has been engaged and community involvement will be requested.
The park and pond area is an ongoing project for which there is a consultant engaged. We will keep you informed of all plans and works.
Village planters – the summer bedding plants have been ordered although they will not be delivered for some months. Please get in touch if you can offer any help when the time comes.
Commitments for potential improvement works and future maintenance will most likely need to be adopted by the new Development Trust at some point, and the paths group are considering how to make a smooth transition when the time is right
- **Toilet** The comfort scheme from the Highland Council is up for renewal at the end of March. Currently managed by the Church of Laggan and Newtonmore, the LCC will take over the running of the scheme at renewal. Paperwork for the scheme is underway. SSE funding is required and agreed as previously discussed. CH was asked to pay a shortfall in the shortfall from SSE funds.

- **Resilience/Emergency Plan** CH has put together a preliminary draft and has shared with people who expressed interest in assisting in the preparation of this document at the last meeting. Next step is to consult with a wider group of stakeholders (landowners, church, hall HH etc) before splitting it to create a public-facing document and a document for use by a Resilience Committee (to be established).

7. Statutory Items for Community Council to note and discuss

a. Planning Applications Update

25/01214/Ful – Use of property as short-term letting unit -declined. (March 25)

b. New Planning Applications

25/04860.FUL Conversion and change of use to conference facility and office. 40m SW of Mains of Aberarder, Kinloch Laggan. 10 Feb for representations. Not commented

26/00049/FUL Change of use property for short-term letting unit. Old Tullochroam, Kinloch Laggan. 13 Feb for representations. Not commented

8. Licencing Update - Nothing to report.

9. Roads Ongoing - photos of A86 and A889 to be taken and sent to BEAR/Transport Scotland and where necessary The Highland Council. KT requested that anyone taking photographs at the side of any of our roads be aware of their personal safety.

10. Public Sector Nothing to report. KT/AG will visit Aviemore station and contact our local officer.

11. Highland Council

- Roads - Approved Glentruim Shared Space - 40 mph limit and blue shared space signs should be put up shortly.
- Badenoch and Strathspey transport forum have started up again last week. Next meeting is Thursday 12 March.
- *Tree at church - hopefully the meeting with church and THC. Community regeneration funding.*
- *New website – project pack – log your project in the bag and there might be some startup funding available or can sit in the “bag”*

12. AOB

Microsoft Licence. LCC cannot apply for a free MS licence (LCDT can) If needed CH proposes that licence for chair and secretary. This was approved by the meeting attendees.

Defibs – decided not to involve Community Heartbeat Trust. They did advise that it would be in order to appoint an electrician to deal with this. LCDT to discuss taking on ownership of the telephone kiosk. Helping hands will maintain it and they are part of the HC Defib network.

Potholes – Noted by residents as having been “selectively and randomly” filled in. Use the portal THC for potholes. KT to look into this and take forward.

AA found a dead wildcat in Balgowan. This was reported to Wildcat protection, and the animal has been taken to Edinburgh for analysis.

13. Date of next meeting: 23 March or 16 2026 @ Wolftrax