

CARRBRIDGE & VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON
Thursday 26th January 2017 at 7.30p.m.

Present: Andrew Kirk (Chairman), Alan Rankin (Treasurer), Bill Lobban (Councillor), Charles Miller, Robert McInnes and Alice Buttress.

In attendance: Myrtle Jones, Hamish Anderson, Alan Hope, Maria Thompson-Slaven, Iain Campbell, Marie Brown, Frank Law, Linda Jolly, David and Lynn Beange, Fiona Angella, Issy Ingles, Jeremy and Becci Badger, Karen Archer, Justin Prigmore, Heather Davidson (Minutes)

Apologies: Kate Adamson, David Ritchie, George Dyer, Jan Carlyle

Andrew Kirk welcomed all to the meeting.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 24th November, 2016 were approved by Alan Rankin and seconded by Robert McInnes.

MATTERS ARISING:

PLANNING: There are concerns regarding the building of a large house being built at Duthil where an old steading stood. David Bengé a resident of Duthil along with other residents in attendance explained that planning permission had been given for a residential house, but now the owners wish to change this to a holiday home, it also appears that another house is being built in front of the first one and the fear is this will also turn into a holiday house. The residents are up in arms about this and are very concerned about the noise levels. Andrew Kirk stated that comments and complaints should be sent to Highland Council, not as a group but send individually. David Bengé is proposing a petition sheet be placed in the village shop for whoever wishes to sign. Hamish Anderson stated that these houses turn into party houses and once they arrive Tesco arrive with a delivery and the noise commences. This he feels is a blight on the neighbourhood. He went on to say that the Big Husky Lodge is also owned by the same company. Linda Jolly added that the same problem will arise on Station Road where there are to be two large “party houses” built and she feels that this should not be allowed in a residential area. It was agreed to put in a comment by 10th February 2017. Bill Lobban took no part in this discussion.

CAPERCAILLE: Andrew Kirk introduced Justin Prigmore to give an introduction to the Capercaille Project. It appears that there is only 1000 Capercaille left in the United Kingdom and he went on to say that due to the decline of habitat and lack of good forest they are disappearing. Carrbridge is in the middle of the area for Capercaille and as a positive and dynamic village this is the reason it has been chosen. The idea is to develop what could work and commission an action plan to try and save the Capercaille, he added that this would be a huge opportunity for Carrbridge thus leaving a legacy. The plan requires a letter of support from the Community Council to proceed; this would take roughly five years. Robert McInnes felt that too many visitors and photographers would scare the birds away. Justin Prigmore replied that the public would be more informed plus a ranger would manage the plan. Alan Rankin has concerns regarding the control and that between April to August is the time of year for tourists and some paths would have to be abandoned to safeguard the

Capercaillie. Justin Prigmore went on to explain that the community can decide how people use and value the woods and dogs would have to be on leads in certain areas. Alan Rankin added that there has been a large area of woodland harvested and now cannot be used. Linda Jolly was very alarmed that these were wide sweeping statements and was not keen for Carrbridge to be known as the Capercaillie Village and that there needs to be a full consultation. Jason Prigmore then explained that the first phase would be to work out ideas and that the village comes first. Issy Ingles is also concerned that the whole idea is too controlled. Jeremy Badger felt that photographers will not be hidden even though routes are marked through the woods, but would be welcome as a part of the village that we will all share. Linda Jolly felt that this whole plan could be steam rolled and questioned what was wrong with Abernethy and the Capercaillie has survived for years. Justin Prigmore replied that Carrbridge would be better and could be used in marketing the village. Frank Law of Seafield Estate, stated that it would be over 20 years to bring back the numbers, his concern is for mountain bikes etc. and went on to explain that the Capercaillie will shrink away from crowded paths. Maria Thompson-Slaven commented that photographers and bird watchers would come in their droves and that education is necessary if this project gets the green light. Linda Jolly added that respect for the woods and for the Capercaillie is necessary and should this plan go ahead it would be detriment to walkers etc. A public meeting is to be called for to discuss this further and Linda went on to ask if there are cameras in the wood. Fiona Angella also asked if the two metal boxes on the golf course are counting how many people use the path. Iain Campbell added that before Landmark was built the area was full of Capercaillies but moved out with the disruption to their habitat. Rebecca Badger stated it was a big problem but the importance of the project was to pull people together. Linda Jolly added all these problems are created by the National Park. Andrew Kirk reported there would be a public meeting and at least 18 months discussion and this is only the first stage. Alan Rankin added that all views would be discussed.

BRIDGE 300: Karen Archer put forward a suggestion for the celebration of Bridge 300 to be held May – November. Her suggestion is for an Art Exhibition to be held in the Village Hall. All professionals and amateurs may enter any form of art form. The only stipulation is that the works of art should be Carrbridge inspired and any item could be sold. She went on to request a legacy hanging system for the hall which Rhona Kant is investigating re costs. Alice Buttress suggested a picture rail be hung round the hall which would be the cheapest option and could also be used for any hall user wishing to hang posters etc, thus saving the paint from the walls being peeled off when users use sellotape. She also felt that weekends only would be a better option for the exhibition. Karen Archer went on to say that she hoped the Grammar School and the Primary School would also get involved, she also suggested that teas and coffees be served. At the end of the exhibition in November she would like a firework display from the bridge. Maria Thomson- Slaven commented that the New Year Firework Display in Grantown on Spey cost £600.00 per minute she also suggested t/lights from the bridge, the general opinion to this idea was no. This matter will be given all due consideration and depending on the cost for fireworks etc a decision would be made at a later date.

Andrew Kirk informed the meeting that it was hoped that an articulated lorry would be going to the Primary School with all the components for building a bridge and that the pupils are going to learn how to do this.

Marie Brown also reported that the local Artisan Craft Group would like to hold a craft fair in the Village Hall on 20th May and that a Ceilidh should be held in the evening using all local musicians. This was met with total agreement.

Maria Thompson -Slaven Chairperson of the CBTA stated that 200 T/Towels at a cost of £720 have been printed, 50 have already been sold and that a second printing is desired and she asked if the Community Council will fund a second printing which will be paid back when sold and any profit will be kept for the CBTA.

SEAFIELD ESTATE – HARVESTING OF WOODS: The CC hoped to meet up with Seafield soon to discuss this.

A9 DUALLING: Nothing to report.

PLINTH: The refurbished plinth has been installed. Maria Thompson- Slaven is also happy to announce that the Path Brochure will be completed next week.

VILLAGE HALL FUNDING: Alan Rankin and Charles Miller met with Iain Campbell and some of the Village Hall Committee to peruse the plans, the quotes for the work and monies available. Alan Rankin felt that a contingency of £10,000 was required.

Total cost	£40 - £44,000
Input from Village Hall	£10,000
Request from Community Council	£20,000

Application to the Lottery Fund have been made, also Badenoch and Strathspey Discretionary Fund £1,600, Awards for All £5,000. The Village Hall is also organizing fund-raising events to raise the remaining monies. Alan Rankin and Charles Miller are both content to recommend that with match funding the Community Council is in agreement to give the amount requested. Alan Rankin is going to contact Foundation Scotland to see if they can help with the fund.

PAY TELEPHONE: Charles Miller reported he was no further forward as his communications are being ignored.

BURSURY: Alan Rankin is hopeful to be in a position to launch this in February. As to how much funding required this to be discussed further.

PLAYING FIELD: Highland Council has no money to pay for the equipment, but will be very helpful with the installation of the play equipment. The Community Council has agreed to put up some money to help with this matter. The CC is trying hard to discuss with Highlife Highland regarding the drainage. This will be expensive but do-able. Robert McInnes wants this done properly this time with no more patchwork jobs.

PUBLIC TOILETS: The Radar Key will be held at the Spar Shop hopefully once Kireen has been asked and we receive them.

CHRISTMAS PARTY AT THE CARRBRIDGE HOTEL: All felt this was very successful and thanked Colin Watt and Staff for the day. Around 96 attended.

HOUSING: On 29th November 2017 there was a meeting in Grantown CNPA HQ to discuss local housing with representatives from Aviemore, Boat of Garten, Dulnain Bridge, CNP, Albyn Housing and Small Housing Trust Scottish Government and Highland Council. Andrew Kirk, George Dyer, Charles Miller and Kate Adamson were in attendance on behalf of Carrbridge.

On 21st February 2017 there is to be a delegation of the above to walk round the village to view sites. The Boys Brigade Field etc. Andrew Kirk said he believed there was some interest on Struan House but there were confidentiality concerns. Linda Jolly asked if the developer owns the Boys Brigade Field. Andrew Kirk replied that the CC has repeatedly asked this and had been assured that the developer did own the field.

WI-FI IN VILLAGE HALL:

The installation of this is going ahead, Michelle Green had applied for funding.

TREASURER'S REPORT: At the end of December there is £10,899.25 in the account, an unrepresented cheque for £382.00 and an unpaid invoice for £160.00.

ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS:

1. The Station lights are playing up, but have been repaired today.
2. Bill Lobban reported there is £15,000 available from the Scottish Government and there will be a meeting on Saturday 25th February 2017 in the Village Hall to give organizations a chance to vie for some of this money for their cause. This meeting takes the form of a representative of an organization putting their case forward for two minutes and answering any questions. A general vote will then take place with all voters voting for 5 causes, the result will be known that day.
3. Halls are no longer to be used for voting, schools will now be used, the schools will have an in-service day.
4. Charles Miller requested £160.00 for wood so as to commence carving the spurtles for Porridge Competition and £200.00 for the laser printing. This motion was carried.
5. Maria Thompson-Slaven CTBA informed the meeting that a commission has been organized for a carving in celebration of Bridge 300 for the Car Park, this will be the start of the Village Carve Trail, planning permission is required and ongoing.
6. Linda Jolly asks why the minutes of the CC meetings are not available earlier as they are too late. Andrew Kirk replied that this is the rule and the CC has to adhere to this, this rule laid out by THC
7. Linda Jolly commented on the signpost at the Ferness Road, she stated it was full of stickers and is in a dreadful state of repair.

The meeting closed at 9.99p.m.

Date of next meeting Thursday, 23rd February 2017