

Nethy Bridge & Vicinity Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held on the 4th September 2014

Present: S. McCook (Chairman), D. Carrott (Treasurer), H. Tucker (Secretary), D. Black, S. George, E. Ibbertson.

In Attendance: A. Greggans (Countryside Ranger), I. Malcolm (VABS), Cllr. B. Lobban

Apologies: A. Thom, A. Young, I. Hogarth (NBTA)

Minutes of the last meeting: S. McCook said that the minutes should have mentioned that an application would be made to the Community Challenge Fund in respect of funding for community grass cutting.

Minutes proposed by: E. Ibbertson Seconded by: D. Black

Matters Arising: A decision had been made concerning the preferred site for the new hospital. This was the Technology Park near Dalfaber.

There had been a decision concerning the clay pigeon shooting at Craggan Outdoor Centre. After initially agreeing to allow it to continue, planners had learned that there was a core path close to the site, this meant there could be a danger to walkers and canoeists. Planning was refused.

Members of the Public: Iona Malcolm, Community Development Officer for VABS introduced herself and said that she was available to help local groups access funds for projects. Ann Traill was able to help with financial or office matters. Any group should approach her before next June if they wished her to help.

Alison Greggans explained her new role as Community Ranger for Abernethy and Boat of Garten. Her post was funded by CNPA and RSPB. She has a base in the community centre at present, during the summer she is in Nethy 10am – 2pm Sunday and 9am – 4pm on a Tuesday. The hours are less in the winter. She runs guided walks, summer events and hopes to work with the school. Please contact her if there are any projects that she can help with.

Treasurer's Report: Balance is £4,065

Councillor Lobban's Report: There was nothing to report as most things were waiting until after the referendum.

Police Report: None

NBTA Report: None

CNPA Report: None

Planning Applications: Conversion of steading at Wester Cullachie, there were no objections.

Outline permission for house in garden of Elmpark, objection raised on grounds of access and over development of site.

Cllr Lobban took no part in the discussion.

AOCB: Mr McCook updated progress on the new paths from Steel's Mill to the old dump and from Templeton Bridge to join this path. The previous agreement had been amended. The route would be surveyed on Monday. The CC would be responsible for the planning application. The project also involved Peter Duncan SNH, Douglas Stewart, Outdoor Access Officer CNPA and Andrew Norval, Seafield Estate. Funding would be sought for the work. Construction hopefully to begin 2015 with completion by end of March 2016.

Grass cutting – the poor state of grass cutting had been discussed. D. Carrott had applied to the HC in the name of the Community Council to be considered for Community Challenge Fund, to pay for grass cutting to be organised by the CC if necessary. D. Black had arranged for a demonstration of a grass cutting machine which is towed behind a tractor. D. Carrott had received a reply that the application would be considered. There was an approval in principal but someone would talk through the process in more detail. Cllr Lobban stated that HC would probably want the community to take control of all areas of cutting not just a few.

White lines at the Neuk crossroads still not done. Cllr Lobban would investigate.

Mention made of overhanging trees obscuring streetlamps and traffic in places. Cllr Lobban would speak to the lighting dept.

Question asked as to progress with new hospital. Cllr Lobban said that the preferred site had been chosen but there was still a long way to go. The NHS Board had to approve the plans and then submit them to the government for decision.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 2nd October at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm.