

Nethy Bridge & Vicinity Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held on the 6th February 2014

Present: S. McCook (Chairman), H. Tucker (Secretary), S. George, E. Ibbertson, A. Thom, A. Young, D. Black.

In Attendance: Cllr B. Lobban, I. Hogarth (NBTA), Mr R & G Laing and three members of the public.

Apologies: D. Carrott (Treasurer)

Minutes of the last meeting: Proposed by E. Ibbertson Seconded by: A. Young

Matters Arising: The ban on roadside advertising had raised a great deal of comment. S. McCook had received a letter from the Council stating that local group events would be exempt from the ban.

The matter of dog dirt was again raised and it was agreed to put out a leaflet and this would be distributed with the Spring Gathering leaflet. Cllr Lobban said that TEC services had agreed to pay for the printing.

Some bushes had been cleared from the roadside up Balnagowan Brae. Cllr Lobban said that there had been monitoring done to establish the problem of trees obscuring street lights. The road sign had been removed at the games field. Mr McCook said that he would thank Mr MacIver.

Members of the Public: Mr Ron Laing had contacted Mr McCook and thought that a streetscape drawing for the proposed new house at River Cottage would be helpful. Mr Laing thanked the CC for the opportunity to explain the history of the application. The original plans had been lodged in March 2012 to demolish existing property and build on the existing footprint. The planning officer was not happy with the proposed box dormer windows, resubmitted plans with pitched roof dormers. The planning officer stated that it would be better to build a 1 ¼ floor property. This he stated would be not much higher than neighbouring properties. These plans were withdrawn to allow SEPA to gather more information on effect on the river of proposed plans. A new application for the same plans would be lodged shortly.

Question asked about parking. TEC services had no objection as it was on street parking at present.

Mr McCook thanked Mr Laing and said that the CC would consider the plans when they came through.

A question was asked about the whereabouts of the Explore Abernethy exhibits now that the room was closed for hall refurbishment. Mr McCook said that all exhibits had been photographed and catalogued and would be put on display in the new room. They would be exhibited on a rotational basis as there were too many to be shown at one time.

Treasurer's Report: Present balance is £4,201

Councillor Lobban's Report: Mr W. Gillfillan had been appointed as Head of TEC Services. TEC services would now be joined with the Housing Dept.

The matter of public entertainment licences was under review and Cllr Lobban said that it was important that everyone made their views known during the consultations.

The Scottish Govt. might make it compulsory to have your dog chipped.

The Fire and Police control centres had now been reorganised with a major incident centre in Inverness. Mr McCook stated that he had been present during Kenny Macaskill's recent visit to Inverness and that he stated that Inverness would only be used, in the event of Glasgow or Dundee having too many events to cope with at any one time.

Mr McCook asked about permission for the bollards along the footpath to Duack Bridge. Cllr Lobban said that he thought there were no funds for the project. Mr McCook said that funds were already in place it was only the permission that was required. Cllr Lobban would follow this up.

Cllr Lobban stated that the RSPB were in negotiations with the CNPA to part fund a Ranger who would work for RSPB and Explore Abernethy and in Boat of Garten for nine months of the year.

Police Report: None

NBTA Report: The community website was still being developed; the history section should be ready shortly. Hopefully there would shortly be a final meeting and the project could be signed off. Eric Hart will be the webmaster. The recent NBTA AGM had agreed to disband and join the Community Centre Committee. There had been a lack of support from many NBTA members due to the fact that they did not live locally. There would be a tourism rep on the Community Centre committee but due to their rules this person would have to live locally. There would be a photograph competition to pick photos for the new website. These would be displayed at the forthcoming photo exhibition at the Old Kirk. Mr McCook was asked to judge the entries at the Spring Gathering in May. Members had stated that business was much as usual.

CNPA Report: None

Planning Applications: Proposed glass corridor and extension to garage at Taigh a Mhuillin, Tulloch. There were no objections.

Proposed extension and alterations at Heatherbrae, there were no objections.

Proposed new house and access road at Martinez, Nethy Bridge. Those present had no objections to the house but had serious concerns over another access on a dangerous corner.

AOCB: There was a broken tree behind the bench up Balnagowan Brae that needed chopping. Mr McCook said that he would speak to Mr & Mrs Macreath as this was their property.

Comment made that many of the road signs were very dirty. Cllr Lobban will look in to this.

Date of next meeting: WEDNESDAY 5TH March at 7.30pm in the LARGE HALL. Please note change of day and room due to hall refurbishment.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.