**BALLATER & CRATHIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL (B&CC)**

**ballaterandcrathiecommunitycouncil.com**

 Minutes of Meeting held on 10th Sept, 2018, at 7pm in Mike Sheridan Room

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| **Present:**Jane Angus (JA) Iain Latta (IL)Pat Downie (PD)Joanne Croll (JC)William Braid (WB)Lewis Macdonald (LM)Anne Reid (AR)James Anderson (WJ) – ChairFiona Presslie (FP)Cllr Paul Gibb (CPG)**Apologies** Cllr Geva Blackett (CGB)Wendy Miller (WM)Emma Stewart (ES)Francis Duguid (FD) | **Also present:**Allan Harrison - BRDMember of the public |

1. **Welcome and Apologies for Absence**

Wendy Miller has resigned from Community Council.

1. **Emergency services:**

No report.

1. **Matters Arising from Last Meeting:**

Minutes approved

Reviewed and updated Action Tracker. Item 3 Snow Roads. AR action – email CGB for details

Item 28 broken chicanes. AR action – email CPG to email Janelle Clark with details.

1. **Reports:**

**BRD – AH**

AGM will be held on22ndNov at Park House.

The will be a vote for new directors. Anne Reid and Duncan McCaskill have been co-opted on as directors. Bill Braid to be voted on as a director.

Dial-a-bus – this will be provided by BRD if drivers are available. CGB to take matter forward. CPG does not support proposal, questions if BRD can support such a project. If the bus is in Banchory but required in Braemar it is very time consuming. What happens if bus breaks down, no back up contingency.

BRD/BBA/BCCC joint venture re heritage at station. Approach Visit Scotland for allocated space.

**BCE - AH**

AHhad interview for tourism award, awaiting outcome at end Sept. Site doing well, takings up £7000 from 2017. Next phase being discussed, plans need to be drawn up for new toilet block.

**AbCO - CPG – report provided**

Re-Location of Bus stop in Ballater

Martin Hall advised he met the BCCC and consideration is underway for re-location of the bus stop to Bridge Street.

Fence on Braemar Road

The BCCC are taking the lead on this issue; local donations of materials and time should see this project completed.

Grit Bins

Will raise this at the BCCC to see which dates might suit and then coordinate a visit to Crathie and Ballater with Ralph Newlands. AR action.

Waste and Recycling in Crathie

Lesley Forrest responded to advise: “time and space constraints prevent the lorry from travelling to Crathie. The only space large enough to accommodate a lorry plus vehicles would be the main car park in the area; however, the car park is owned by the Balmoral Estate. ES action - to ask Crathie opinion and take to CPG.

Recycling on the Go

Regarding community recycling - Lesley Forrest continues to review the viability of recycling on the go [separate waste collection bins on the high-street] throughout Aberdeenshire. In the meantime unfortunately, the bins that the council has put into Ballater are badly contaminated despite labels on them indicating the types of waste they take.

Street lights at Monaltrie Roads

Keith Melvin [Street Lighting Officer] advised he will ask an electrician to visit site and check, he added, there is some kind of fault as the lights should not be on all day. This should now have been fixed.

Path at woods near Pannanich Road

Requested and waiting for an update from Ken Regan [Principal Landscape Services Officer].

Access at Crathie Kirk

With reference to signs ‘Private Road’ placed on the access road nr Crathie Kirk.

Michael Neave [Engineer – Transportation] advised the triangular shape as being part of the adopted road network, this is clarified by the photograph of our coloured up original village plan for Crathie village - the route number is U166M. The adopted roads can be used by the public, both for pedestrian and vehicular access.

 Following a site visit Alan Mitchell [Engineer – Roads Development] advised that the signs that had been put on the verge of the adopted sections of road were taken out by our inspector when he investigated but they have been put back. They should not be being placed on the verge of the public road. The other “works” that had been undertaken on the public road were to spread soil over a hardened area of the verge and the placing of stones along the road edge to protect the soiled area. All of this should not be undertaken on the public road by a private individual. It would seem that this was being done to prevent parking rather than to prevent access.

The matter is however one for Roads rather than Roads Development though I am aware that the issue of indiscriminate parking around Crathie Kirk has been raised in the consideration, I have a feeling the estate and even the police may have been involved previously. If it is simply a matter of discouraging parking on the verge then small verge marker posts may be appropriate though even this would need thought due to the sensitivity of the area.

Angela Funk [Principal Roads Engineer] has been contacted and she responded to advise she would be happy to write to the resident to explain the Road Scotland Act and Aberdeenshire Council guidelines for unauthorized signs. CPG has requested the address and this will then be sent to Angela. AR action – address from ES.

**CNPA - NTR**

**CAP – FP**

June minutes ready to go out. Actions assigned to BCCC.

Groups identified – 10 in total. Ballater Enhancement, Paths & Bridges, Events, Heritage, Allotments, Housing, Communications, Care, Playpark and Bus Forum.

FP asked if BCCC supports this. Unanimous vote ‘yes’ to support. Groups to report to CAP team. Minutes to be circulated to all members.

Actions for BCCC (and others) to progress within CAP

BCCC1 - Village Centre – Ballater Enhancement Group to lead AR/PD/DC/WB/RD

BCCC2 – BRD to lead

BCCC3 – Communications – LM (to think if he would be interested in this)

BCCC4 – library/notice board. Action FD to include in his discussions with OATS

BCCC5 – BEG will lead on a village audit

BCCC6 – AR action – email Louise Duckworth re map of potential bin sites from school study

BCCC7 – Housing JC

BCCC8 – Care (Housing) IL/TC IL action to progress with TC & JC

BCCC9 – AS

BCCC10 – Comms group to lead on

BCCC11 – Town Audit – BEG AR/PD/DC/WB/RD

Bimonthly updates from all CAP groups

**Halls – IL**

Planning Application for upgrade. Application for funding. Wifi throughout halls – password – Ballater. AR action – post on FB page and website. Marketing has begun for halls as a wedding venue. A wedding planner has been approached for advice. 3 films to be shown, one on Nov 24th to coincide with Christmas tree lights switch on. IL would like to step down from being the BCCC Halls rep and has suggested WB to take on role. WB happy to do so.

Discussion on roles within BCCC.

1 person or 2 max to attend meetings. Min attendance to avoid misinterpretation. Agree beforehand who attends meetings. No individual to do all planning for transparency reasons. All to see applications. WB to attend ward forum at Crathie Kirk 13th Sept.

1. **Planning Matters**

Old School site visit Mon 17th Sept. JC to attend

1. **Correspondence –**

Letter from Samantha Birnie requesting 2 benches on Church green and one at Tullich cemetery in memory of her mother, Wendy Anderson. AR action – liaise with Neil West

1. **Finance –**

NTR

1. **AOCB**

IL – Parking in Ballater. CPG Police matter not AbCo at present.

PD – Junction of Braichlie Road/Victoria Road poor visibility due to parked vehicles.

IL – Station closed Monday/Tuesday. JC responded it is due to staffing issues.

JC - Highgrove shop will open soon at station. It will be open 7 days.

JC – Visit Scotland has been handed over ‘the carriage’ which will be renovated in due course.

JA – no minutes from station stakeholders meetings. Not advised of changes to library. Shelves too low. JA action – send email to AR re low shelves.

FP – New AWPR. Will there be an exchange for passengers from Ballater to Airport?

PD – What is the distance for a school run in Crathie. Kids walking on main road. CPG action to query

PD – Tenant subletting in Nicol Court. Wild parties, loud noise. CPG action to query

PD – untidy garden Nicol Court. CPG action to query

PD – house in Victoria Road being used as an HMO unofficially. CPG action to query

WJ – suggestion - meeting at end July if major issues arise.

CPG – note – rotate between Aboyne and Ballater as meetings co-incide.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Next meeting will be 8th October 2018 at Kirk Hall, Crathie. 7-9pm