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

**ballaterandcrathie.org.uk**

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 11th June, 2018, at 7pm in Mike Sheridan Room

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| **Present:**  James Anderson (WJ) – Chair  Jane Angus (JA)  Iain Latta (IL)  Fiona Presslie (FP)  Pat Downie (PD)  Francis Duguid (FD)  Joanne Croll (JC)  Cllr Geva Blackett (CGB)  William Braid (WB)  Lewis Macdonald (LM)  Emma Stewart (ES)  **Apologies**  Anne Reid  Cllr Paul Gibb (CPG)  Wendy Miller (WM)  Cllr Peter Argyll | **Also present:**  Allan Harrison – BBA/BCE  Jack Coull- BRD  Members of the public  Linda Drever (Resilence) |

1. **Welcome and Apologies for Absence**

CGB introduced new members and presided over election of Chair

WJ elected as Chair, proposed by FD, seconded by JA

FP elected as Vice Chair, proposed by PD, seconded by JC

AR to continue as Secretary, proposed by WJ, seconded by PD

PD to continue as Treasurer, proposed by WJ, seconded by JC

PD provided a copy of signed accounts.

1. **Emergency services:**

Report received from police

Police reported the increased number of legal traps being vandalized. CGB noted it is a criminal act to damage private property.

1. **Matters arising from Previous Years AGM – NTR**
2. **Matters Arising from Last Meeting:**

Minutes approved

Reviewed and updated Action Tracker

1. **Address from Frederica Bertolini & Architect re. Fife Arms Hotel**

Provided description of project and summarized impact on local communities.

Noting that the Hotel will require a lot of staff, 2 members of staff per room, 46 room, restaurant cater for 70, pub 65 seats. Approx 90 members of staff, look for some locals and other will be new to area & be seasonal. 1/3 recruited locally. 60 to move to area. 14 employees to date.

7 have relocated. Given the local housing challenge a diverse strategy for staff accommodation has been developed; lots of small properties be prohibitive, hence strategy to buy larger properties. Company has bought 2 ex B&B’s in Braemar, one new build in Braemar & bought one ex B&B in Ballater – Moorside. Some investment required to Moorside e.g. flat roof, bathrooms/kitchens**.**  Engaging with communities.

Mixture of staffing levels in each house. A charter has been developed regarding the management of these houses**,** recognising that the running of these houses will impact the reputation of the business. The strategy supports integration, control & focused housing, rather than creating silos. Strategy has been worked with Braemar & ACC. As such Fife, Schiehallion, Mayfield, Invercauld + mews/steading have been purchased. Seeking community views on Moorside.

No firm opening date for the Hotel– end of the year

Query re. number of staff. 17 max in Moorside, may not be 17, 10 offseason. No plans for staff bus. Concerns regarding no. of parking spaces.

Concern raised re. 10 bedrooms lost to B&B business.

CGB exciting project given proposed clientele. These properties were on the market for some time. What is alternative, better to fill houses that contribute to economy rather than a holiday home or lay empty.

How will house be managed, who will patrol it? One person will be appointed as warden. Concerns re. incidents relating to other staff houses, recognized that no issues now with Hilton houses. Behavior is part of staff employment contract and due to reputation will maintain high behavior standards. Maintenance planned, will not be neglected.

Plans not finalized for Invercauld, it will focus on ‘outdoor’ clientele, different staff ratio.

1. **Accelerated AOB – Recent flooding discussed due to time constraints.**

CGB has raised with Council. Drains were cleaned in the week after however it was noted that there were more issues on the 9th June.

CGB will request more frequent cleaning.

Additionally, BBA has made a request made to Jim Savage re. drain inspections & asked for recommendations.

AbCO has agreed that road closed signs will be provided

Discussion on communication to the Resilience group.

CGB to work with Linda to investigate communication.

LD indicated that there will be a trial to open container on SEPA warningsand that Fire service is now aware of key holders for container.

**ACTION: LD to review whether emergency services should have direct numbers of Resilience group.**

**ACTION Investigation has been requested, update to be provided.**

1. **Reports:**

**BRD – JC**

Power on green completed

Successful Duck festival

Dalmonchie land handed over

Pictish Stones – funds available to build shelter, work on dry stone wall recommenced.

Computer course will commence in near future

**BCE - AH**

Slow start to the season at Campsite, however recent weather has resulted in May being better than last year**.**

**AbCO - CPG – report provided**

**AbCO - CGB –**

New Gairnshiel bridge built by 2021

2022 old bridge site to be developed as a tourist area

Thanks to BCCC for support

Snow gates – meeting on the 19th June,

CNPA – recruitment for board members, application via CNPA website, closing date 26th June.

Commitment 3days each month.

Old School refused. GHA should liaise with community re. follow up proposal.

**CAP – FP**

Workshop held on the 2nd with various stakeholders to discuss the makeup of the CAT and how it might be successful. First meeting on the 18th June, BBA, BRD, Halls, Invercauld confirmed attendance.

**Halls – IL**

Library will relocate in July, frontage to be restored.

1. **Planning Matters**

Birch Cottage Dee St raised regarding removal of Trees**.**

1. **Correspondence –**

Funding re. A request has been received re. a speed camera request, minimal support.

Email received from David Cobham re. flooding

1. **Finance –** Balance sheet wasapproved
2. **AOCB**

JA – Bridget Macallister missed election application, JA suggested she be co-opted. Propose she comes to next meeting.

William Braid to be on Victoria Week liaison.

Deeside Music Group – looking for volunteers

Complemented JC speech at CNPA planning meeting re. Old School

Next meeting re. Old Station 14th June

CGB – Parking. Funds available to alleviate tourism hot spots. Plan is being progressed with Visit Scotland for Swann Place.

ES – Speed limit at Crathie – **ACTION – Email Angela.funk@aberdeenshire.gov.uk for permanent speed reduction to 30mph and also for speed monitoring AR, ask how long any intervention may take.**

Parking in disabled spaces, parking outside coop.

Speed limit on new road – should be removed once a new surface is laid.

Cutting trees to ensure road signs are visible in Crathie – CGB has sent an email

Grit Bin in Crathie – **ACTION: WJ to raise at meeting**

FD – Public Blue bins in Crathie requested.

Viewfield Road – metal gully capping needs restating – **ACTION CGB**

PD – Parking issues

WJ – Viewpoint by Craigendaroch, trees need cutting. **ACTION – Letter to be sent to Invercauld**

Meeting Closed 21:10