

Nairn West & Suburban Community Council

Ordinary Meeting: Mon 31 July 2023, Nairn Community & Arts Centre

DRAFT MINUTES

Present:	Phillip Stuart (PS)
NWSCC Members: Alastair Noble (AN, Chair)	Dick Youngson (DY)
Alan Hampson (AH)	Ex Officio Laurie Fraser
Joan Noble (JN)	Others: (Hamish BAIN Nairn River)
Brian Stewart (BS)	
Graham Stuart (GS)	Murray Macrae

1. Introduction (AN) Welcome.

2. Apologies

- Apologies Barbara Jarvie, Micheal Green.

3. Declaration of Interests No declartion

4. Minutes of Last Meeting, 26th June 2023

- proposed Brian Stewart seconded Phill Stuart

5. Accounts and Admin (PS)

Estimated balance £3011.31. Once Grant and bills are processed. Grant expected to be around £900, Outstanding bills 191.44 Currently at Bank £2302.75

6. Local Place Planning (AN)

- Update on progress and requested inputs from NWSCC, Good meetings at Queens' park and Farmers show. Lots of positive feedback from the public, over 100 dots on map from show. Special Thanks to helpers at both events
- Tomorrow Tue 1 Aug how to do place planning properly Planning aid Scotland Hoping for continued positive discussion. Including Becky from Black Isle Group. Formal Consult Sept/ Oct. There is a need to continue to Encourage response.
- Digital Improvement District. More access to funding improving digital access as well as Business.
- The Local CCs will be involved Trying to cover as much of the Area as possible. Must be community lead.
- Paper forms to be put out to shop. Emphasise will be to encourage more people to complete online

- Haventus planning a joint meeting with CCs Bid Nice. Date to be confirmed.

7. Common Good

- Progress on CG Engagement Officer and Engagement Group (MG) • Someone appointed to the role. Details to be confirmed.
- 20230717_Response Lewis Hannah on CG Engagement Group. Reply to Lewis Hannah. Put forward our constructive thoughts about what this group should consist of. Be representative of the community. Letter to be circulated and agreed

8. Parking Scheme

- Update on any response to letter to Stewart Fraser about 'irregularities' (MG)
No response. So far its been 8months with no response. LF going to speak

9. Spindrift Caravan Site Planning

- Update on any response to letter to Malcolm Macleod to clarify status of planning (JN)
Still await Response. There has been ongoing discussion but interested parties are not being included in discussion. Approached by several members of public raising concerns

10. Vaccination policy • Progress report (AN)

- NHS Highland IT no link to Nairn Practice. Doctors unable to access records of vaccinations.
Risk of losing herd immunity. Heading to next round of winter vaccinations with No Clarity of what is happening. Poor information about current Immunisation programs.
NHS highland unable to respond to Fergus Ewing on Rate of vaccination.

11. Road Access and Safety Issues (A96 at Altonsyde) • Possible path alongside allotments - Update (AN)

- AN Meeting with Fort Reay. Subject to planning and CG and Dev contr. Path inside fence along A96 down Sandown to Allotments. Letter to from developer.
- (20mph Scheme. Can we push for 30mph of section from Moss-side traffic lights out to Sandown). Also From Sainsbury. Letters to Transport Scotland. BS

12. Delnies Development Site • Update on any response to letter to Scott Dalgarno on enforcement of linking of housing planning to other commitments (Councillors)

- No further movement yet. Cautious about what may come.
- No response from SD in regard to planning links with the whole development including Hotels Equestrian centre etc
- IMFLDP. Reporter has asked for evidence around zoning of Nairn Housing open meeting on 12th September. Checking details on housing requirements. Further info to follow

13. Nairn Academy • Outcome of ScotGov funding announcement and latest update (AN)

- Awaiting funding. Announcement due September.

14. Developer Contributions • Comment on whether policy changes will enable local input into allocation of funds for community projects (MG/JN)

- More say needed locally for developer contributions. How is new policy going to be implemented.

- Update on status of use of existing developer contributions from prior developments (MG) Existing contributions tied. Believed until 2030

15. Community Regeneration Funds BJ to feedback on methodology used to distribute funds

- Awaiting feedback on how the different funds are allocated. LF will enquire in absence of BJ

16. East Beach Car Park • Update on removal of playground equipment (PO) and signage from Maggot car park (JN)

- Letter to BJ about the Signage to the carpark and toilets. LF to take up issue with Toilets. LF Stated Playground equipment was beyond repair. Billy the train had been around for some 40 years and so had served well but the wood and metal framework was now rotten and beyond repair

17. NWSCC Future Membership and Engagement • Update on initiatives to attract new membership (PS)

- GS cc have broad scope of operating. What can we do for good mobilising people in the community. Improve engagement.
BS Sustainability is tough, Lots of good ideas great initial enthusiasm but then slows down. Particularly cost and volunteer fatigue
- GS. I don't see our community council portraying the same image as is presented of other community councils.
- AN Years of antagonism and underspending in Nairn. War memorial lights still not sorted for example. Lots of people have contributed lots to Nairn we don't want to be negative.
- JN concentrate on what we have achieved.
- BS 1 People will step forward to join cc if they perceive it is worth while
2. That only happens when cc have influence. We can't take responsibility without the ability to make change.

18. AOCB • Prospective Community Asset Transfers (Expression of interest in Grant St Yard and Italiante school building)

- Nice submitted Community asset transfer.
- Public Toilets: should the public toilets be maintained under license from HC? Opinion no. Harbour Toilets should be reinstated to previous condition before hand back to CG LF.
HB Talking on the toilets comes with a lot of baggage. It has been a long running battle. Council need to be proactive to bring toilets into reasonable state of repair. 15+ years of underspend.
PS We should be facilitating communication about the toilets. We might disagree with different ideas but that is a good thing.
HB if we get to point of toilets being repaired. We can start using CG money other funds to maintain.
- CG engagement Group. G Future of CC we need to try and engage people with good issues that we can press forward.
- Phil commented that all parts CC, HC & BID etc are seen as a laughing Stock by the general public
- LF left Meeting

- Visitor Levy. HC in extremely poor position financially. Policy is very open to allow monies to be spent on things loosely related to tourism. We need to encourage people to take part in the online survey which few seem to have and knowledge about PS We will not achieve anything if we don't start. We could facilitate the Fundraising private equity etc.
BS. Challenge is we need collaboration. Need to be talking about strategy and policy. It can be very difficult to get information and to share information. No sense of priorities. AN we have tried to work with HC for many years to try and get money spent in Nairn. School, Bypass. Etc
- Proposals in Highlands for CHP HQ Castle and Ice rink Appears HC are looking after themselves unlike other areas where they are looking as developing these solutions for public housing
- AN We are really Sorry that LF walked out.

19. For Reference - Communications from/to NWSCC in Past Month • 20230627_ Letters to Reporter on IMFLDP2 (link [here](#) and [here](#))

- 20230627_ Response to SSEN consultation on Pylons Through Nairnshire (link [here](#))
- 20230627_ Letter to Lewis Hannah on CG Engagement Group (link [here](#))

Next meeting *provisionally* Monday 25th September 2023