

Nairn West & Suburban Community GROUP
Meeting: Mon 30th October 2023, Nairn Community & Arts Centre

DRAFT MINUTES

Present:	Cllr Babs Jarvie (BJ)
NWSCG Members:	Cllr Paul Oldham (PO)
Alastair Noble (AN, Chair)	
Joan Noble (JN)	Others:
Graham Stuart (GS)	Brian Stewart (BS)
Kevin Reid (KR)	Hamish Bain (Nairn River CC)

- **Welcome and Apologies (AN)**

- Phillip Stuart (PS), Michael Green (MG)
- Currently Meeting as Community group while NWSCC is in Abeyance. To follow up on existing issue. With hope CC can reform in January

- **Thanks to outgoing Members**

Chair expressed his thanks to retiring members:

Dick Youngson - previously Chair of both Suburban and Combined CC

A real country lover-fund of amazing knowledge on Deer, Squirrels, forestry, wetlands and woodlands, estates, allotments, architecture, and planning.

Always a gentleman and willing to go the extra mile for Nairnshire.

He positively contributed to the joint meetings of all the CC in Nairnshire. Serving for many years on Suburban and then the joined CCs

Alan Hampson - Again, a stalwart with a very sensible and pragmatic approach to planning and building. He used his knowledge of working for Tullochs to our advantage.

You always got a straight a sensible answer from Alan. He was a passionate advocate of a new Academy and again gave very sensible advice on the design and building requirements

Lorraine Mallinson - previously Treasurer of our CC. Lorraine did a power of work behind the scenes. She was our main link into Santa's Grotto and Xmas celebrations assisting with the fundraising. She was especially associated with the amazing firework display.

She also helped deliver the playpark at Sandown and was a valuable link into the school and our younger members. We wish her quality time to continue her good work

Brian Stewart - previously Secretary to West and the Combined CC

Very few people are as capable as Brian. He did an amazing amount of work sometimes quietly but more often in the full public glare. We especially remember all the work on Sandown and Nairn South Reporter's Enquiries digging Highland Council out of the mess the planners had created.

In setting himself the highest standards, it was sometimes difficult for others to reach the same standard.

Still, we all tried and benefitted greatly from his shared knowledge and strong will to do things correctly and well.

- **Declaration of Interests on Agenda Items (AN)**

- None

- **Minutes of Meeting of Community Council, 25th September 2023 for Approval** ([link here](#))
 - Approved by JN, seconded by KR
- **Review of Actions Log from Last Community Council Meeting (GS)**
 - MG provided a summary of the status of the actions assigned to him prior t the meeting.

Action	Status
Aurora Planning - JN to draft a letter drawing attention to aesthetic concerns of the proposal.	Completed. See Item 14 for link to letter
A96 Footpath - JN to send letters to the Development Contributions Officer Ross Lindsay and Planning Dept (Christine MacLeod).	Completed. See Item 14 for links to letters
Developer Contributions Action Group - MG to follow-up with Developer Contribution Action Group representative to get more information on how the process for requesting and receiving proposals will work in practice.	In progress. Lewis Hannah talking to Ross Lindsay feedback to follow
Developer Contributions - MG agreed to seek to re-purpose the DCs allocated to the dance studio to funding new toilets.	Pending, nothing to report
Nairn Leisure Park Development - MG agreed to invitations being extended to the CCs to participate in the walk around.	CC not invited unfortunately. PO briefly summarized the visit, main action to look to have the putting green kit managed by James's; looking for Men's Shed or community payback to do some upkeep on play equipment.
Harbour Parking Permits - MG agreed to urgently follow-up with Stewart Fraser.	MG followed-up, no response received.
Common Good Charging - MG agreed to review and follow-up on the £25k project contribution being debited to Common Good expenditure.	MG reported that Lewis Hannah explained that the £25k sums are not for the same thing. This will be followed up by Lewis Hannah to JN.

East Beach Signage - MG agreed to follow-up on the installation of signage at the Maggot Car Park toward the East Beach.	In Progress
Spindrift Planning - MG agreed to follow up with Malcolm McLeod for response to the letter of 1 st December 2022 on Spindrift Planning.	Pending, MG had been unable to speak to Malcolm McLeod.
Community Regeneration Funds Methodology - MG agreed to follow-up with Lewis Hannah for an explanation of the methodology used to allocate funds.	In progress, MG said that Lewis Hannah intends to follow up.

- **Accounts and Admin (PS)**
 - PS reported to Chair that the balance is the same as last month's balance. Unable to write cheques at present time.
- **Planning Applications Submitted in Previous Month for Review (JN)**
 - 9 Cromarty View Alteration and Extension ([link](#))
 - No objections, noted that the application had been approved by HC Planning in very quick time.
- **Local Place Plan / Town Centre Regeneration / Community Asset Transfers (AN)**
 - LPP going well - Interviewing for coordinators, need to re-advertise for Admin support role.
Town Centre Regeneration needs to include existing library - has 82 car parking spaces would be disastrous to lose these spaces for Nairn High Street.
500+ response to LPP consultation, Engagement with CC in area.
Acknowledged that Mandy Lawson has done a tremendous amount of work.
- **Common Good Engagement Group (AN)**
 - PO reported that the format has been proposed. Meet 2per year and as required. Draft Paper going to Community for consultation. To go back to Area committee January
- **Parking Scheme (JN)**
 - No response from Stewart Fraser, which he has a legal obligation to do. Issue reported to the Police, no response as yet. JN considering approach to Law Society.
- **Delnies Development Site (JN)**
 - For information, letter of objection ([link](#)) and letter of confirmation of status as statutory consultee ([link](#))
 - PO and BJ did not take part in discussion so as not to compromise their position in decision-making in the Council.

- Objections / Comments have been raised in the planning portal and in the media.
 - Mentioned that in other council area appeals are in place against applying NPF4 to current developments.
- **Ardersier Port Visit (AN)**
 - Successful visit to Port of Ardersier. Haventus as landlords have great plans for the port and currently in discussions with potential users. Projected that more than 2000 jobs could be created if manufacturing were to come to the site.
- **Tradespark Hall Trust (AN)**
 - Complex Charity with Large amount of funds to be used for the benefit of Tradespark. Any ideas for spending money would need to be agreed under the principles of the Charity with supervision of OSCR.
 - JN mentioned prior plans in 2005 for wetlands park, cafe and community building in Sandown South Field, never moved forward at time, perhaps needs looked at again.
- **AOCB**
 - 1. Flood Risk along River.** Recent high tides along with north easterly wind has caused lots of damage. Nairn at high risk of flooding but funds for flood prevention measures have been removed from capital expenditure plans due to budget challenges.
 - 2. Vaccinations.** Response from NHS to Fergus Ewing reported at the meeting.
 - 3. Team Hamish** Group was asked to sponsor application for £10k grant from community regeneration fund. Approved and **Action: JN** to draft letter.

For Reference - Communications from/to NWSCC in Past Month

- 20230930_Letter on Developer Contributions to C MacLeod ([link](#))
- 20230930_Letter on Developer Contributions to R Lindsay ([link](#))
- 20230930_Letter on Aurora Restaurant Planning ([link](#))
- 20231010_Letter_Delnies_Planning_Objection ([link](#))
- 20231011_Letter_Delnies_Statutory_Consultee ([link](#))

Next Meeting 27 November 7pm (including day of Local Place Plan Consultation)