



## Lairg Community Council

Minutes of meeting held in Lairg Community Centre, Kinvonvie Suite, Wednesday 5th June 2024, 7pm

### Annual General Meeting 2024

**Present:** Steve Maclean (SM), Cllr. Michael Baird, Highland Council (MB), Jamie Dick (JD), Robert Johnson (RJ), John Sutherland (JS), Louise Skinner (LS), Jackie Young (JY), Iain Thomson (IT), Miranda Jones, Minute Secretary (MJ)

**Apols:** Catherine McDonald

1. Chair Steve Maclean welcomed everyone to the AGM.
2. Declarations of Interest: SM, Lairg Gala Week; JY, Lairg in Bloom; IT, Lairg Sailing Club; RJ, Lairg Community Centre.
3. Adoption of the Minutes of the AGM of Lairg Community Council 2023, proposed by IT, seconded by RJ, all agreed. Minutes adopted.
4. Chairman's report: SM thanked all councillors and the minute secretary for their work over the course of the past year, thanked Cllr Baird for his monthly reports from the Highland Council and pledged that the community council would continue to serve the people of Lairg as best they could over the course of the next year.
5. The Treasurer (RJ) submitted the council's audited accounts. No questions were received
6. The Financial Statement was adopted
7. Election of Office Bearers:

Chair: SM proposed by IT. Steve Maclean duly elected as Chair of the Council

Vice-Chair: JD proposed by SM. Jamie Dick duly elected as Vice Chair of the Council

Secretary: JY proposed by SM. Jackie Young duly elected as Secretary of the Council

Treasurer: RJ proposed by SM. Robert Johnson duly elected as Treasurer of the Council

8. No other business advised

## June Monthly Council Meeting

1. **Present:** Steve Maclean (SM), Cllr. Michael Baird, Highland Council (MB), Jamie Dick (JD), Robert Johnson (RJ), John Sutherland (JS), Louise Skinner (LS), Jackie Young (JY), Iain Thomson (IT), Miranda Jones, Minute Secretary (MJ), Caroline McMorran (Northern Times)

**Apols:** Catherine McDonald

2. Declarations of Interest: SM, Lairg Gala Week; JY, Lairg in Bloom; IT, Lairg Sailing Club; RJ, Lairg Community Centre.
3. To confirm the minutes of the LCC meeting held on 1st April 2024 - proposed by SM and seconded by JY
4. Matters arising from previous minutes - none advised
5. LDCI Report: progress on the equipment for the play park being slowed by HC new financial software (6 wks - to be able to apply to community regeneration fund). Waiting on news for order estimated delivery time.  
Skate Park idea - working on area scale plans and talking to skate park building companies in Scotland, rough cost estimate of £40/sq/m
6. Financial Report received.  
Treasurer's Account £3144.16  
Wind Farm Account £3713.84
7. Planning Applications
  - Installation of 30m high lattice tower, 2no wind turbines, solar panels, ancillary development and access track FIAG - no objections from Councillors
  - Acheilidh Wind Farm (Lairg 3) - erection and operation of wind farm (12 turbines)  
The developers would like a letter of support from LCC. MOU needed re community benefit and the 5 local community councils.  
**ACTION:** IT to action Memorandum of Understanding (developers to draft)

LCC agree that community benefit should stay local and should not be shared with wider highland region.

- Battery storage - Saval, Lairg: not yet at consultation stage, screening request (environmental impact) - is there a community benefit?

#### 8. Highland Councillor's Report

Trees (Ord Place) reported to HC and will be dealt with imminently, 2 identified for treatment/safety assessment

Cemetery gates at Creich, Invershin, Lairg to be updated. Grass cutting HC can't uplift the grass.

Roads - signs falling by wayside - rusting poles etc - inspector will be sent round to inspect/assess signage - new signs will have to have Gaelic on them.

Weedkiller - HC restrictions on certain chemicals. Glyphosate. Licence needed for chemical spraying.

**ACTION:** Cllr Baird asked to find out if any weed spraying scheduled for Lairg

#### 9. Model Standing Orders and Code of Conduct adopted by the community council orders

#### 10. Correspondence, circulated to councillors

- Bettyhill, Altnaharra & Strathnaver Community Council
- Ron Bailey - charity Electrical Safety First re campaign to improve the safety and disposal of lithium batteries used in e-bikes and e-scooters
- Planet Youth Local Action Group (Golspie) 06.06.24 5pm (online meeting)

#### 11. Any other competent business:

**ACTION:** MJ to set up a community council Facebook page to aid with communication and transparency - SM also as an admin. Relevant press releases to Northern Times.

#### 12. Date and Time of Next Meeting – 4th September 2024, 7pm

**Windfarm Community Benefit**

- Loch Shin Sailing Club £400 requested: Funding agreed
- Lairg Community Centre for noticeboards £334: Funding agreed
- Lairg Gala Week £2000 for general funds: Funding agreed with no conditions
- Lairg in Bloom £250 for compost: Funding agreed

£1000 left in village improvement fund, priorities: Lochside, strimming and clipping branches, transport car park area.

Meeting ended 8.30pm