



## Lairg Community Council

Minutes of meeting held in Lairg Community Centre, Kinvonvie Suite

Wednesday 5th March, 7pm

1. Present: Steve Maclean, Chair (SM), Robert Johnstone (RJ), Iain Thomson (IT), Jamie Dick (JD), John Sutherland (JS), Louise Skinner (LS), Cllr Michael Baird (MB), Miranda Jones, Minutes Secretary (MJ), Caroline McMorran, Northern Times
2. Declarations of Interest  
None advised
3. To confirm the minutes of the LCC meeting held on 12th February 2025  
Proposed IT, seconded SM
4. Matters arising from previous minutes  
None
5. Lairg Place Plan - update from public consultation  
MJ gave an update after the public consultation in Lairg Community Centre.  
MJ, RJ and LDCI project officer will attend Lairg Community Market on 17th March.
6. Derelict property next to Costcutter  
MB advised due to no demand for housing in Lairg (Head of Legal) HC would not compulsory purchase for housing.

Building could be purchased by a community group or development trust if funds were applied for.

RJ advised that LDCI board discussed the property and suggested it could be the location of a gym/youth club for the village - site is well located, car parking available, refreshments. Can be incorporated into the place plan.

## 7. LDCI Report

RJ was elected as Chair of LDCI following the retirement of Kaye Hurrion

Winterfest 2025 will be on 6th December

Lunch club & Friendship club continuing, being run by Kaye as an LDCI member

LDCI Project Officer is helping with Lairg's Area Place Plan and working on end of year project reporting

LDCI will look to submitted Area Place Plan and community council advice for projects to take forward.

## 8. Financial Report

Balances at 28.02.2025:

**Treasurer's account:**     £6929.51

Payment to Lairg Community Association - Room Hire                     £16 on 03.02.25

Service Charges Ref: 449049320     £4.25 on 28.02.25

**Windfarm account:**     £565.59

Service Charges Ref: 449110236     £4.25 on 28.02.25

## 9. Highland Councillor's Report

Planning meeting next week to include Sallachy wind farm on section 42. Boralax have changed design and removed some redundant turbines. Submission is marked to be granted.

Chief Inspector Calum Smith will attend joint meetings of community councils (Lairg, Creich, Ardgay) to meet with councillors and deliver police report

20mph limit in Highland towns and villages to be made a permanent traffic order

Two surveys ending soon - Community Council Scheme of Establishment (9th April) and Visitor Levy consultation (31st March)

School heating system - no update from Kate Lackey asst chief executive. Passing issue on to education departments, no feedback received as yet.

Community charge to be set at 7%

Waste management team planning to address poor condition of road to dump

Ranger service reinstated: 18 full-time seasonal jobs - 4 in this area

#### 10. HC Community Benefit Consultation runs to 9th April

Various amendments proposed

#### 11. Planning applications

Allt an Tuir Renewable Energy Park Section 36 consent - conditions to attach

Crofters restaurant change of use to staff accommodation

Partial demolition/change of use to house - Grange Bar

Loch Buidhe - Shin overline

#### 12. Correspondence

Dalchork Bird Hide - damaged

Dornoch BID re Visitor Levy Consultation | Agreed LCC will fill in template letter

Far North Train Line email from University of Glasgow received

Radio Teleswitch Shutdown reply to correspondent asking her to come back to LCC in April if not resolved

Crask Inn | Shaun couldn't attend this evening's meeting

Bradbury Centre requested a letter of support. LCC have been supportive in the past

#### 13. Any other competent business

Lairg Community electric vehicle report (run by Lairg Community Association)

Scheme has been live since Feb - 5 trips.

Can find a driver for bookings in 2 weeks time, difficulty when someone rings up needing a journey tomorrow

Car currently off road due to damage incurred from another vehicle whilst parked in community centre car park - have a replacement vehicle

Vehicle tax regulations changing, will no longer be free for electric cars after March but can purchase road tax before March for no charge

Not having a second key is causing issues

Catchment area given to Lairg is huge

Bus services cut by HC at the weekend (went to Tain) - MB to ask for bus to be reinstated. Durness bus has Saturday service

#### 14. Date and Time of Next Meeting

2nd April 2025 7pm

Private Session - Windfarm Community Benefit

Application for microgrant - Veg at the Edge

Grant agreed