

## Strathard Community Council

**Minutes of meeting: Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2017 Kinlochard Village Hall**

**Community Councillors**      Michelle Colquhoun      Ros Dingwall      Colin Smith  
                                  Trevor Geraghty,      Stuart Stephen      Fergus Wood.

**Attending:**      Derek Manson (LLTNP),      Toto McLellan (Min.Secretary)      2 members of the public

Topic	Discussion	Action
<b>1.Opening</b>	<b>Introductions:</b> TG welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Derek Manson, Planning Officer with LLTNP.	
<b>2.Apologies</b>	Andre Goulancourt, Fiona McEwan, Billy Ronald (NP), Cllr Evelyn Tweed, Michelle Flynn.(Stirling Council)	
<b>3. Mins of Prev Meeting</b>	Proposed by CS, seconded by MC.	
<b>4. Matters Arising</b>	<b>Senior Citizens Dinner Dance:</b> Unscheduled works prevented the Rob Roy hosting the festivities as planned, a warm thank you card will be sent to the Forth Inn who stepped up and accommodated the event. Thanks also to numerous kind sponsors. Many people attended on foot, and regrettably left before the ceilidh was underway. Ways of shortening the time spent on the raffle will be explored for next year, and apologies were given to the Kinlochard Ceilidh Band. Thanks were expressed to Forest Hills Hotel for hosting the event for many years, and rotation of venues will continue to be explored for the future. It was noted that some attendees feel that a bus journey to the event is part of the enjoyment of the night.	Send card
<b>5.Co-option</b>	The Community Council is down by 3 members following the retirement of Geraint Short and Jimmy Quinn for personal reasons. The co-option of Gillian Utterston was proposed by TG, seconded by RD. Stirling Council will be informed by TG	TG
<b>6.Election New Secretary</b>	The temporary election of Ros Dingwall as Secretary was proposed by TG and seconded by SS. It was thought that a profile of responsibilities of Office Bearers would be helpful.	
<b>7.Treasurer</b>	The net cost of the Senior Citizens Dinner was £132. A few Christmas parcels are still to be distributed. Account stands at c£3500.	Parcels
<b>8.Planning</b>	<b>Derek Manson (LLTNP Planning Officer:</b> Mr Manson spoke of the 20yr vision of the Local Development Plan, encompassing Housing, Visitor Experience and Environment, and focusing on 3 areas for strategic growth, Callander, Balloch and Arrocher, 75 houses will be built each year, visitor centres, walk & cycle networks, travel experience and water experience will be encouraged. The committee strongly disagreed with this vision, opinion was that focussing on large communities is not in the Park's interest, while small communities within their boundaries are declining for want of employment, housing and economic regeneration. It was felt that the Park's role as manager was to address imbalance, and that they do not currently have a good track record for making decisions that bring benefit to struggling communities. Examples given were the change of use of Stronachlachar workshop to holiday accommodation, and Right to Buy homes in Killin which were subsequently sold as holiday homes, both of which could have been prevented with some thought by the	

	<p>Park. On this topic, Mr Manson was asked hypothetically what Planning Department's stand would be if application was lodged to convert closed business premises in Aberfoyle to holiday units, and answered that it would be assessed against policy.</p> <p>It was pointed out the National Park's original priority was sustainability, and that this is not being upheld; the 20yr span of the LDP will be too late for these communities; young people will have moved elsewhere to seek employment, and support is needed now.</p> <p>It was noted that whilst flagship plans are invariably tourism-related, no highlighting of living heritage is addressed, focus is non-proportional in favour of natural environment, raising concerns that the working, living network of communities which form The Park are being governed by policies more suited to the remit of a wilderness park.</p> <p>Mr Manson was asked if it was possible to speed up attention to roads and connectivity in order to repopulate the park by facilitating viable employment, which the Park is not seen to be addressing at present.</p> <p>Mr Manson was asked if the Community Empowerment Act will impact on planning. At present it does not, but Scottish Government Has just announced a review of planning.</p> <p>TG stressed that the Community Council is eager to help, and Mr Manson asked that lines of communication be kept open.</p>	
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<b>9. Corresp</b>	<p><b>Stirling Council:</b> Business Hub: Approval has been granted for for the wi-fi scheme. Immediate news of road closures etc. through the Digital Information Scheme will contribute to Resilience plan. Connection to Emergency Services Network was discussed.</p> <p><b>Community Trust:</b> Strathard Community Trust are seeking Leader funding to set up the post of Community Development Officer.</p>	
<b>10. Stirling Council Issues</b>	<p>Cllr Evelyn Tweed was not present. <b>Priority Budgeting:</b> Stirling Council were criticised for insufficient consultation with the public towards priority based budgeting which will commence in Feb 2018.</p>	
<b>11. Reports</b>	<p><b>LLTNP Stakeholder Meeting:</b> Slides showing camping traffic were displayed at the meeting, which was attended by CS. Only two community Councillors attended. No body of local opinion was shown, it was acknowledged that there is no system in place for this. CS encouraged people to register any complaints with the National Park, and copy them to the community council. A visit by officers will be invited. <b>Connect Fund:</b> £500 has been received from the Connect Fund. It was suggested that this could be used to implement a domain update. It was noted that Stirling Council and Councillors must be made aware if a new domain is set up, TG will investigate and report back on any governance restrictions.</p> <p><b>Newsletter:</b> Please forward any contributions for the newsletter.</p> <p><b>Tree Preservation Order:</b> Please submit any comments before Christmas.</p>	<p>Invite</p> <p>TG</p>
<b>12. AOCB</b>	<p><b>Cold Weather Priority:</b> It was noted that J Bilsland are running a register for priority fuel delivery to elderly people.</p> <p><b>Community Trust:</b> Thanks were expressed to Katinka Dalglish for updating the Trust's website, which now includes minutes of meetings of all local groups. It was suggested that the Treasurer should represent CC on the Community Trust, which handles funding.</p> <p><b>Your Park:</b> Your Park has been discussed at two NP meetings, but no acknowledgement of the community Council's feedback has been received. <b>Ranger:</b> LLTNP are advertising for a local person to take up the position of Park Ranger.</p>	
<b>Date Next Meeting</b>	<b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at 7pm at Aberfoyle Memorial Hall</b>	

