

Inchmarlo, Brathens and Glassel Community Council  
Online meeting  
Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2024, 7.30pm  
DRAFT Minutes

Present: Paul Herrington (Chair), Neil Bisset (Secretary) part attendance, Regis Lechatellier (Treasurer), Gail Ledingham  
Councillors: Cllr Yi Pei Chou Turvey  
Apologies: Andy Dickson, Andy Wilkins

Actions are highlighted in Green

- 1. Welcome/Apologies:** PH welcomed everyone to the meeting and confirmed that AD was on leave and so unable to attend.
- 2. Approve Minutes of previous meeting:** RL proposed and GL seconded minutes of the previous meeting. PH noted that minute actions should be reviewed under this agenda item in future.
- 3. Membership changes:** NB described his decision to stand down as Secretary due to pressure of work. RL, YT and PH thanked NB. YT noted how important it is to have people like you NB to dedicate time as a volunteer to work as a community councillor. PH hoped that NB would like to come back at some point in the future.

PH proposed that Chris Low be co-opted onto the council as an additional member who amongst other things can bring experience of working on Mid Hill windfarm fund disbursement, paths, and an interest in supporting the IBGCC website. NB, RL and GL voted in favour and the proposal was therefore unanimously supported. NB left the meeting at this point.

**4. Secretary's role:** PH described correspondence with Kirsty Macleod at Aberdeenshire Council who outlined the possibility of splitting the Secretary's role into a Correspondence Secretary and a Meetings Secretary. RL and PH had discussed this possibility and were prepared to take on these respective roles until the September election. There were no objections to this proposal which was therefore adopted with immediate effect.

**5. Meeting schedule and format:** RL and PH had previously discussed the overall meetings format and schedule and proposed that formal meetings with Councillors be held quarterly, to be interspersed with working meetings amongst the community councillors where particular projects could be discussed. PH shared an example schedule showing how quarterly CC meetings would work with informal working meetings and also Mid-hill windfarm project meetings. Schedule appended to this minute. YT thought that the minimum number of formal meetings was 5 per year. PH to check with Kirsty Macleod what the minimum is. GL noted should would be unable to attend the meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> Sep and it was agreed to move this, othwerwise there were no objections. It was agreed that if GL is not able to attend the working meetings in person, a hybrid meeting would be held using a laptop.

PH asked YT for her experience of other community councils. YT noted that other councils noted that other councils allocated individual responsibilities for topics such as planning, and PH noted that IBGCC works the same way. Current responsibilities appended to this minute.

There was a short discussion on a query regarding the planning application for Lucallan Hotel

and YP recommended sending an email to Neil Mair at the planning department [neil.mair@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:neil.mair@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) . GL is going to follow this up.

There were no other queries around the meeting schedule which will therefore be adopted subject to discussion with Kirsty Macleod. PH to confirm dates in due course.

**6. Council changes to the election process and constitution:** PH reviewed Aberdeenshire Councils letter which outlined the new 3-yearly election process. There is additional support for publicising and running the election, to be held in September. Community Councillors will be expected to hold their positions for 3 years. The co-option process would be modified to support this and avoid interim elections. PH noted that this would require a change to the constitution. YT noted that legislation is coming to give more powers to Community Councils and so its important to create motivation to join and participate in the ew election process.

**7. Secretary's Report:** there was no report from the Secretary due to NB having stood down. RL and PH agreed to jointly present the secretary's report in future.

**8. Treasurers report:** RL described the position as of January 2024, with £2,729 in the account. The cost of web-hosting has doubled since the start of the year to £36/month and so the reason for this, and alternative options, need to be established. This should include consulting with other CCs and Aberdeenshire council. AW to respond as part of the overall IT solution.

RL is planning to separate out the Mid Hill windfarm funds from the account, so that the CC position can be more clearly understood.

**9. Councillor's report:** YT has been working with the retirement village residents to improve recycling. With regard to speed limits, the Scottish Government is looking on a more case-by-case basis, but YT is still hopeful that 40mph can be extended from Banchory to 2 miles outside, in our case all the way to Bridge of Canny on the A93. YT asked that potholes be reported, including if possible a photograph. YT also encouraged CCs to write to the councillors with any issues they would like to raise.

**10. Local Place Plan:** In the absence of AD, PH presented slides outlining the basic elements of the Local Place Plan together with a high level schedule for delivering it. Elements that were described were local flooding at Bridge of Canny, plans for paths and active travel, further development of the retirement village, community facilities such as village halls, conservation of the natural environment such as Forestry Commission land, and linkage with the existing Community Action Plan. PH also noted that AD and PH were working with Banchory and Crathes CCs, and had contacted Torphins also. The next working meeting will be to discuss the LPP in more detail. YT provided a link to the Aberdeenshire Council GIS map website; [Aberdeenshire Map Layers - Aberdeenshire](#) [ note that on the top left corner you have all the layers you can add on the map (boundaries, schools, etc). combining the layers can show what you need to look at (example, layer of Community Council boundaries with core path plan for example.)]

**11. Newsletter:** PH showed the 2021 newsletter and described plans for a 2024 newsletter. The objective is to highlight the forthcoming Local Place Plan exercise and also the Election in September. RL noted that there was very little feedback / engagement from the community in response to the 2021 newsletter. RL also noted that our website is out of date and this discourages people from contacting us as if gives the impression we are not on top of things. PH to finalise draft of newsletter and circulate.

**12. Resilience:** RL described an application for Mid Hill funding from Inchmarlo Hall to purchase equipment that would allow the Hall to act as a hub for the local community during storms, power cuts, floods etc. RL will circulate the assessment spreadsheet around the **CC members for completion by the Friday 12<sup>th</sup> of April.**

**13. Retirement Village Speed Limit:** GL is meeting with Ann Ross on the 20<sup>th</sup> of April to discuss further actions on the speed limit. **GL to provide an update after their meeting.**

**14. Hill of Fare Windfarm:** PH gave a short update describing the email update from Alex Burnett, the petition being organised by the 6 local community councils (including IBGCC), and the plan to discuss the proposal at Aberdeenshire Council's Marr Area committee, at which PH has requested to speak. YT confirmed that the windfarm is not on the Marr Area agenda for the 16<sup>th</sup> of April.

**15. Paths:** PH described Chris Low's initiative to set up a constituted Inchmarlo paths group. Despite good attendance at a recent public meeting there were insufficient number willing to take on formal positions and so unfortunately the group has not been created. This means that the re-instatement of the footbridge at Bridge of Canny will not be progressed.

**16. Any other Business (AOB):** GL described the public exhibition for the retirement village "OP2" development and how it was not well received by residents in part due to the inclusion of regular and low-cost housing, which being located a couple of miles outside of Banchory could lead to problems for example with teenagers not having anything to do. It is believed that this element has been removed from the plans by Mr Skene. There is also safety concerns over a steep narrow road being used as a access road. **GL to keep an eye on progress and ensure the community council is involved at the appropriate times. PH to add to agenda for next meeting.**

PH noted that there was an outstanding action on **AW to look at the package of meeting/email/drive/website services and make a proposal at this meeting.**

**17. Date of next meeting:** provisionally set for 26<sup>th</sup> of June at 19.30, subject to discussion with Kirsty Macleod regarding the schedule. This will be the AGM. **AD and PH to organise interim working meeting on LPPs.**

## Notional meeting schedule

Updated	Event
31/03/24	Windfarm applications close
TBC	Windfarm projects
TBC	Working (LPP)
26/06/24	Quarterly (AGM)
TBC	Working
08/09/24	Nominations close
25/09/24	Quarterly (Inaugural)
31/9/24	Windfarm applications close
TBC	Windfarm projects
TBC	Working
18/12/24	Quarterly

## Current roles and responsibilities

Who	Activity
NB	Secretary
RL	Treasurer
RL	Resilience
RL	Midhill Funding
AW	Telecoms
AW	Website
PH	Windfarm / pylons
PH	Paths
GL	Speed limit reduction
GL	Planning proposals
AD	Community Plan