

# STRATHPEFFER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Notes of Annual General Meeting held on 4 November 2020 at 7:30 pm by Zoom video call

<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday 4 November 2020
<b>Time:</b>	19:30
<b>Location:</b>	By Zoom video call
<b>Present (members):</b>	Peter Maclellan, Ron McAulay, Archie Macnab, Val McGregor and Neil Moscrop
<b>Present (public or HC members/officials):</b>	Cllr Ian Cockburn
<b>Apologies:</b>	Gail Maclean and Duncan Macphail
<b>Declaration of interest:</b>	None
<b>Appointment of Minute Secretary:</b>	Ron McAulay

<b>Agenda items</b>		<b>Actions</b>
1.	<b>Minutes of last AGM:</b> Approved.	-
2.	<b>Chair's report</b> The Chair's report was presented by Ron. Copy of the report is attached as Appendix 1.	-
3.	<b>Treasurer's report</b> The treasurer's report covering the expenditure and income over the year was presented by Archie. Copy of the report is attached as Appendix 2.	-
4.	<b>Resignation and selection/re-selection of office bearers</b> All office bearers resigned and Cllr Ian Cockburn temporarily acted as chair of the meeting. After some discussion it was agreed that the following members would carry out the following roles: Ron McAulay – Chair and Secretary (Proposed by Peter and seconded by Archie) Val MacGregor – Vice Chair (Proposed by Ron and seconded by Peter) Archie McNab – Treasurer (Proposed by Ron and seconded by Val)	-

	Following this selection, Ron took back the chair from Cllr Cockburn.	
5.	<b>Any other business</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There was no other business.</li> </ul>	-
6.	<b>Meeting closed</b> The meeting was closed.	-
<b>Date: 7/11/20</b>		

## APPENDIX 1

### STRATHPEFFER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

#### CHAIR'S REPORT TO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4 NOVEMBER 2020 AT 7:30PM BY ZOOM VIDEO CALL

The last AGM of the Strathpeffer and District Community Council (CC) was held on the 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019. Largely due to the issues caused by the Covid 19 pandemic, this AGM has been delayed slightly until now. However, the work of the CC has continued to move forward thanks to Zoom video conferencing facilities during the pandemic.

Over the course of the year various matters have been discussed and actioned as follows:

#### **Village Community Plan**

During the past year, the Village Community Action Plan (CAP) was published. It contains three key themes as follows:

- Sharing information across the community and between the various groups in Strathpeffer;
- Attracting more visitors to the village and encouraging them to stay for longer;
- Making Strathpeffer and district an even better place to live.

A key outcome of the Plan was the suggestion to create a Development Trust for the village that would help to bring together the various groups and promote the village as a whole rather than in its separate parts. We have now begun the process of creating that Development Trust. Rather than create yet another company or incorporated charity within the village the decision has been taken to amend the articles of association of the Strathpeffer Community Association which owns and operates the Community Centre to make it into the trust for the village. This work of amending the articles will take some months to complete and is hoped will be concluded over the coming year.

#### **Strathpeffer.org website**

We have also seen the Strathpeffer.org website revitalised. It is now full of useful information about the community and is regularly updated. Thanks go to Bruce Messer for his hard work in getting the website back into action and maintaining it.

#### **Strath Times**

On a similar note, the Strath Times is now back in print. At the time of the AGM, we are gathering information and articles for the third edition of the paper. Due to issues caused by the pandemic, it has not been possible to circulate the paper as much as we would like around the village however, an online version is available on the website and hard copies are available in the local RS McColls. Thanks go to Miranda Wharam and Bruce Messer for helping to produce the paper.

#### **Pavilion - Community purchase**

Ownership of both the Pavilion building and the gardens and pump room has now transferred to the Strathpeffer Pavilion Community Trust (SPCT) which is a local group that was set up to own and operate the Pavilion. High Life Highland will continue to operate and manage the building on behalf of the SPCT. This is a big step forward in securing the Pavilion and grounds for the benefit of the community.

## Improvements in the Square

Towards the end of 2019, we were fortunate to secure funding through the Town Centre Fund for various improvements in the Square. The Town Centre Fund is a Scottish Government Fund administered on its behalf by the local Council. The works that we proposed for funding and we have since obtained full planning permission for include:

- Erection of a gazebo over the old dance floor
- Pressure washing of the pavements and walls in the Square
- Restoration of the old fountain and waterfall cascade
- Improvements to the flower beds and garden areas around the Square
- Introduction of a one way system through the Square with additional pavement area created outside the Deli opposite the new gazebo, and
- Improvements to the façade of the buildings in the Square including the removal and replacement of the harling, replacement of the windows and doors with a uniform style of window and replacement of the signage with a uniform Victorian style of sign.

These proposals allowed us to progress one of the key themes of our community action plan - “to make Strathpeffer an even better place to live”.

We received funding for all but the last of the items in the list above and works on those items that were funded are now nearing completion. The works still outstanding are the completion of the roof of the gazebo and some of the gardening works. The new one way system still awaits a formal traffic order by the Highland Council to allow it to be introduced although most of the physical works required have been completed.

We hope to make a further application for funding for the items that were not funded in this round when the Town Centre Fund reopens for applications later this year.

## Proposed Wind Farms in the surrounding area

During the year two proposed wind farms have come to the attention of the CC. One at Kirkan and one at Strathrory. Each of these proposals brings potential benefit to the Community not only in the form of cleaner power generation but also in what are called community benefit schemes (CBF). The community already benefits from a CBF created by the existing wind farm at Corriemoille. Discussions are still ongoing with the developers of both of these proposed wind farms to see what might come from them if they receive consent from the planning authority.

## Strathpeffer Together - Heritage Lottery Fund application

Another key theme of our community action plan was to bring together the various groups within the village to share information and hopefully work more closely on applications for funding. With this in mind, a group called “Strathpeffer Together” has been formed to prepare an application for Heritage Lottery Funding (HLF) for a range of projects that will benefit the community. The groups involved include:

- Strathpeffer Community Council
- Strathpeffer Residents’ Association
- Strathpeffer Pavilion Community Trust
- Strathpeffer Community Association
- St Anne’s Church
- Highland Museum of Childhood
- Strathpeffer Golf Club
- Strathpeffer Shinty Club

It is hoped that an application will be submitted to the HLF in early 2021 and that various projects will be progressed.

## Christmas Lights

Late in 2019, the CC was able to purchase, with funding from the Corriemoille wind farm fund, twelve new Christmas lights for the village. These were displayed during the Christmas period in 2019 and an additional four lights have now been purchased which will be erected on the lampposts later this month.

## No.27 Bus service

It was with great regret that the CC heard that this bus service which serves Strathpeffer and Contin would be curtailed slightly. The service no longer visits Contin. The CC has supported Contin CC in its deliberations on how this shortfall in the service might be addressed. Contin CC is currently taking forward ideas to see if it can raise funding to subsidise a number of services that will serve Contin at key times.

### Volunteer Service during the pandemic

In the initial stages of the national lockdown caused by the Covid 19 pandemic, the CC established a volunteer delivery service for those who were vulnerable in the community. The service delivered prescriptions and essential groceries to those who requested the service. While most people in the community were able to call on family and friends the service filled a gap for some and was gratefully received.

### Flooding in the Village

In November of last year, the CC met with representatives of the Highland Council's Infrastructure team to discuss flooding issues. Details were heard of their proposals to promote works to address flooding in the Blairninich and Fodderty area. The problems experienced in the village itself will be the subject of a surface water management plan which was planned to be developed over the course of 2020. This will identify the issues and begin to develop solutions. In the meantime the importance of maintaining the existing drainage system to remove blockages was seen as being critical to avoiding repeats of recent flooding events.

### Summary

It has been a busy year and despite the issues created by the Covid 19 pandemic, the CC has managed to continue to make good progress on a number of important fronts.

Ron McAulay

Chair of Strathpeffer Community Council - 4 November 2020

### APPENDIX 2

Strathpeffer Community Council, Clydesdale Bank Account				
Date	Type	Details	Amount Out	
	CHQ No		SCC Funds	
<b>2018/19</b>				
		Balance Brought Forward		£1,145.33
07/05/2018	CHQ000022	Strathpeffer Primary School (Seedlings Club)	£250.00	
07/05/2018	CHQ000023	Strathpeffer Community Association (Room Hire)	£108.00	
12/06/2018	payin	Foundation Scotland (Lego Workshop)		£824.00
26/06/2018	0	Lindsey Dunbar (Lego)	£350.00	
03/07/2018	00003 pay in	notice board		£59.40
03/09/2018		Post Office HLH (£144.00) Hire of Hall		
03/09/2018	CHQ000025	Post Office HLH (£99.00) Catering	£243.00	
05/09/2018	CHQ000026	Strathpeffer Community Association (Room Hire)	£54.00	
22/11/2018	Payin000004	Christmas lights collection		£135.00
27/11/2018	CHQ000027	Strathpeffer garden club	£250	
27/11/2018	CHQ000028	Sandra Flemming (leaflets)	£125.00	
	Payin000005	Christmas lights collection		£81.00
09/01/2019	CHQ000029	Strathpeffer Community Association (Room Hire)	£49.20	
09/01/2019	CHQ000030	Calico (Strath Website)	£114.00	
09/01/2019	CHQ000031	Christmas Lights (Val Macgergor)	£220.64	
	payin	FOUNDATION SCOTLAND		£679.00

APPENDIX 2 (CONTINUED)

		<b>2019/20</b>		
26/04/2019	CHQ000032	Strathpeffer Community Association (Room Hire)	£90.00	
13/05/2019	payin	HC Annual Grant		£619.16
14/05/2019	payin	Strathpeffer New York Villa Trust		£2,800.00
23/05/2019	CHQ00033	Calico (Strath Website up-grde)	£64.03	
04/07/2019	CHQ00036	Cromartie Timber	£130.42	
06/07/2019	CHQ00037	Strath Gardening Group (A Munro-White)	£250.00	
15/07/2019	CHQ00038	Festive Lights	£2,655.88	
18/09/2019	CHQ00039	Calico	£12.00	
19/09/2019	CHQ00040	Starthpeffer Community Association (Room Hire)	£90.00	
01/11/2019	PAYIN	CARES		£9,989.50
19/11/2019	PAYIN	Foundation Scotland		£1,440.00
24-Nov	42	Hazel Allen	£9,989.50	
24/11/2019	43	Highland Council	£1,440	
20/11/2019	payin	Ron McAulay - Contributions from Square property owners to cost of preparation of plans for TCF		£180.00
25/11/2019	44	Starthpeffer Community Association (Room Hire)	£94.50	
27/11/2019	45	Ron Starski ( TCF Architect fees)	£250.00	
29-Nov	46	SPCGS	£101.00	
02-Dec	Pay in	Ron McAulay - Contribution from Square property owners to cost of TCF planning application		£45.00
04-Dec	Pay in	Ron McAulay - Contribution from Square property owners to cost of TCF planning application		£45.00
05-Dec	Pay in	Ron McAulay - Contribution from Square property owners to cost of TCF planning application		£95.00
13/01/2020	47	CALICO	£210.00	
20/02/2020	payin	Highland Council (Town Centre Fund (TCF))		£439.14
02/02/2020	Payin	Ron MacAulay (TCF)		£103.65
03/03/2020	48	Ron MacAulay (TCF)	£439.24	
04/03/2020	49	Starthpeffer Community Association (Room Hire)	£18.00	
04/03/2020	50	Starthpeffer Community Association (Room Hire)	£18.00	
25-Mar	PAYIN	Highland Council (Town Centre Fund (TCF)) - Payment of claim and float to cover costs of works		£20,042.00
25-Mar	51	Ron McAulay - Ron managing spend on TCF project - Separate accounts set out payment of these funds to various contractors carrying out the TCF works	£20,042.00	

