

The Highland Council

Minutes of Meeting of the **Nairnshire Committee** held in the Chamber, The Court House, High Street, Nairn on 30 October 2023 at 10.30am.

Present:

Mr L Fraser
Mr M Green
Ms B Jarvie
Mr P Oldham

In Attendance:

Mr L Hannah, Ward Manager, Nairn and Badenoch and Strathspey
Ms R Ross, Committee Officer, Performance and Governance

An asterisk in the margin denotes a recommendation to the Council. All decisions with no marking in the margin are delegated to the Committee.

Mr M Green in the Chair

Business

1. Apologies for Absence Leisgeulan

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Interest Foillseachaidhean Com-pàirt

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Good News Naidheachdan Matha

The Chair drew the committee's attention to the following items of Good News:-

- the Harbour Options Appraisal had been awarded to consultants Wallace Stone in Dingwall and was being funded by the regeneration fund and Highlands and Islands Enterprise;
- the Reuse, Repurpose Recycle feasibility study was coming to completion; and
- there would be a public meeting on 16 November 2023 at 7.30pm in the Community Centre where groups and organisations would be invited to provide news for the Nairn Community Newsletter.

During discussion Members added the following items of Good News :-

- congratulations were extended to Nairn Academy pupils for their fundraising efforts for Mikey's Line and to senior pupil Ryan Hernandez who was named senior phase student of the year;

- the new Highland Council Chief Executive, Derek Brown would be visiting Nairn in the near future; and
- thanks were extended to the Yarn Bombers for decorating post-boxes for Remembrance Day.

4. **Nairn Common Good Fund – Community Engagement Model Maoin Math Coitcheann Inbhir Narann – Modail Com-pàirteachas Coimhearsnachd**

There had been circulated Report No Report No NC/18/23 dated 20 October 2023 by the Executive Chief Officer Communities and Place.

During discussion the following points were raised: -

- it was clarified that decision making still rested with Members as a statutory duty and that the purpose of the Nairn Common Good Fund Engagement Group was to involve the community in the Common Good Fund;
- on the point being raised it was confirmed that Common Good Fund tenants had been included twice as possible group members and that this would be corrected and that Nairn Community Enterprise was also known by the name NICE and that this would be clarified in the future;
- it would be helpful if meetings could be scheduled as issues arose rather than the twice-yearly meeting schedule referred in the report;
- it was suggested that an elderly representative be included in the group membership;
- it was emphasised that training and induction would be important and it would be preferable to hold the first meeting soon after the training;
- on the point being raised it was suggested that it would be better not to have nominated persons as members but rather to have places for representatives of organisations to allow for substitutes to attend when necessary;
- it was suggested that two members from busier organisations such as Police Scotland be invited to attend the training sessions; and
- concern was expressed at the possibility of large numbers of representatives from a single group attending together and trying to control proceedings.

Thereafter, the Committee:-

- i. **NOTED** the update provided in the report;
- ii. **AGREED** that the draft Framework for a Nairn Common Good Fund Engagement Group at Appendix 1 be issued for consultation; and
- iii. **AGREED** that the outcome of the consultation be reported back to Committee in January 2024 with further proposals for next steps.

5. **Nairn Common Good Fund - Quarter 2 Financial Monitoring Report 2023/24 Maoin Math Coitcheann Inbhir Narann – Aithisg Sgrùdaidh Ionmhasail Cairteil 2, 2023/24**

There had been circulated Report No NC/19/23 dated 20 October 2023 by the Executive Chief Officer Communities and Place and the Head of Corporate Finance

Confirmation was provided that Members had access to detailed accounts for the Common Good Fund.

The Committee **NOTED** the position of the NCGF as shown in the Quarter 2 Revenue Monitoring Statement against Budget for 2023/24.

6. Ward Discretionary Budget
Buidseat Fo Ùghdarras Uàird

The Committee **NOTED** that no Ward Discretionary Fund payments had been approved since the previous meeting of the Committee.

During discussion disappointment was expressed at the lack on applications to the Ward Discretionary fund.

7. Minutes
Geàrr-chunntas

The Committee **NOTED** the Minutes of the Meeting of the Nairnshire Committee held on 8 August 2023 which were approved by the Council on 14 September 2023

Arising from the Minutes, it was indicated that details of the works at the Ardersier Port Junction on the A96 had not yet been provided by the Interim Executive Chief Office Infrastructure and Environment and the Ward Manager undertook to come back to Members with an update on this.

The meeting concluded at 10.55am