

## Highland Council

Minutes of Meeting of the **Nairnshire Committee** held remotely on Tuesday 8 March 2022 at 10.30 am.

### Present:

Mr L Fraser  
Mrs L MacDonald

Mr P Sagers

### In attendance:

Mrs A Clark, Head of Service Community Support and Engagement, Communities and Place  
Mr L Hannah, Ward Manager, Communities and Place  
Mr J Mitchell, Principal Housing Officer, Housing and Property  
Mr R Porteous, Roads Operations Manager, Infrastructure, Environment and Economy  
Mrs M Grigor, Finance Manager, Resources and Finance  
Ms L Harrison, Accountant, Resources and Finance  
Mrs L Dunn, Principal Administrator, 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 L Fraser in the Chair**

### PRELIMINARIES

Prior to commencing the meeting, the Committee **AGREED** that Mr L Fraser be appointed Chair for the meeting.

The Chair made a statement on behalf of the Committee expressing their shock at the tragic loss of their colleague and Area Chair, Mr Tom Heggie. Continuing the Chair stated that he would be hugely missed and the Committee sent their deepest condolences to his family during this difficult time.

### BUSINESS

**1. Apologies for Absence**  
**Leisgeulan**

There were no apologies for absence.

**2. Declarations of Interest**  
**Foillseachaidhean Com-pàirt**

Item 5: Mr P Sagers (Transparency Statement)  
Item 6: Mr P Sagers

**3. Housing Revenue Account: Garage Rents 2022/23**  
**Cunntas Teachd-a-steach Taigheadais: Màil Gharaidsean 2022/23**

There had been circulated Report No NC/**01**/22 dated 4 February 2022 by the Executive Chief Officer Housing and Property.

During discussion, it was indicated that maintenance costs would increase as a result of rising inflation and in view of this it was proposed that a 1.5% rent increase should be applied.

Thereafter, the Committee **AGREED** a 1.5% rent increase be applied to Nairnshire Garages and Garage sites.

**4. Area Roads Capital Programme 2022/23  
Prògram Calpa Rathaidean Sgìreil 2022/23**

There had been circulated Report No NC/**02**/22 dated 8 February 2022 by the Executive Chief Officer Infrastructure, Environment and Economy.

During discussion, appreciation was expressed for the allocation that had been made within the programme for strengthening road edges.

The Committee **APPROVED** the proposed 2022/23 Area Roads Capital Programme for the Nairn Area.

**5. Nairnshire Repurposing COVID-19 Fund and Place Based Investment Fund Proposals  
Molaidhean airson Maoin Ath-chleachdaidh COVID-19 agus Maoin Tasgaidh Stèidhichte air Àite Inbhir Narann**

**Transparency Statement: Mr Saggars had a connection to this item by reason of being the Council's appointee as a director of Nairn BID. However, having applied the objective test he did not consider that he had an interest to declare. This was because he had no involvement with the applications made for funding from the Ward's Place Based Investment Fund. He had requested that this Statement be recorded in the Minutes.**

There had been circulated Report No NC/**03**/22 dated 21 February 2022 by the Executive Chief Officer Communities and Place.

During discussion, Members welcomed the cross agency working that had been undertaken to deliver this wide range of projects which would contribute to the wellbeing of the community and enhance the town.

Thereafter, the Committee **AGREED** the:

- i. repurposing of £3,200 from the Ward COVID19 Fund to support Amenity Services with repairs and improvements to the Birch Road play area in Nairn; and
- ii. proposed allocation of the Ward's remaining balance of £65,000 Place Based Investment Funds as follows in line with Community Partnership recommendations:
  - Accessibility Projects
    - a) Nairn Access Panel, The Links Beach - £10,000
  - Improving Health & Wellbeing Outcomes
    - b) Health & Wellbeing in Nairnshire Schools - £9,000
    - c) Listening Benches, Nairn Links - £2,000

d) Nairn Community Drop in Hub - £1,000

• Improving Local Infrastructure to Stimulate Economic Growth

- e) Traffic Calming / Pedestrianisation – The Brae Feasibility study £3,000
- f) Gathering places / Market Spaces Nairn High Street - £7,000
- g) Nairnshire Visitor & Experience Centre and Regeneration Hub Nairn Improvement Community Enterprise (NICE) - £5,000
- h) Nairn High Street Vennels Refresh – Nairn BID £7,000
- i) Nairnshire Farmers' Showfield – Nairn Bowling Club feasibility study £3,000
- j) Nairn Common Good Fund Harbour Street Public Toilets & Motorhome Provision £18,000.

**6. Place Based Investment Programme (PBIP)  
Prògram Tasgaidh Stèidhichte air Àite**

**Declaration of Interest: Mr P Saggars declared an interest in this item as he was a director of Nairn River Enterprise Ltd (Green Hive) and, in accordance with paragraph 5.6 of the revised Code of Conduct, he left the meeting for this item.**

There had been circulated Report No NC/**04**/22 dated 22 February 2022 by the Executive Chief Officer Infrastructure, Environment and Economy.

\* As the meeting was no longer quorate, the Committee **AGREED to recommend** to the Council that the:

- i. following applications be offered a Place Based Investment Programme grant:
  - a. Nairn Sports Club Bounce Back - £35,000
  - b. Nairn St Ninian JFC Floodlight Upgrade - £5,094
  - c. Nairn St Ninian Bowling Club Disabled Toilet Renovation - £4,400
- ii. residual funding of £34,234, be awarded to Team Hamish Links Regeneration (Phase 2).

**7. Nairn Common Good Fund: Audited Accounts 2020/21, 2021/22 Quarter 3 Monitoring Report and General Update and 2022/23 Budget  
Maoin Math Coitcheann Inbhir Narann: Cunntasan Sgrùdaichte 2020/21, Aithisg Sgrùdaidh Cairteal 3 2021/22 agus Cunntas Coitcheann às Ùr agus Buidseat 2022/23**

There had been circulated Joint Report No NC/**05**/22 dated 11 February 2022 by the Executive Chief Officer Resources and Finance and Executive Chief Officer Communities and Place.

During discussion, it was confirmed that the Nairn Common Good Fund budget for 2022/23 included provision for income from the Common Good car parks. It was further clarified that future use of the Harbour Street toilets would form part of the feasibility study and the outcome of this would inform the improvement works required. Discussions were ongoing with the Housing and Property Service regarding a contribution towards the cost of future improvement works. A report would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee to agree the scope of the feasibility study.

Thereafter, the Committee **AGREED**:

- i. the Nairn Common Good Fund Statement of Accounts for 2020/21 (Appendix 1) and the final 21/22 Monitoring Statement (Appendix 2);
- ii. the position of the Nairn Common Good Fund and 2021/22 outturn as shown in the Quarter 3 monitoring statement against budget (Appendix 3);
- iii. Nairn Common Good Fund budget for 2022/23 detailed within the report (Appendix 4); and
- iv. as part of the 2022/23 budget, a delegated property maintenance budget with an expenditure authority level of £300.

The meeting was concluded at 11am.