



BELHELVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

APPROVED MINUTES of MEETING – 17th June 2019 @ WHITE HORSE INN.

Chair: David Wallace; **Vice Chair:** Alex McIntyre **Treasurer:** Ewan Phipps
Secretary: John Fletcher **Planning Reporter:** Graham Middleton

Members Present: D Wallace, A. McIntyre, E Phipps, R Miller,
C Wood, M. Brown, D, Watson, H, Foxen

Apologies: M Mitchell, D McKendrick

Formartine Area Councillors Present: P Johnston, J Gifford

Apologies; Andrew Hassan

Visitors: A Hendry, D Watson, A Robertson, T Kindly, A Roe (AC Area Manager)

1. Introduction of Attendees & Welcome to Visitors

- The Chairman welcomed all present to the meeting, asked that all mobile phones be put on 'silent' and that all matters be addressed through the chair.

2. Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman had no opening remarks as these were previously voiced at the AGM

3. Declaration of any Conflicts of Interest to Agenda Items

- No conflicts of interest reported.

4. Police Matters & Report (Carolyn if Police not in attendance)

- **Antisocial behaviour, Violence and Disorder:**

During this review period there has been 1 recorded Assault which occurred in the Balmedie area and is of a minor nature.

Areas of concern which have previously been highlighted by the community councils continue to get extra attention. In particular, routine patrols are being carried out at Balmedie Beach, Egie Road

Throughout May, Officers from Formartine have continued to conduct routine foot and speed patrols, with numerous patrols and speed checks being conducted within the Balmedie.

- **Acquisitive Crime**

Police Scotland will continue to carry out extensive night patrols in the local villages and towns of Formartine to disrupt criminal activity and routinely have dedicated crime patrols who monitor the road networks for travelling criminals

- **Road Safety & Road Crime**

Two reports of Careless Driving and Speeding on the A90 at Balmedie are currently in the process of being reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

Three incidents of Careless Driving were reported to Police at ongoing roadworks on the old A90, near to the Cock and Bull Restaurant, Balmedie.

- **OP ILLUSTRIOUS**

Operation Illustrious will take the form of dedicated high visibility and intelligence led patrols and speed checks across the Formartine area by Officers from the Formartine Local Policing Team, based at Ellon and Turriff, supported by Officers from North East Division's Roads Policing Unit.

The number of drivers dealt with by Police in May compared to April is significantly less despite a similar amount of speed checks being conducted.

- **Other Incidents**

During the review period, a total of 4 persons have been stopped in the Ward 8 area in possession of controlled drugs, namely Cannabis and Ketamine. Three of these incidents occurred in the Balmedie area.

- **Community Beat Officer**

Our Community Beat Officer PC Douglas Donald continues to settle into his new role and has been out in the community carrying out regular patrols, listening and acting upon any community based issues which are having an adverse effect on the community.

5. **BCC Website Development Update (C Wood)**

Report item- this month	May
Website user	230 (compared to 70 in April)
Top Page (1)	Transport Suvey
Top Page (2)	Homepage
Top Page (3)	News
Facebook Followers (total at end of the month)	169 (Compared to 166 April)
Facebook first post (based on engagement %)	Transport Survey
Facebook second post (based on engagement %)	Footpath re-opening (BCT share)

Comment - The transport survey had a major impact on user numbers on the sit

6. **Comments / Approval of Previous Month's Meeting Minutes**

- The Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and accepted. They were then proposed for approval by C. Wood and seconded by M. Brown.

7. **Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting Minutes**

- Lost keys for the notice boards, Ian Muirden has the keys and also will complete refurbishing the notice boards when back from holiday
- T. Kindly expressed her fears for people using the slip road from Balmedie to Blackdog, there are no signs suggesting cars use this route, she is worried that cyclists do not expect cars to be travelling on this road and this may result in an accident. It would be correct policy for a sign to be placed here saying 'Beware of Cars'
- Speed signs, D McKendrick will continue trying to get speed signs for Balmedie.

8. **Treasurer's Report**

- Only one transaction in June relating to Data Protection Registration Fee
- 2019 Community Council grant available post AGM and submission of accounts (circa £800)
- 2019 Village Tidy Fund – application form has been submitted for £2500/proposal broadly in line with 2018 activities

9. Planning Report

- Blackdog Croft, Hareburn Terrace, erection of workshop, awaiting decision.
- South Orrock, Balmedie, erection of dwelling house, awaiting decision.
- Roselea, Balmedie, erection of dwelling house, awaiting decision.
- The Fells, Keir Heights, Balmedie, alterations and extensions to dwelling house, including decking, Awaiting decision.
- 12 Denview Road, Potterton, alterations and extension to dwelling house, awaiting decision
- Site by Aberdeen Offshore Windfarm Substation, Blackdog, installation of drainage channels along access road boundary, awaiting decision.

10. Landfill Tax Projects and GreenField Projects: (E. Phipps)

Balmedie Leisure Centre

- Alan Still attended meeting on 4th June with Amanda Roe and Camille Russell to source match funding for phase 1 of the upgrade
- Application made to Formartine Area Committee budget for £5k match funding
- No funds currently available in developer obligations
- Team Niblick have prepared final specification and Budget priced Bill of Quantities for £70k, plan has been circulated for final approval
- EB Scotland have confirmed that funds are low and additional funds should be available around September

Other

- Letter of support received from Police Scotland in respect of recent speed sign application, forwarded on to Foundation Scotland for consideration
- In collaboration with BCT an application made to Empowering Communities Programme to undertake a new review of local facility provision

11. External Meeting Report Back

- BCT Meeting, R Miller attended but no report forwarded
- Bus Forum & Transport Survey, reported by C Wood

We had 171 responses to the transport survey run in May. Of these 126 responses included comments on our residents experiences with the bus service.

Prior to the meeting Aberdeenshire Council was emailed survey summary and full data Meeting run by AC Councillor, AC transport committee manager, Stagecoach representatives, AC Council officers

Public attendance approx: 50-60

16 residents from Balmedie, Blackdog and Potterton attended (including Carlyne & Dan)

Detailed discussion of routes in each area, budgets forcing Council Supported routes to be cut, Stagecoach issues with implementing real time reporting on bus routes/information displays showing incorrect information.

Blackdog issue - roads department (AC) looking at how they could **create path through Blackdog** to bus stops (delays caused by difficulty due to gas mains/infrastructure). AC also looking into a **turning circle** in Blackdog for buses (much longer term). Paul Johnston is aware of this issue and working on it with AC.

BCC residents very vocal on routes (missing Morrisons/Health village), bus driver not knowing routes (Tipperty crossing dual carriage way story), Blackdog bus stop position, **timings** - 2 hour wait in middle of Balmedie

Carlyne presented the **survey results** (summary)

- Overall customer satisfaction - poor
- Who responded
- What need to change for more people to use the bus - routes and frequency
- What the community are asking for
- Community comments - impact of the poor service

- Common themes with public at the meeting - social isolation (especially elderly and young parents), difficulty with Buchan coaches (only 2 seats downstairs), poor routes (Ellon), poor connecting services (Ellon), breakdowns (no buses turning up)

Next steps:

Bus timetables - new bus timetables for August currently being developed/finalised, the next round of changes to timetable will be published spring 2020 (dates to be confirmed by Stagecoach).

Public meeting - at the Bus Forum Carlyne requested a public meeting in Balmedie to discuss community feedback and what actions can be taken by Stagecoach and Aberdeenshire Council. Stagecoach manager at the Bus Forum meeting agreed to come to public transport meeting organised by the BCC

Carlyne will be organising a public meeting with AC and stagecoach attending, and agenda reflecting the changes our community want to see based on survey results.

Complaints process - proposed at the June BCC meeting

Bus user complains to Stagecoach and informs BCC of complaint (via email, BCC website, phone) and any feedback from Stagecoach. BCC collate complaints and feedback to Jamie Reid (Stagecoach) and Roddy Aiken (Aberdeenshire Council)

BCC approved this approach at the monthly meeting. Carlyne to publicise and collate complaints.

12 Attendance Nomination for Future External Meetings

- BRA, G Middleton – Graeme to liaise with BRA regarding date of next meeting
- Potterton Residents Group – H. Foxen
- Balmedie Country Park Meeting - 06:30pm on 03/07/2019 at Leisure Centre, J Fletcher, A McIntyre and M Brown.

13 New External and Internal Correspondence

- Planning Approval list from Aberdeenshire Council
- Scheme of Establishment. Comments have to be sent by Thursday 27th June
- NOR Development (D Harrington) will give a presentation at BCC August meeting
- Email from A Hendry asking why there was no intimation on BCC website, Facebook Page and notice boards of the BBC monthly meeting on 17th June, also no advertisement of the AGM taking place the same date, also no display of the approved minutes for 2018 AGM. BCC confirms all was advertised on Facebook and notice boards and in compliance.

14 Any Other Business

- Repairs ongoing to the Noticeboards
- Note from M Brown. Given the absence of any further work being carried by Aberdeenshire Council, as promised last year, I will be arranging the clear up of the focal point in Whitecairns. This is the area around the post box, community notice board and park bench. Also the surrounding area beside the Bus stop. I have planted this years allocation of plants which can hardly be seen in some points due to the overgrowth. Ewan knows a local contractor who is going to come round and quote BCC for the work. Hopefully this will happen in the next week or so. Failing this I have offered to do it if BCC will refund the cost of hiring a petrol hedge strimmer and Hedge strimmer. Contractor to complete this works reporting to M Brown.
- For information, it was noted that garden waste may be discarded at the Balmedie Library from 1pm – 4pm on Saturdays.

Meeting closed 20:55

Next Belhelvie Community Council meeting – Monday 17th August 2019

At 7:00pm Venue Balmedie Leisure Centre - Visitors Welcome

e-mail address: belhelviecommunitycouncil@hotmail.com