



BELHELVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of MEETING – 15th April 2019 @ WHITE HORSE INN.

Chair: David Wallace; **Vice Chair:** David Watson; **Treasurer:** Ewan Phipps
Secretary: John Fletcher **Planning Reporter:** Vacant

Members Present: D Wallace, D Robertson, G Middleton, A. Hendry
D McKendrick, A. McIntyre, E Phipps, R Miller,
Carolyne Wood, M. Brown, D, Watson

Apologies: H Foxen,

Formartine Area Councillors Present: None

Apologies; Andrew Hassan, Paul Johnston Jim Gifford

Visitors: Dan Wood, Joe Cowan, Amanda Roe (Acting Area Manager Formartine), Sgt Lisa Will (Police Scotland)

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. He also requested that BCC members declare any conflict of interest in any of the known agenda items.

2. Chairman's Opening Remarks

- Chair advised of the late change to agenda to include for the new item 5. The Chair also confirmed that Ian Downie had resigned from the council

3. Declaration of any Conflicts of Interest to Agenda Items

- No conflicts of interest reported.

4. Police Matters / Report (main points)

Sgt Will went over the police report which is in a new format. This report covers the Mid Formartine area (Police Ward 8). Sgt Will asked for feedback from Community Council on the format. The consensus of the meeting was that they welcomed the new format as the feeling was it gave more detailed information than previous report format.

Key points from the report:-

Community are requested to feed back to police any areas where they believe speeding is a particular problem. This will help focus the speeding initiative the police are about to undertake in the Formartine area.

Police are going to introduce foot patrols in rural villages in an effort to forge closer community links. The public are encouraged to approach the officers whilst on foot patrol and raise any concerns they have with the officers.

Rural Watch Scotland is a new initiative which police are encouraging people to get involved with. To get more information and to join visit the website at

<https://member-registration.neighbourhoodalert.co.uk/173/Join>

If you would like to report anything to the police, use either the non-emergency number 101 or via www.scotland.police.uk. If you wish to remain anonymous then use Crimestoppers on 0800 555111. Please follow us on Twitter @ShireNpol for local policing updates

Discussion on Unreserved Apology sent by Chairman

There was discussion on complaint by A. Hendry's that the chairman had acted undemocratically in issuing an apology without getting agreement from Council that an apology should be issued. The majority of the Council members felt that an apology was in order if the Constable had been made to feel uncomfortable.

The consensus of the meeting was that a line be drawn under this issue and no request be made for Sgt McKay to attend next meeting.

5. Apology Demand

This was a late item tabled by Drew Robertson calling for the Chair to apologise to the Vice Chair for comments made at the start of the March meeting when the Vice Chairman was not present. The Chair advised that he would make same remark in Vice Chair's presence and apologised if the remark caused offence. The Vice Chair refused to accept this apology and this resulted in Vice Chair making defamatory remarks about the Chair and resigning from the Council and leaving the meeting.

6. BCC Website Development Update (Carolynne & Dan Wood)

Carolynne Wood gave an update on the Website usage over the last month. Users were down slightly but this is reflective of the subject matter variations. The most popular pages were (i) Home page, (ii) List of Members, (iii) Next Meeting. Number of Facebook followers continues to increase, the best post this month being the one about the Bus Service Meeting at Eigie House.

7. 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 D. McKendrick and seconded by R. Miller.

8. Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting Minutes

- Safe path from Blackdog to bus stops has still to be adequately resolved. Access is possible behind fence on a makeshift path. Further discussion to take place with Aberdeenshire Council in effort to get a proper access between village and bus stop.
- Cycle path between Balmedie and Blackdog has had remedial work done. Need to monitor if this has resolved issue.
- Work has started on the completion of the path between Magnificent Seven Wood and Old Road. Progress on this to be monitored and fed back at next meeting

9. Treasurer's Report

April Activity

- AC Annual Grant received £804.88
- Loan of £1000 to be paid to Leisure Centre to cover costs for fundraising specialist

10. Planning Report

I Downie has resigned from Council so no report

G. Middleton agreed to take on the role of Planning Reporter for the Council

11. Landfill Tax Projects and GreenField Projects: (D Watson)

D. Watson resigned and left meeting prior to this item on agenda and no written report left. E. Phipps agreed to contact D. Watson to get update from him.

12. External Meeting Report Back

• Belhelve Community Trust Meeting

Meeting 23rd March 2019. A. McIntyre & D. Wallace attended

Key points arising

Changing Places – Application to Vattenfall for £15,000

David Moss has resigned as Treasurer – New Treasurer still required

A discussion took place regarding Duty of Care in Common Law particularly in relation to Beach Wheelchairs

Easter Event planned for 21st April

Summer Event in conjunction with RNLI will take place on 20th or 27th July

Sand Bothy have established a link with Balmedie Primary School which will see Sand Bothy being used by school pupils.

Courses still taking place for volunteers to help with Beach Wheelchairs

Beach Wheelchairs open Sunday 7th April

Hope is to include BBQ and picnic area across burn from Beach Wheelchairs. A bridge would cost £4000 to be made.

Contact for Beach Wheelchairs BalmedieBeachWheelchairs.co.uk

New signs made for park following vandalism

Council representative advised that designated paths would be maintained and repaired whilst others would be allowed to deteriorate then be removed.

Sensory Garden work going well. Plan is to install a Draughts / Chess board

Vandalism at Sensory Garden was reported to police. Request to BCC to discuss issue with local schools.

Better Balmedie-council letter received to advise shed may stay even being 600mm higher than planned.

Request sent to Vattenfall for provision of solar panels for shed.

Belhelvie Banter 19th April deadline

Health walks – numbers increasing now weather is better

Christmas lights – old lights to be disposed – any sale options welcome. Looking to move lights closer to the centre of the village CPR Training Sessions 25th April 7-8pm at Leisure Centre

Congregational Church representative advised that church is available for use by Community Groups

Next meeting 27th May 2019

Bus Service Crisis Meeting

Meeting attended by David Wallace

Concern was raised about the number of buses which come through the village during daytime, being only every 2 hours

Also concerns raised over buses failing to turn up.

Access to the upper deck of the Buchan Link buses with only 2 seats on the lower deck

Joe Cowan, a concerned resident, attended the meeting with a list of issues identified with bus service. He is going to attend a meeting with Stagecoach to discuss these and requested a member of BCC to attend with him.

D. Wallace is going to attend.

It was suggested that a survey be prepared to capture all issues with the bus service.

C. Wood is going to develop this survey and put link on website.

13. Attendance Nomination for Future External Meetings

- BRA G Middleton – Graeme to liaise with BRA regarding date of next meeting
- BCT, D Wallace and A McIntyre 27th May 2019
- Potterton Residents Group – H. Foxen
- Bus Forum 6th June 2019 Oldmeldrum Academy 19:30 start. BCC representative to be confirmed.

14. New Correspondence (main points)

- Planning Approval list from Aberdeenshire Council
- Letter from Wester Hatton confirming that tower removals scheduled to start in June
- Letter from Area Manager for Garioch - Copy of revised Scheme of Establishment.

15. Any Other Business

- Drew Robertson returned noticeboard keys and advised that he was resigning from the Community Council
- Allan Hendry advised that he was considering his position on Community Council and would send an update once he has had time to consider his position
- Following recent resignations a number of roles had to be filled
- Carlyne Wood agreed to take on Police Liaison Roll
- Mark Brown agreed to take responsibility for Noticeboards
- David Wallace is going to look after Infrastructure.
- Graham Middleton to take role of Planning Reporter
- A. McIntyre proposed for position of Vice Chair. Alex agreed to consider taking position after reviewing Roles and Responsibilities.
- The Chair requested members to identify potential new Community Councillors following the recent resignations.

Meeting closed 21.50

Next Belhelvie Community Council meeting – Monday 20th May 2019

At 7:00pm White Horse Inn - Visitors Welcome

e-mail address: belhelviecommunitycouncil@hotmail.com



**Ward 8
Community Council Report**

MID-FORMARTINE

BELHELVIE, TARVES, OLDMELDRUM, MELTHLICK AND UDNY

March-April 2019

****In the event of a Police non-attendance at the meeting, can you ensure that you provide any concerns raised at the meeting to the Police ASAP by email to ensure we capture any issues early and can provide an update at the next meeting.****

Community Council Report

For the next few months the Formartine Community Policing Team will be trialling a new type of Community Council Report. Rather than providing individual reports for each Community Council, we will provide one report per ward area, which will cover all Community Councils in that ward. The

intention being that we will provide a more meaningful report which will include issues in neighbouring areas that may still affect your individual areas.

This report covers progress we have made in dealing with your priorities for the Ward 8 areas during the period 1 March and 1 April 2019.

The report aims to highlight emerging issues in your area, and to provide crime prevention advice and guidance to Community Council members and residents you represent. Our focus is to reduce crime and disorder, help create safer communities and respond effectively to local concerns.

Community Policing Priorities

Antisocial behaviour, Violence and Disorder:

During this review period there have been 7 recorded Assaults, of which 4 have been detected and 4 remain undetected with enquiries ongoing. These occurred in the Pitmedden, Balmedie, Oldmeldrum and Tarves areas

One of these Assaults which occurred in Pitmedden is classed as a 'Serious Assault' by the nature of the injury. This incident involved parties from Aberdeen and is detected.

One Assault which occurred in Balmedie was domestic related.

There have been 3 reports of anti-social and disorder type offences, including acting in a threatening and abusive manner and vandalisms, of which 1 has been detected and two remain undetected with enquiries ongoing.

The recorded Vandalism relates to the damage of slates in a Balmedie based Community Garden. This remains undetected and enquiries continue.

Two incidents of Threatening and Abusive Behaviour (Statutory Breach of the Peace) recorded within Udney and Balmedie relate to a domestic incident and neighbour dispute respectively.

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, Eigie Road, Pitmedden Play Park and Oldmeldrum Square and Academy. Directed patrols will continue within these areas as well as within the other areas where crimes/anti-social behaviour have not been reported.

Acquisitive Crime:

There have been 5 incidents relating to Acquisitive crime during this period. One of which is detected and the rest remain undetected with enquiries continuing.

One incident in Tarves saw a male being disturbed in the curtilage of a property before making off. Enquiries into this incident are ongoing with a positive line being followed.

There has also been a Housebreaking with intent to steal in the Udney area where a garage was entered but no items were stolen.

Finally, two Thefts occurred in the Oldmeldrum area whereby an insecure car was entered and an items stolen from within and a quantity of cable was stolen from an industrial premises.

In respect of all three incidents, Police Scotland would like to reiterate to all members of the public the importance of ensuring that your property (including an vehicles) are locked whilst they are not

being used or are unoccupied.

Further crime reduction advice is available at <https://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/home-and-personal-property/secure-your-home>.

Road Safety & Road Crime:

During this review period five incidents relating to Road Traffic Offences have been recorded.

Two reports of Careless Driving have been reported in the Tarves and Belhelvie areas with one being detected and another still being investigated.

One report relates to a person being stopped driving with no insurance in the Potterton area. Their car was seized and they will be reported for the offence.

One report relates to a person being stopped whilst driving under the influence of drink/drugs and was later found in possession of various controlled drugs. This driver has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

Finally, a hit and run type incident occurred in the Oldmeldrum area whereby a fence was damaged by a vehicle who failed to stop at the scene. This has been investigated and has been closed as Undetected.

Targeting persons who commit offences on our road networks continues to be a priority for Police Scotland.

Whilst the incident did not start within the Ward 8 area, during March 2019, Police undertook the pursuit of a vehicle involved in crimes in the Fraserburgh area which saw it enter Balmedie before it travelled into Aberdeen City. During this time, residents may have seen an increase in Police presence in Balmedie. Enquiries continue in respect of this matter and a positive line of enquiry is being followed.

OP ILLUSTRIOUS

Following consultation with local residents through a series of area Community Surgeries, Police Scotland has launched Operation Illustrious to tackle concerns regarding speeding and road safety within the Formartine area of Aberdeenshire.

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.

On 02/04/2019, as part of its Launch, Officers from the Formartine Local Policing Team carried out a number of speed checks across the Ward 8 area. As a result, two drivers were issued Fixed Penalty Tickets after they were stopped at 51 miles per hour in a 40mph zone and 41mph in a 30mph zone. A number of other persons were stopped and warned regarding their manner of driving.

This operation is due to run for 12 months with regular deployment of dedicated Officers to carry out patrols and speed checks in response to concerns raised.

Following this, consultation will be had with Aberdeenshire Council should any area/s in particular need further assessment or work.

Other incidents:

During the review period there has been one reported crime of Breach of Bail in the Oldmeldrum area, this remains undetected and is currently being investigated.

During the review period a total of 4 persons have been stopped across the Ward 8 area and found in possession of controlled drugs. Two of these incidents occurred in Balmedie and 2 in Oldmeldrum.

As a direct result of regular foot patrols and stop searches, a Drug Search Warrant was executed at an address in Oldmeldrum on 2 April 2019, a quantity of controlled drugs were recovered and male has been charged regarding drug supply offences.

Controlled drugs and their use/sale remains an issue across all Local Policing Areas however, with the support of the Community and regular reporting on drug dealing and drug use, Officers from the Formartine Local Policing Team will continue to proactively tackle those involved in this type of crime. Any information available from members of the public is invaluable and can be passed to Police using any of the below communication methods.

Community Engagement & Reassurance

Operation CEDAR continues to target driver behaviour with a focus on education of poor behaviours. This core operation will form the backbone of the newly revised local anti-social driving campaign.

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.

North East Scotland Rural Crime and Safety Partnership has been set up to specifically target matters affecting rural areas, including road safety, acquisitive crime, agricultural safety, live-stock worrying and hare-coursing.

In addition to this and after recent consultation with the national Neighbourhood Watch and the Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime (SPARC), the Formartine Community Policing Team is keen to encourage local residents to sign up and use "Rural Watch Scotland". You can register online by visiting: <https://member-registration.neighbourhoodalert.co.uk/173/Join>

We will be looking to use this service more often to issue urgent alerts in relation to rural crimes, offences or other activities which happen within our area. It is a fantastic tool that can be used to provide targeted information to the people who need it most. Sign up is free and doesn't take long.

As we progress into 2019, the Formartine Community Policing Team will be endeavouring to engage more with our communities by providing directed foot patrols in villages across this ward, including regular foot patrols in Balmedie, Potterton, Methlick, Tarves, Pitmedden and Oldmeldrum, as well as within our smaller communities, including Udney Green, Belhelvie and Udney Station.

Finally, this month brought about the conclusion of our first round of community surgeries with our community, with Ward 8 having one of the best turn outs which is great to see. The dates for the next round will be published in due course.

Contact Us

Please also remember you can communicate with us using any of the following:

- ☐ 101 – Non emergency;
- ☐ Email – MidformartineCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk
- ☐ Twitter - @NorthEPolice
- ☐ Facebook – www.facebook.com/NorthEastPoliceDivision
- ☐ Web – www.scotland.police.uk
- ☐ 999 – Emergency;
- ☐ 0800 555 111 - Crimestoppers;

Sergeant Scott McKay
Formartine Community Policing Team
Date: 2 April 2019