

# **BELHELVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**



## **FINAL MINUTES of MEETING – 16<sup>th</sup> December 2019 @ BALMEDIE LEISURE CENTRE.**

**Chair:** David Wallace; **Vice Chair:** Alex McIntyre **Treasurer:** Ewan Phipps  
**Secretary:** John Fletcher **Planning Reporter:** Graham Middleton  
**Members Present:** D Wallace, M Brown, C Wood, G Middleton, E Phipps  
**Apologies:** D McKendrick, J Fletcher, H Foxen, A McIntyre  
**Formartine Area Councillors Present:** Jim Gifford  
**Apologies:** None  
**Visitors:** None

### **1. Introduction of Attendees & Apologies**

- 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.
- Apologies from D McKendrick, J Fletcher, H Foxen, A McIntyre

### **2. Chairman's Opening Remarks**

D Wallace noted that there have been three noted interests from individuals looking to join the community council, however only one co-opted position is currently available until the AGM in June 2020. Chairman to approach Elaine Brown to see if this rule can be relaxed to get new members on board.

### **3. Declaration of any Conflicts of Interest to Agenda Items**

- No conflicts of interest reported

### **4. Police Matters**

- No police attendance at the meeting
- No updated police report received
- Updated police report to be requested from Douglas Donald asap

### **5. Comments / Approval from the previous Meeting Minutes**

- No amendments
- The minutes were proposed for approval by M Brown and seconded by D Wallace

### **6. Matters arising from previous meeting**

- Police have confirmed that the recently reported incident of burning tyres is not a police matter, solely down to SEPA, unless there is smoke crossing the A90 creating a safety issue.
- Graeme Middleton still trying to ascertain the owner of the old Balmedie shop

### **7. Treasurer's Report**

- No new transactions in the month
- See project funding update Section 9

## **8. Planning Report**

- There is one new application at Blackdog Croft, Hareburn Terrace. Erection of dwelling house and detached double garage.
- Given recent external correspondence regarding the Kirkwood Homes Blackdog development and tree felling, Graham Middleton thought it worthwhile to confirm the status of this particular application: Planning permission was granted in 2018 and the current application they have with the council is for change of layout with different house sizes.

## **9. Landfill Tax Projects and GreenField Projects:**

### Balmedie Leisure Centre

- Car park extension – cleared 60/70 ft but weather has hampered progress, 2 years to complete
- Landscaping and Security fencing now complete around leisure centre and existing 3G 5 aside pitches
- £12500 funding shortfall for phase 1, other funding sources being pursued, new application to landfill being considered
- To attend cross party sports alliance meeting in December to promote BLC projects to major funders

### Sensory Garden Phase 3

- BCT to apply for landfill funding early 2020

### Changing Places/Disabled Toilet Block

- Current shortfall of £20k
- Application to Weir Trust unsuccessful
- BCT have applied for £20k landfill funding towards refurb and conversion shortfall
- Ewan to send mail merge to major local companies to ask for contributions and to promote the work of BCT

### Balmedie Views Consultation

- Elaine Brown has confirmed that £4k is available to carry out consultation with the parish
- Dan and Carolyne to revise project plan

## **10. External Meeting Report Back**

### **Potterton Meeting (H. Foxen)**

- Potterton Community has been busy , solar lights on the fir tree on the community garden. A well attended meeting followed the lighting of the tree with carol and mulled wine. A much better event than last year when weather was bad and no social event followed. It is hoped this will become a regular event at Christmas as so successful.
- Potterton Green fingers have been busy despite the bad weather. Over 3,000 bulbs have been planted and tubs have polyanthus planted.
- Fund raising is progressing for new self-watering planters. Hopefully the first will come from the Formartine Partnership. Rod Gunson met with some of the gardening group looking at the feasibility of developing a path for all in the community garden to make it more user friendly.

### **BCT Meeting (H Foxen)**

Belhelvie Community Trust meeting held on 25th Nov. A good meeting and I was pleased to see a Stephanie and Gary Mann attending on behalf of Black dog. They are making positive improvements re planting on new road and spoke of the problems they are experiencing regarding bridge access to the beach . They seem to have been suffering some problems getting Vattenfall to replace the bridge. It would seem to involve the land owner and difficulty making contact with the present Vattenfall agency worker.

There was discussion about Kirkwood homes and their progress in the village. Other than the bridge, land for a community centre and the need for a bus turning point would help to develop the village further.

Wet rot at the sand bothy is being repaired. The Youth Philanthropy Initiative worked with The Beach Wheel Chairs and their presentation was rewarded with £3,000 for Balmedie Beach wheelchairs. It was a well-represented meeting . The AGM is on Monday 27th Jan 2020.

### **Stagecoach Bus Forum (C Wood)**

- Blackdog shopper service and connection service trialling in March
- Paul Johnson is pursuing the Blackdog turning circle issue
- Strong feedback on the impact of the recent BCC bus survey
- Xmas timetables are out
- There is a hail and ride service in operation in rural areas, details to be published on the BCC facebook page
- Stagecoach confirmed there is a maximum 7 day period to follow up on complaints
- There are ongoing issues with drivers, incorrect routes, incorrect stances

### **11. Attendance Nomination for Future External Meetings**

- Blackdog Residents Association, G Middleton (14th Jan)
- Belhelvie Community Trust AGM, TBC

### **12. New External and Internal Correspondence**

- Stuart Fraser raised concerns about tree felling by Kirkwood Homes contractor, G Middleton to reply.
- Alex McIntyre has sent in pictures of the broken posts in Balmedie Country Park, this has been forwarded to Olly Deeming in Landscaping Services.
- Snow warden Scheme – volunteers required, to publish poster on BCC facebook page
- Scheme of Establishment is being reviewed by Aberdeenshire Council based on the feedback/responses received from the Community Councils
- Formartine Community Council training and networking event provisional dates 12/13th Feb 2020, form to be returned by 17th Jan 2020

### **13. Any Other Business**

- Councillor Gifford has agreed to approach the chair of Vatenfall regarding the rejection of BCT's wheelchair project application
- Nominations being sought for Aberdeenshire Councils "2020 Inspiring Aberdeenshire" awards, BCC to nominate Shona Buchan(BLC)/Fiona Winstanley (BCT)
- D Wallace raised point that bus timing stop points in Balmedie are in the wrong place, existing laybys outside Leisure Centre and Whitehorse are not being utilised, this is causing traffic problems in village. Caroline to inform Stagecoach asap and raise at next bus forum.
- Finally.....the Chairman thanked all members present and those not present for their contributions throughout this calendar year and for giving up their time, there have been some great achievements and hopefully more to come! Merry Christmas to all in the Parish!

Meeting closed 20:20

**Next Belhelvie Community Council meeting – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

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

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