



# **BELHELVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

## **APPROVED MINUTES of MEETING 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020 Skype Call-in.**

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

**Members Present:** D Wallace (limited due to call problems), M Brown, D McKendrick, A McIntyre, E Phipps, C Wood, G Middleton, J Fletcher, H Foxen

**Apologies:**

**Formartine Area Councillors Present:** Andrew Hassan

**Apologies:** J Gifford (problem joining call-in), K Adam, P Johnstone

**Visitors:** G Mann (BRA Chairman)

### **1. Sign-Inn & Introduction of Attendees**

- The Chairman had difficulties in joining the BCC Skype call-in, J Fletcher chaired the meeting, following the drafted agenda from the Chairman D Wallace. All attendees were welcomed and asked that all matters be addressed through the chair.

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

This is the first attempt to conduct an on-line meeting and for all participants to be patient with the technology as it may not work perfectly. All participants to mute their microphone when listening so we can avoid background noises and feedback echo and only have it ON when talking.

I would like to thank everyone for making the effort to attend and keep the meetings going at a time when mostly all other CC's in Mid-Formartine have cancelled their monthly meetings altogether

If our attempt of on-line does not work perfectly, we will discuss how best to conduct future meetings online given the prevailing lockdown restrictions.

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

C Wood, Conflict of interest

- Community consultation as noted before Doric Design's involvement in this for BCT/BCC - but this is currently on hold. Will pick up reporting on Youth survey outcomes and next round of consultation when things have calmed down (lock down starts to be lifted).

**ACTION:** Carlyne sort out Youth survey report for next meeting and re-think timetable (see where we are with lock down)

- Formartine Rural Partnership as noted before Doric Design does paid work for FRP. However recent creation of community resources list was done pro bono (not charged) as a piece of community volunteer work - interactive list of local organisations and businesses offering help in the current crisis.

<https://www.frp.scot/community-resilience-map.html>

### **4. Police Matters & Report**

No Police in attendance. No ward report, Sgt Richard Barnwell knows we are waiting for it but still no report since January.

**ACTION:** Carlyne will continue to chase Ward report and circulate when it has been received

UPDATE: No ward report received - last report received was January (for December)

UPDATE: 20 April - Richard Bramwell will chase PS Kevin MacDonald who is producing the reports to send us the latest

**Feedback from Doug - Play park, Blackdog - email from Doug circulated to BCC members (3 March 2020)**

UPDATE: Carlyne checked with BEAR Scotland and Transport Scotland for status of any investigations at the Blackdog roundabout. Followed up with Balfour/Roads Aberdeen now about situation and plans for investigation etc

UPDATE: Our comments and data on accidents from the Police will be taken into account in the upcoming road safety audit by Aberdeen roads (email circulated to BCC).

### **Balmedie Play Park**

Police systems show no vandalisms being reported on our systems for January 2020.

Doug's advice - the reporting process for any incident whether it be vandalism in the play park or anything else in the area, whether in the village or in more rural location should be reported as soon as possible by calling the 101 system.

**ACTION: DONE** Carlyne - Facebook - publicise how to report an incident eg vandalism - posted 101 message on 22 March 2020

### **Vandalism**

**ACTION:** Carlyne to remind 101 service to report by Facebook - fairy door in the wood

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

- The minutes from the previous meeting were modified slightly. They were then proposed for approval by A McIntyre and seconded by D McKendrick.

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

- Notice boards, Maintenance on Hold at present
- The vandalism problem at Balmedie was discussed and all cases are required to be submitted to the police 101 line and logged, this allows them to be traced and followed up. Cllr Hassan will raise this issue with PC Donally if present at next AC meeting.
- Cllr Hassan will also raise the matter of Village Tidy monies at next AC meeting, as to whether payment will be made this year.

## **7. GreenField Projects Update (E Phipps)**

Unfortunately, all the bigger local projects have been deferred due to the ongoing situation with covid-19

## **8. COVID 19 OUR RESPONSE & ACTIONS**

- Statement published and updated
- News page reflecting information shared on Facebook where appropriate
- Facebook
  - Sharing government and Council advice (Grampian Hub, NHS Grampian, Ready Scotland)
- Sharing impact on local services: doctors, hospitals, dentists, buses etc
- Keeping website and Facebook as up to date as possible - this has calmed down recently was very busy at start of lockdown
- See update from Rosie - people are helping each other
- QUESTION: Should we check with Paul McKeown to see how his volunteer co-ordination is going?  
ANSWER: Alex is in touch with Paul and it's OK at the moment
- Formartine Rural Partnership - Doric Design has built an interactive list of Formartine resources (which can be added to). BCC is listed there, as are some other CCs. FRP specifically asked for the list to be shared by BCC.
- Covid19 Funding
- In collaboration with BCT E Phipps applied to Formartine Community Resilience Fund for financial assistance with our covid19 community response
- We were awarded £1k which has been paid to BCC
- The funds are there as an emergency pot for members of the community who are most vulnerable of the ongoing situation.
- Our proposal is to use the funds for things like food and sanitary products should the need arise, we have already bought £200 of co-op vouchers which are being held by E Phipps
- Any unspent monies to be returned to AC

## **9. Planning Report (G Middleton)**

Site Address	Proposal
Bridlefolds Rocks of Balmedie, Whitecairns AB23 8UJ	Erection of Carport
Backhill of Overhill Whitecairns AB23 8UH	Erection of Dwelling house
Newton Grange Potterton AB23 8UT	Erection of Stable and formation of Sand School

A discussion about BCCs response to AP/2020/0349 The Kirkwood Homes application for erection of 284 dwelling houses and associated infrastructure at Blackdog. Originally BBC asked for an extension in the response time from AC on 23/03/20 and we were granted until 24/04/20. An emailed was received from the BRA Chair G Mann) stating that they support the development and would be pleased if construction started as

soon as possible as this could potentially speed up the local amenity process and give further funding opportunities to BRA

After short discussion, there were no objections from BCC on this application.

## 10. External and Internal Correspondence

- **Community Council Grant Funding Review**  
Claire Young requested feedback from CC's on the way that the grants are currently calculated and split. Currently, we receive a fixed admin grant per CC with the remainder being split per capita based on no of electors.  
BCC feedback and suggestions were sent to Claire Young
- **BCT update - taken from email received from Rosie**  
**Bothy and Beach Wheelchairs** both shut down. Local folk who walk to the park check the buildings for us and send regular messages.  
**Sensory Garden work** - we were planning to install willow tunnel and dome, benches and tables, but all that was put on hold and official opening on 20th June cancelled. However the garden has served a great purpose as the home of Balmedie Rocks painted pebbles – lots more people now know about the garden, and may even be willing to help in future.  
**Funding** I applied to **SCVO to Third Sector Resilience Fund** for Sand Bothy as we have no income from kiosk or bookings and have cancelled Easter and summer fundraising events. We were turned down. I think that is because we have money in the bank, but they didn't take on board that it is all allocated to toilet refurbishment, play equipment and beach wheelchairs. We have enough to cover basic running costs, but things are going to be difficult. I am not spending any time on this at the moment though, going to wait and see what help may become available.  
There will be **no BCT meeting** at end of May.  
**Country Park and parking at the beach** - there still seems to be upset and confusion about cars at Country Park. I asked Olly at Council for signs saying park closed to vehicles. He told me Council not putting up signs. I gave up at that point but it would be useful if BCC could find out and publicise the exact situation as people are quoting Scottish rules, English rules, getting very heated on Facebook...and folks are still going to park by car.  
**Volunteer support in the community** - I have had no referrals for emergency help but can see from FB that local folks are helping one another out all the time..
- **Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2021 - Development Plan Scheme 2020**  
Email received 19 March from AC and circulated to BCC
- **AC removing documents**  
Email received from Paul Davison - Planning Contact, Kintore & District Community Council - 20 March 2020  
Circulated to D Wallace, A McIntyre, G Middleton  
ANSWER:G Middleton - not a BCC concern
- **Request to support local power Bill**  
Email received from Steve Shaw, Director, Power for People - 23 March forwarded to DW  
ANSWER: BCC to read email and discuss later
- **Trading standards email bulletin**  
Carolyne has replied yes BCC would like to receive this type of bulletin from AC trading standards highlighting scam/issues our community should be aware of and publicising these through our channels
- **Developer Obligations Fund**  
Ewan forwarded email to Hilary? Potterton funding available?
- **SSEN funding**  
Ewan dealing with this and BCC application
- **Good news stories for AC bulletin**  
Email from Samantha Rawlins requesting good news stories for her weekly AC bulletin
- **Bedding plant supplies from AC - cancelled**  
Letter Philip McKay, Head of Roads, Landscape Services & Waste Services (9 April)  
*Covid-19 Council supply of bedding plants to communities*  
*Following concerns being expressed by several community groups and in light of current circumstances, Aberdeenshire Council has decided to cancel the supply of plants to the many groups who were expecting to take delivery this summer.*  
*This is a rapidly changing situation; further advice may be issued as things develop.*
- **ACTION:** Carolyne to email plant contacts let them know
- **BoD to Blackdog cycle path inquiry - Douglas Cumming**  
Email received from member of the public, I have requested an update on plans from Aberdeen Council (who ran last year's consultation)

## 11. Any Other Business

- Concern about black bags being blown from Taylor Landfill site into the Country Park  
Any BBC Cllr to investigate when at the Country Park, take photos
- The Salvation Army charity box (at the back of Marios Shop), people are dumping bags of stuff as the box is obviously full. Cllr Hassan will try and get it removed

Meeting closed 20:19

**DUE TO ONGOING CORONA VIRUS ISSUES**

**NB These April 2020 minutes were approved at the 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020 BCC Meeting, Next BCC Meeting will be on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2020 at 7:00pm using Teams Phone-in, Visitors welcome, phone-in number will be advertised on BCC Facebook page and BCC website**

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