

BELHELVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL



APPROVED MINUTES of MEETING 18th May 2020 Teams Call-in.

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

Members Present: D Wallace, D McKendrick, A McIntyre, E Phipps, C Wood, G Middleton, J Fletcher, H Foxen

Apologies: M Brown

Formartine Area Councillors Present: Andrew Hassan, Karen Adam, Jim Gifford

Apologies: P Johnstone

Visitors: Linda Leith (Balmedie Resident)

1. Sign-In & Introduction of Attendees

All attendees were welcomed and asked that all matters be addressed through the chair.

2. Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman asked 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 ongoing

3. Declaration of any Conflicts of Interest to Agenda Items

No Conflict of interests

4. Police Matters & Report

Invitation sent to Kevin MacDonald, Police software is restrictive and may not be able to access Teams Ward report received for April 2020 - circulated to members

Number of crime reports in our area - 12- includes

One assault in Belhelvie (domestic)

Taxi fraud in Balmedie - caught and charged

Two reports of vandalism in Balmedie - undetected at present

Additional patrols in force due to covid-19 crisis and lock down as many premises closed.

Six traffic offences reported includes - six road traffic offences reported during this period which includes drink driving, speeding and dangerous driving. These were detected within the Balmedie, Blackdog and Oldmeldrum areas.

Two persons traced and reported for possession of controlled drugs at Balmedie Beach. These have been detected as a result of the COVID-19 patrols.

PC Doug Donald (Community Beat Officer) has moved to a different role within the Police. Replacement to be appointed, in meantime work spread across the local team to work with the public.

ACTION: Police seeking feedback for review of traffic operations to target driver behaviour and speeding. BCC opinion, we want a revised version of these operations in the coming year (dedicated speed patrols)?

ACTION Carolyne to send BCC feedback: keep the patrols going - still needed to address speeding issues, so continue operation. Still seeing speeding issues in Balmedie and behaviour beach.

Lock down being generally respected, Police aware of specific issues eg under 18s gathering, Police can hold parents responsible for child's actions. Also reminding people of exercise close to home (no driving) and responsibilities when outside (respect farms/animals/control pets - dogs/farmland/lambing season etc).

Survey - found through AC newsletter - will completed on behalf of BCC

<https://consult.scotland.police.uk/surveys/your-police-2020-2021/>

ACTION: Carolyne to complete survey & publicise on Facebook for individual responses

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 E Phipps.

6. Matters arising from previous meeting

- **Village Tidy Funds**, email received from Claire Young looking for 2020-21 proposals for the Village Tidy Scheme, J Fletcher to write a report for the 4 villages and send to Claire
- **Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2021** issued 25th May for public consultation
- **Request to support local power Bill**, on hold
- **The Salvation Army charity box** (at the back of Marios Shop), all removed
- **CC AGM and Election of members**, It has been agreed that all Community Council AGMs should be postponed until October 2020. In light of this, the Community Council election process will also be postponed and, situation permitting, will commence after the summer recess moved to provisionally October 2020, J Fletcher to email C Crawford and E Brown to see if BCC have to re-submit the membership forms.
- **Concern about black bags being blown from Taylor Landfill site into the Country Park**, doesn't seem to be any evidence provided for this

7. Treasurers Report (E Phipps)

Covid19 Funding

In collaboration with BCT we applied to both The Lottery Fund and SSE resilience funds for financial assistance with our covid19 community response

We were awarded £1k which has now been paid over and is being held by BCC

The funds are there as an emergency pot to assist the most vulnerable in our community. Our proposal is to use the funds for essential items such as food items, we have already purchased pre-paid co-op vouchers

8. Planning Report (G Middleton)

Proposed planning permission for erection of CCTV, lighting and antenna at Vattenfall site at Blackdog

9. Ongoing Projects Update

Greenfield/Landfill Projects Update

All local projects are on hold due to the ongoing situation with covid1

10. Pandemic (CV19) Our Response, Involvement & Actions

- E Phipps secured funding has secured for the most vulnerable in the community
- In general we are keeping up communication and trying to publicise the impact on local services - doctors surgeries/pharmacies changing how they deal with patients, Police information, official Council and Scottish Government guidance and lock down rules, services starting up again (waste management etc).

11. External & Internal Correspondence

- TV request - BBC's Debate Night (Aberdeenshire) Wed 20 May - advertised on our Facebook page
- Vandalised fence - Balmedie - Linda Leith (AOB)
- Supporting Communities Safely - advice for community groups and volunteer networks (Claire Young)
ACTION: CWood to advertise on Facebook - wait until next gov announcement
- Sam Rawlins - check in on volunteers - passed to David and Ewan to follow up with Paul at Church
- Scottish Community Councils newsletter - forwarded to all members for information
- Burning Tyres reported for 8.20pm 30 April When PC Doug Donald attended BCC meeting he said it was not a police matter unless smoke was causing visibility issue on A90. He suggested that the AC Environmental Department May be a possible source to contact.
After discussion the opinion was that they shouldn't be burning anything at the moment in the licensed scrap yard.
SEPA to be informed of the issue/bonfires being held.
ACTION: reply to Maureen Pirie to be organised?
ACTION: Carlyne to collect emails and contact SEPA with the emails. Include PC Donald's response to explain why contacting SEPA. And AC Environmental health team too. Graham Robertson at AC environmental health.
- Tidy Village Scheme 2020-21 - update forwarded to J Fletcher (Matters Arising)
- Samantha Rawlins - 29 April - possible training course is anyone interested
Potential courses: Adult Protection, Child Protection & GDPR
ACTION: Carlyne to forward email for ideas
- Blackdog development - AC acknowledged Grahams email of BCC Comments
- Cycle path project from Murcar roundabout to Blackdog - still active and will continue when restrictions ease

12. Community Council Forum Meeting (C Wood)

Summary of the Community Council Forum meeting last week.

Community Council update

Foveran - email update to each other monthly keeping in touch, finances report, not video conferencing, other things on hold eg beach car park project, printed newsletter on hold as can't be delivered

Tarves - continuing their newsletter in June will focus on Covid stories, delivery where possible and use local shops, small parcel scheme running successfully in their area

Ellon - Mike Jennings - running online meetings, still considering project to take up, Xmas lights cancelled

Formartine Rural Partnership - the Partnership's local organisation/business database is live (<https://frp.scot/community-resilience-map.html>). There will be an interactive map on the Grampian Hub soon.

Feedback to the group on the work of the BCC

Meeting online / as much business as possible via email etc / continuing planning reviews

- Feeding back to Police on local issues - vandalism
- Ewan's funding - working with Paul McKeown at the Church
- Information sharing website, Facebook and local Facebook groups
- local magazine which we contribute articles to is currently on hold - no May edition

Aberdeenshire Council update - Elaine Brown

Covid situation being treated as incident so operating incident management team to redeploy teams and services eg landscaping team currently working in burial and waste management

Working to identify gaps in volunteers and support and see what support is needed. And longer term see who has volunteered and how this could be carried forward after the current crisis.

Looking at groups who have facilities - eg community halls / spaces - that need funding to help and can't get funding elsewhere. Criteria expanded for applicants. News of this has been passed on the Rosie for the Sand Bothy. AC link: <https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/communities-and-events/funding/community-resilience-covid-19/>

Public consultation - Proposed Local Development Plan

Public consultation on LDP is going ahead - documents available from week commencing 25 May on Aberdeenshire Council website

Responses can be submitted in Word and PDF - Word preferred by AC for processing

Short films already on AC YouTube channel

ACTION - DONE: Carolyne to share links - see links below:

Council You Tube channel (with links to all videos including LDP information)

<https://www.youtube.com/user/aberdeenshirecouncil/videos>

LDP explanation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-uspHq7i6GU>

LDP public consultation and neighbour notification

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8nh8hiVBoqE>

LDP plan making process

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LneHHQ5heuY>

Resources for Communities available online will replace posters etc normally used a drop in events not happening this year

New chat now function on AC site - this will also be available on proposed LDP pages

New virtual drop in sessions (24hrs available) being developed

AC will be using social media to publicise

AC will be notifying those close to proposed development sites

AC and Area office will be in touch with CCs

ACTION: CSW to advertise on Facebook after discussing with BCC members at today's BCC meeting.

Chair's comments / issues raised

Gardening groups work - Landscape services have said they will cut grass after lock down / given statement on what groups should and should not be doing -

<https://www.facebook.com/AberdeenshireCouncil/posts/3096811547052955> The Chair felt there were mixed messages about how community groups can garden - social distancing needs to be observed Vs daily exercise. Jim Gifford noted that a new (improved) AC statement on gardening will be put out tomorrow to relieve some of the confusion (no statement seen on AC Facebook to date). Discussion on tending war memorials and cutting grass, cricket pitches etc not being done by Council. AC noted that at the moment it is not business as usual and some things will have to wait (grass cutting).

Access to Country Parks

All Community Council present are having problems with people driving to places to exercise (and in once case driving then flying a drone). The Council takes the view that this is currently illegal and Police are responsible for enforcing the current rules on not driving for exercise (not the Council).

Next meeting

August's meeting will also be online (current planning)

13. Any Other Business

- Linda Leith joined the online meeting expressing her concern for the vandalism of the fence on the path at the back of the local garage running parallel to Oldmill Crescent. Linda is prepared to erect a new fence but would like AC to complete the maintenance. A discussion ensued and the outcome was that Cllr A Hassan find out who owns this property and then ascertain who is liable for maintenance.

Meeting closed 20:19

DUE TO ONGOING CORONA VIRUS ISSUES

NB These May 2020 minutes were approved at the 15th June 2020 BCC Meeting, Next BCC Meeting will be on Monday 20th July 2020 at 7:00pm using Teams Phone-in, Visitors welcome, phone-in number will be advertised on BCC Facebook page and BCC website

Belhelvie Community Council

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