

# **BELHELVE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**



## **APPROVED MINUTES of MEETING 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023 F2F and Online Teams**

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

**Members Online:** H Foxen, C Wood,  
**Members F2F:** D Wallace, J. Fletcher, A McIntyre, G Middleton  
**Apologies:** E Phipps, G Drummond, D McKendrick

**Formartine Area Councillors Online:** Cllr A Hassan,  
**Apologies** Cllr Johnstone, Cllr D Ritchie, Cllr Nicol

**Visitors Online:** None

### **1. Apologies & Introductions of any Visitors/Attendees**

All attendees were welcomed and asked everyone that all matters be addressed through the chair for the F2F meeting and through C Wood for the Teams Meeting online.

### **2. Chairmans Opening Remarks**

How do we control meetings better when we have visitors online and not face to face. During the June BCC meeting we had a discussion about the AC Road Consultation Buildouts on Panmure Gardens, H Foxen our Potterton representative for the BCC had given feedback to the consultation. Our visitor Mrs A Burr who previously asked and replied she was only online to listen then joined in the discussion, as we continued it was clear that the person in the discussion was not in fact Mrs A Burr. C Wood asked who was talking and she replied it was her daughter L Dingwall, she had joined the discussion without registering that she was in attendance at the meeting. L Dingwall who we found out subsequently worked in the AC Planning Office as a Senior Planning Officer did not declare this at the meeting, (she should have a declared a Conflict of Interest when asked by the Chair, Item 3 on the agenda)). The BCC think this was a Conflict of Interest in this consultation, so she should not have taken any part in this particular discussion.

To stop this happening in the future, anyone not declaring their presence and reasons for joining the meeting will not be allowed to join in a discussion on any agenda item. If online, C Wood will mute the person and F2F the Chair will not allow the discussion to continue.

### **3. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

None

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

Police expected in July meeting did not appear

**ACTION:** C Wood to check next Police attendance at BCC meeting

Police area report June 2023, circulated to members during meeting

Update on Police team

Inspector Mark Young moving on and being replaced by Inspector Rae Christie

**ACTION Completed:** C Wood to replace M Young with R Christie on the mail list, info circulated to BCC members

Current team:

PS Malcolm Smith T&D Turriff and district

PS Graeme Smith Mid Formartine

PS Leah McKinnon E&D Ellon and district

PS Stuart Gordon area lead for Roads Policing

PS Joanne Cruickshank new to the NE Policing Team

**Police advised** to report all incidents even trivial ones to Police so they are being recorded and tell the BCC or BCC members so we can feed it back to the Police.

**Report** anonymously through the independent charity Crimestoppers 0800 555 111.

**Contact Police** on 101 or using the "Contact Us" form on the Police Scotland website

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/contact/>

**Safe Drive Stay Alive Campaign:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bjhWWYEdNoc>

08090807060 <https://www2.sepa.org.uk/EnvironmentalEvents>

Police (non emergency) 101 Police /Fire Brigade (Emergency) 999

### **5. Visitors Items**

None

### **6. Balmedie Country Park Management Plan (D Wallace)**

This item was discussed at the recent Country Park Meeting held on the 3rd July 2023, the document was sent to all BCC members who were asked to read it. This is quite an exhaustive document and it was a bit concerning that the BCC had not had a chance to comment on it, a suggestion was made that we form a working group made up of people interested in the CP and take the document away and work on it, so that we formulate a view on what it suggests. The understanding is when the report is published this is a fait accompli as a plan. The BCC would like to have a say in what is planned as we are the statutory



body in this area and there are a few things that have been completed at the CP which are not in our opinion been beneficial to the park and require attention. The problem the BCC face is that we get no response and no service from the AC park and recreations group. We previously asked for their support with the installation of benches around the villages and were initially told they would install the benches as they were on council land, but got the run around and eventually the BCC had them installed. Nominations for the working committee were identified as A McIntyre, D Wallace and J Fletcher, these will discuss and report back to BCC at a later date.

## **7. Active Travel Route Options Project (D Wallace)**

This is another large report at a high cost from AC, the routes are not only the country park they are all over the ward. The report was made after consultation with BCT, a few people (2 gents and lady) gave a presentation at the CP meeting. AC seems to spend a lot of money on reports but we cannot get overgrown paths cleared. Most of the BCC members have not read the Draft Travel Route Plan, it has now been sent to all BCC members. A nomination of a working committee to discuss and report back, A McIntyre, D Wallace, J Fletcher and D McKendrick.

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

Validated, Howlands Farm House Whitecairns, retrospective permission for changing domestic outbuildings to wellness centre. Kirkview, 3 Seafield Court, Balmedie, extension to domestic garage  
2 decided, Haulage depot at Blackdog Industrial Estate, (actual PA not seen), and 3 new houses in Whitecairns.

### **Balmedie Shop on the Old Aberdeen Road**

**ACTION in Progress:** G Middleton will try and find out the owner's name

## **9. Treasurers Report (E Phipps)**

E Phipps not present

No transactions this month

Problem with paying for the notice board, vender will not take a bank transfer, which he will work around, he will use G Drummonds as the delivery address.

When the notice boards arrive, fitting priority will be given to Belhelvie and Blackdog.

## **10. Comments / Approval from the previous Meeting Minutes (J Fletcher)**

The minutes from the previous meeting were slightly altered, they were then proposed for approval by D Wallace and seconded by H Foxen.

## **11. Matters arising from Previous Meeting**

### **Mario petition**

**ACTION IN PROGRESS:** C Wood to look online tools for petition

**ACTION IN PROGRESS:** C Wood to follow up on best practice for petition writing and previously successful campaigns against immigration rulings

**ACTION:** C Wood get update from Cllr Ritchie on approach to David Duguid (Banff and Buchan MP) to see if this can go to Scottish Secretary.

**ACTION Completed:** C Wood emailed Cllr Ritchie on 17<sup>th</sup> July for an update, Cllr Ritchie will follow up with David Duguid MP.

**ACTION IN PROGRESS:** J Fletcher to clarify with Mario what immigration status he would like for his family.

### **Allan Jeffrey/Don Forbes bench plaques**

Decision agreed that Allan's bench will be down from the shop at Eigie Road, Don's Bench will be at the White Horse

**ACTION Completed:** J Fletcher to send the agreed text for plaques to C Wood

**ACTION in Progress:** C Wood to get quotes for engraving and bring to next meeting

**ACTION:** C Wood to send the plaque costs to E Phipps

### **Plants**

**ACTION:** Question for AC/AC Councillors, what is happening with the supplies next year?

**ACTION:** Cllr Hassan will find out what the quantities will be next year

4<sup>th</sup> July The Big Bulb Plant 2023 scheme

**ACTION Completed:** C Wood email circulated to plant contacts

**ACTION Completed:** C Woods shared the AC post about the scheme

Update: R Nicol has registered for Balmedie, H Foxen has registered for Potterton

5<sup>th</sup> July 2023 Report of bad state of wildflower areas in Belhelvie

**ACTION Completed:** G Drummond to speak to resident P Collier

**ACTION:** Agree who will cut the area in Belhelvie

## **12. General Projects Update**

Awaiting notice boards

## **13. External Meeting Report Back.**

### **Country Park Meeting (D Wallace, J Fletcher, A McIntyre)**

Landscape services reported that they had removed a number of boards from the boardwalk, also the bins are being emptied frequently.

Ranger Services, Niomi Smith will work 2 days a week including desk time.

The CP Management Plan was discussed, there is to be a final tweak and then distributed to all

Spoke about the Active travel Route Options

Bill Murray (LC) football pitches boundary, the land transferred onto the lease is shared with wildzone area. Car Park upgrade at the football pavilion estimated at £40-50,000. Wifi Issue sorted.

Spoke of possibly car park charges similar to Newburgh

Proposed cycle route from Balmedie to Murcar requires an update from C Menzies AC.

# **BELHELVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**



Filling Station is to fitted at the north Toilets, (AC to fund and install)  
Waste management at the CP will be organised by AC.  
Next meeting 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## **14. Nomination for Future External Meetings**

BCT meeting on 24 July CANCELLED  
Next BCT meeting: Monday 25 September, 7.30pm at The Sand Bothy. TBA

## **15. New Correspondence & Communication**

27<sup>th</sup> June 2023 Request for your participation in the development of Councils new Local Transport Strategy  
Deadline extended to 30<sup>th</sup> July 23

Forwarded document to John to complete (29/6/23)

**ACTION Completed:** C Wood requested a full set of questions and extension to deadline to allow an agreed BCC view to be developed.

29<sup>th</sup> June 2023 Mapping food aid very short survey

**ACTION Completed:** C Wood responded June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2023 (ref sent items in BCC mail)

Referred them to the Community Hub and Larder (Wee Kirk) Facebook page

7<sup>th</sup> Jul 2023 BCC copied in on email from parent to Balmedie School with concerns about the school using the "Supporting transgender young people in schools: guidance for Scottish Schools" Scottish Government.

NB. BCC to be aware that this matter is for the school, there was no direct action requested of the BCC by parent or school

11<sup>th</sup> July 2023 Consultation of Statement of Licensing Policy

Aberdeenshire Licensing Board consulting on Draft Statement of the Licensing Policy

**ACTION in Progress:** C Wood to request a copy of the questions that can be circulated to members so that an agreed view may be taken and entered into the online system.

Deadline: 1 September 2023

12<sup>th</sup> July 2023 Consultation on Aberdeenshire's Common Good Policy and Creation of Common Good Asset Register

<https://engage.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/common-good>

Deadline: 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023

**ACTION in Progress:** C Wood to request a copy of the questions that can be circulated to members so that an agreed view may be taken and entered into the online system.

13<sup>th</sup> July 2023 Muir Mhòr Offshore Wind Farm Scoping Report Submission

**Action Completed:** C Wood forwarded to G Middleton to review.

## **16. Any Other Business**

### **Transport**

**ACTION Completed:** C Wood to request for BCC participation in the development of Councils new Transport Strategy, request questions on transport consultation so J Fletcher can check with members and request extension. AC councillors support that we need to see all questions to form a response.

**ACTION Completed:** C Wood to circulate questions to members

**ACTION:** August meeting discuss members ideas/response and submit BCC response

HGVs Belhelvie

**ACTION in Progress:** sort out response to resident and check for AC correspondence

**Update:** AC replied 29<sup>th</sup> May 2023 email subject "HGV traffic through Belhelvie #1117230493" that BCC should follow up with the site we think is causing the increase in HGVs through Belhelvie. Contact the site directly to discuss this as they will be able to give more information on the site's usage of heavy vehicles and what can do to best alleviate the issues faced by the community here.

**ACTION:** August meeting to discuss next steps

Cllr Hassan asked by G Middleton if the tip near Potterton is still in use as he has observed tankers in the vicinity.

**ACTION:** Cllr Hassan to try and find out.

Meeting closed 21.47

**NB These July 2023 minutes were approved at the 21<sup>st</sup> August 2023 BCC Meeting.**

**Next BCC Meeting Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7:00pm F2F at Balmedie Leisure Centre and Online Teams**

**Visitors welcome.**

### **Belhelvie Community Council**

Email: [belhelviecommunitycouncil@hotmail.com](mailto:belhelviecommunitycouncil@hotmail.com) for the phone-in number or Teams Link

Web: [www.belhelviecc.org.uk](http://www.belhelviecc.org.uk)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/BelhelvieCommunityCouncil](http://www.facebook.com/BelhelvieCommunityCouncil)

Meetings: [belhelviecc.org.uk/meetings.html](http://belhelviecc.org.uk/meetings.html)