

# **BELHELVE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**



## **APPROVED MINUTES of MEETING 16th October 2023 F2F and Online Teams**

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

**Members Online:** C Wood, E Phipps

**Members F2F:** D Wallace, G Middleton, H Foxen, J Fletcher, D McKendrick, G Drummond,

**Apologies:** A McIntyre

**Formartine Area Councillors Online:** Cllr D Ritchie

**Formartine Area Councillors F2F:** Cllr A Hassan, Cllr Johnstone

**Apologies** Cllr Nicol,

**Visitors Online:** Malcolm Smith (Police Scotland), Johanne Ewen (local resident)

### **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**

Chair asked C Wood when she sends out the online meeting invites, can you send it with a **'Do not reply to the meeting invite'**, just accept the invite but do not reply.

**ACTION:** C Wood when sending out the link to BCC members etc, use BCC (blind CC) so that people cannot reply to all. Add note to email to remind people not to reply to all, raise a separate email for issues to discuss.

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

None

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

M Smith Police online presence, September 2023 report was received and distributed, with no incidents in the Belhelvie area.

A traffic monitoring box looks as if it has been removed from its site on Eigie Road. This has not been reported to the police.

**ACTION:** Cllr Ritchie will check to see if it has been removed by the AC Roads Dept.

M Smith answered the question of speed checks in Belhelvie, it is in hand and these will be done as soon as it allows.

J Ewen reported excess noise from motorbikes with noisy exhaust systems running along the Ellon Road past Balmedie has been happening for a few years and occurs about 05-05:30am. J Ewen has reported this a couple of times to the non-urgent Police line, but nothing has come of it. She said that they seem to be coming though Balmedie now and this could be detrimental to people working shifts. M Smith will pass this on to his Ellon counterparts for some passive attention, they may be able to spot something.

**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**

J Ewen asked about the school buses being parked on Rowan Drive Balmedie, it seems that these buses are parking all day, overnight and at weekends. Anyone coming from the COOP opening cannot see right and she is also concerned about any children running between the buses and not being seen if you are driving past the buses. At certain times of the day three big buses and two minibuses were parked in this area.

M Smith replied to his knowledge there have not been any issues reported to the Police about this, D Wallace also said that the subject has not been raised to the BCC

Cllr Hassan and M Smith said that if there are no parking restrictions in this area they are doing nothing wrong, so this matter will be difficult to deal with.

**ACTION:** BCC to contact the bus company and explain the safety concerns of the residents.

## **6. Potterton Community Centre (H Foxen)**

Potterton Community Centre, just had some fast repairs done by AC, The BCC discussion on whether this is a viable project to take on and try and get funding for. The PCC including the outside storage facility is mainly used by the nursery and doesn't look as if it is well looked after as it doesn't have regular maintenance by AC.

Cllr Hassan reported himself and Cllr Nicol had a walk around with an AC Safety Inspector, and a report stated, on the whole there was nothing in the Community Centre that could not be fixed and will be fixed.

Further discussion on the issue is difficult as the buildings are owned by AC

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

August, Validated Hillhead of Muirton Whitecairns, change of use of 3 agricultural buildings to storage.

September, Validated none, Decided 6 houses west and south of Dykeside Whitecairns, refused

October, Validated an extension and raised deck area, house in Belhelvie

Extension Blairton Farmhouse at Balmedie

Land to the north of Keirhill Farm Belhelvie, agriculture building, applicant Turriff, architect Banff. Size 18m x 24m x 8m high building to be situated adjacent to the middle of the road and not in the middle of the farm.

**ACTION:** G Middleton to respond to AC Planning with an objection to justify the agricultural application and size.

Decided New house in a gap site at Blackdog at Hareburn Road between 5B and 7.

Kirkfield 3 Seaview Courtyard, Balmedie, Garage and two-story extension.

## **8. Treasures Report and Funding Update (E Phipps)**

Villages & Towns Enhancement Grant,

**ACTION:** J Fletcher to distribute funds to all settlements asap.

Domain fee for the website paid

The AC standard grant was received in September

E Phipps has not received the bill for the bench plaques yet

H Foxen receipt for the Belhelvie flowers to E Phipps

## **9. Comments / Approval from the previous Meeting Minutes (E Phipps)**

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

## **10. Matters arising from Previous Meeting (J Fletcher)**

Potterton Community Centre

**ACTION Completed:** Cllr A Hassan to confirm Aberdeenshire Council policy on approved contractors for costings/bills of quantities. Cllr Hassan sent email.

**ACTION Completed:** BCC to invite representative from Live Life Aberdeenshire and Estates Management to the next BCC meeting. Cllr Hassan to organise a meeting

**ACTION Completed:** D Wallace to send remembrance plaque costs to E Phipps when received

# **BELHELVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**



**ACTION Completed:** G Middleton confirmed location for Blackdog noticeboard.

**ACTION Completed:** C Wood distributed minutes of CC Forum Meeting

**ACTION Completed:** C Wood forwarded Ruth Slater contact details to H Foxen in respect of Formartine Rural P'ship

**ACTION Completed:** C Wood to send out list of meetings and agendas to all BCC members.

**ACTION Completed:** Banter article completed and sent in.

## **11. General Projects Update (E Phipps)**

Noticeboards have been purchased and delivered, installed at Blackdog, Whitecairns, 2 x Potterton, Balmedie COOP.

Awaiting for additional 2 benches

Belhelvie area has been cleared and two planters installed, G Drummond will see to the last cut before winter, also winter plants have been purchased by H Foxen for the planters, awaiting the compost.

Belhelvie (R Moffat) has asked BCC if we could help with new flower containers as the present are falling to bits. After discussion it was decided we could purchase some treated wood and make some planters for Belhelvie,

**ACTION:** G Drummond will cost the wood for planters and E Phipps to check on available cash.

## **12. External Meeting Report Back**

**Country Park Meeting** (J Fletcher/A McIntyre)

There was an action note update, Landscape services update, they discussed the horse parking issue, Ranger service update, BCT update given. BCC update. Beach Ballistics Event was discussed and did not fair favourably with AC. Ewan Wallace is compiling a report of the event which hopefully will be distributed to all.

The Country Park Management Plan was discussed in detail and all parties BCT, BCC, LC would read the plan and arrange a meeting to discuss the parts of the plan that requires their particular input and what they can be active in.

**ACTION Completed:** Plan circulated to all BCC members

**ACTION:** Arrange a meeting with BCT, LC and BCC to discuss CPMP.

**BCT** (A McIntyre)

The highlight of the meeting was the number of attendees (18) which surprised most, and they had some regulars missing. The range of activities the BCT covers should not make this a surprise.

Their activities include, The Sand Bothy, The Beach Wheelchairs, Balmedie Litter Pick, The Warm Hub, The Potterton Burn Group, The Sensory Garden, Better Balmedie.

The Balmedie Country Park Management Plan was discussed. They are keen to work with BCC and Leisure Centre to agree what we see as the key items and agree between the 3 groups which activities each of us should focus on. We should arrange a meeting with all 3 groups to discuss.

Would be good if we can get the meeting held before the next Country Park Meeting.

**Formartine Rural Partnership Meeting** (H Foxen)

The partnership are planning to allocate funds to food banks in the Formartine area. Next meeting 7<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

## **13. Attending Nomination for Future External Meetings**

List supplied by C Wood

**Better Balmedie AGM Thursday 26 October**

Location, time etc TBA

**EXTRA MEETING - BCC Members**

**Balmedie Country Park plan discussion**

**Monday 23 October, 7pm**

**ACTION Completed:** C Wood Online discussion circulated to all BCC members

**CC Networking Event - UPDATE: CANCELLED**

**Saturday, 4 November 2023**

**Location: Woodhill House, Aberdeen (TBC)**

**Details TBC**

From Claire Young email (9<sup>th</sup> August)



"It is hoped that sessions on the new Local Development Plan and National Planning Framework 4 legislation will be provided at a networking event that we are planning for later in the year. This event is in the planning stage at the moment but, again, can I ask you to make your members aware and hold the date for the moment. The networking event is expected to take place on Saturday, 4 November 2023 and is likely to be held in Woodhill House, Aberdeen."

ACTION Completed: C Wood sent cancellation notice

## **Community Council Forum**

Wed 8 November 2023 - 6.30pm, Ellon Academy with online access

**ACTION Completed:** C Wood circulated invite to all BCC members (Update A McIntyre can attend)

## **Balmedie Country Park**

Wed 22 November 2023 6pm

Online

NB before this meeting will need BCC to meet to discuss the plan

## **14. New Correspondence & Communication / AOB**

27<sup>th</sup> September 2023 Aberdeenshire Council Local Place Plans release 27.9.23

Forwarded to members including note on LLP meeting (3 May) from May minutes

**ACTION:** rC Wood to request to be added to October agenda, resend to all by email, raise again in November meeting

3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 G Drummond noticeboard installation and insurance

**ACTION:** Discuss in October meeting

4<sup>th</sup> October 2023 CC Induction training video from AC

**ACTION:** C Wood to circulate to all BCC members

6<sup>th</sup> October 2023 email from R Nicol (BCT) AGM Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October

9<sup>th</sup> October 2023 G Drummond, another road accident Potterton (south end of Potterton), Police in attendance, 22 accidents in 24 months (Sept 21-Sept 23)

**ACTION Completed:** Discuss in meeting for actions

**ACTION Completed:** UPDATE, C Wood has requested AC roads, Police and Councillors to attend BCC November meeting. G Drummond to describe location and number of accidents and ask for possible solutions form AC roads/Police

13<sup>th</sup> October 2023 Balmedie Country Park action plan - circulated to members.

**ACTION Completed:** D Wallace lead discussion

15<sup>th</sup> October 2023 R Moffat (Belhelvie) has requested new containers.

Forwarded to Alex, Gavin, David W to discuss at BCC meetings / agree actions

**ACTION Completed:** Discuss in meeting for actions.

16<sup>th</sup> October 2023 reminder to Balmedie Christmas Lights group to get their application submitted to AC (expected by 1 October).

**ACTION Completed:** Are any members in touch with the CLG or D Cassie, D Wallace in contact with AC

## **15. AOB**

Accidents happening in Potterton, G Drummond has been reporting on these accidents for 24 months, there have been 22 accidents, which have all reported, if there is Police are present the accident is not reported. In one month in particular there were 9 accidents.

**ACTION:** C Wood to email AC Roads with the data and pictures of the latest accident

Cllr Johnstone was asked for an update of the Balmedie to Murcar bike track, it is still in negotiations with Aberdeen city who have still to complete a survey and get past a couple of obstacles. Everything from the city border to north is ready to be funded

G Drummond asks what is the liability if he or any BCC member are doing work for the community and an accident happens. Cllr Johnstone said that the BCC are insured by Public Liabilities through Aberdeenshire Council (Insurance Officer). He said it is best to inform the Insurance Officer of works to be undertaken and then be guided.

**ACTION:** BCC requires a procedure of tasks that may be undertaken.

Meeting closed 21.52

**NB These September 2023 minutes were approved at the 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023 BCC Meeting.**

# **BELHELVE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**



**Next BCC Meeting Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 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](https://www.facebook.com/BelhelvieCommunityCouncil)

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