

# **BELHELVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**



## **APPROVED MINUTES of MEETING 20th November 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, H Foxen,

**Members F2F:** D Wallace, G Middleton, J Fletcher, D McKendrick, A McIntyre

**Apologies:** E Phipps G, Drummond

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

**Formartine Area Councillors F2F:** None

**Apologies:** None

Visitors: R Moffat (Belhelvie flower drums), R Nicol (BCT Resilience Planning), G Douglas (Potterton road accident)

**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.

Visitors G Douglas introduced himself and would like to discuss the B999 road accidents at Potterton and lend his support to the BCC when speaking to AC roads department.

R Moffat to discuss the replacement of the flower drums that are now obsolete in Belhelvie.

R Nicol (BCT) to discuss the Resilience Planning.

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

No Opening remarks

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

None

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

No Police presence, October 2023 report was received and distributed, does not contain much level of detail in the report.

**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. Resilience Planning** (A McIntyre)

A McIntyre attended the Formartine CC Forum and one of the topics was village resilience planning.

During this meeting the Resilience Officer for Aberdeenshire offered to attend a meeting with all interested parties in the Belhelvie Ward. Presentations were made by some Community Councils who have had their system going for a few years, were very helpful. The conclusion was that the resilience plan should not be over complicated, a simple plan works better. R Nicol put forward a suggestion that her colleague Joanne Corbett could make a simple plan from what has been drawn up previously from Cllr Nicol.

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**ACTION:** A McIntyre to organise a Resilience meeting with Colin Anderson AC and all relevant parties, Church, Leisure Centre, BCT, Potterton CC (H Foxen/ F Jenkins), Blackdog group, Ward Councillors. White Cairns (M Brown)

**6. Potterton Road Accident Blackspot** (G Drummond)  
G Drummond not present, this was discussed in visitor items 7

## **7. Visitors Items**

### **Accidents on the B999 at Plodhill corner Potterton.**

This has been an ongoing situation for 2-3 years now, BCC have previously reported the frequency of accidents on numerous occasions to the AC roads department, Cllrs have also reported the frequency of accidents to the roads department, they have replied that the accidents are mostly due to driver error and as such they would not deviate from the policy this road has. In the mean time accidents are still happening so nothing is being achieved. G Drummond (BCC) has recorded a total of 25 accidents from September 2021-November 2023 have occurred. Everyone was of the opinion that a speed restriction of 40 mph for 400-600 metres back up the road from Potterton towards the B977 intersection would suffice.

In one of the latest accidents G Douglas gave us an account of his daughter's accident and he thinks it is the camber or twist in the road that allowed his daughter's car to lose traction and crash.

Photographs of this accident were taken and they show that the driver was very lucky to escape with her life, these photos were emailed to AC roads, Police and to all Ward Councillors. The roads team have now issued a temporary 40mph speed restriction for 3 weeks, starting 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

After further discussion it was the overall opinion that 3 weeks would be of insufficient time to judge whether a change would happen and that a longer period would be more beneficial

CLLR Hassan emailed roads team, *I'm currently in the monthly meeting of Belhelvie Community Council where a member of the public has attended to speak on the Plodhill corner at Potterton where the "temporary" 40MPH speed restriction was supposed to be put in place from today.*

*We have heard that no site notices were put up I wondered if someone could confirm to us that these have indeed gone up, and if not when these will appear??*

*The additional concern is that this "temporary" restriction is for only three weeks the unanimous view appears to be a preference for this period to be longer.*

Cllr Hassan has received a reply during this meeting and roads team will be in touch with him the tomorrow, 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023.

### **Belhelvie Planters** (R Moffat)

R Moffat explained that the Belhelvie flower drums are falling to pieces. As per last months note, G Drummond will get a price for new sleepers, purchase the wood and setup the planters in Belhelvie.

**ACTION:** G Drummond to liaise with R Moffat on locations and moving plants from old barrels to new planters.

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

Application for a disabled access ramp in Wonderwall Belhelvie has been validated.

Last month it was agreed the G Middleton put in an objection to justify the PA Agricultural application and size at Keir Farm Belhelvie. The objection was sent to AC planning with no response, when checking on the AC Planning web site, he found no planning permission required.

Cllr Hassan wondered why there was no acknowledgment at all from the objection, and asked G Middleton to forward the objection email to him.

**ACTION:** G Middleton to send the mail to all the Ward Councillors.

**ACTION:** Cllr Hassan to pursue the matter.

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

E Phipps not present

## **10. Funded Projects Status Update** (E Phipps)

E Phipps not present

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

The minutes from the previous meeting were viewed, they were then proposed for approval by G Middleton and seconded by D McKendrick.

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

**ACTION Completed:** C Wood when sending the link for the BCC meeting use blind CC so that no one can reply to all.

A traffic monitoring box looks as if it has been removed from its site on Eigie Road.

**ACTION Ongoing:** Cllr Ritchie written to roads department but is awaiting an answer from the AC Roads Dept.

Parking of buses at the COOP Balmedie.

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

**ACTION Completed:** G Middleton sent objection to AC Planning ( Agriculture PA)

**ACTION Completed:** J Fletcher has distributed Village Enhancement money

**ACTION Ongoing:** G Drummond to price the wood for Belhelvie planters (G Drummond not present)

**ACTION Completed:** CP Management Plan meeting

**ACTION Ongoing:** Local Place Plan, LPP Meeting to be raised in December meeting

**ACTION Completed:** Insurance liability discussed as asked by G Drummond

**ACTION Completed:** Induction training video from AC circulated to all BCC members

**ACTION Completed:** C Wood emailed roads team with pics of latest accident.

**ACTION:** A McIntyre to email Balmedie lights group to enquire what the situation is with the switch on

**ACTION Completed:** A McIntyre arranged meeting to discuss country park management plan

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

E Phipps not present

D Wallace-asked all members for "suggestions of future projects we could get after".

**ACTION:** for all members to put some thought on this for discussion at next meeting.

## **14. External Meeting Report Back**

**Formartine Community Forum** (A McIntyre)

Subject of insurance was prevalent as one of the CC owns a bridge which was damaged during a storm and insurance did not cover it. All insurance policies for CCs are paid for by AC

An issue with a request for using council premises for meetings.

Licencing for public events, shows, firework displays etc, as soon as the village knows they have an event planned, they should seek the licencing from AC as soon as possible, do not wait until the last minute.

A series of presentation slides about the licencing have been received and sent to all BBC members BCT and LC.

Tents and PA systems may be borrowed from AC if required.

Buses have driver shortage and they then pull services to get the resources, one service that has been pulled on more than one occasion this year is the X65 that leaves Ellon Academy just after school closure and this causes problems for parents who are working and receive notes that their children cannot get home

Resilience planning was also discussed.

Election of new members and office bearers may be split from the AGM and term of office may change to 3 years.

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

Country Park Meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023. Online 18:00 (D Wallace, A McIntyre)

Bus Forum 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023 (19:30-21:00 A McIntyre)

## **16. New Correspondence & Communication**

17<sup>th</sup> November 2023 Claire Young sent out email to D Wallace on Democracy Matters.

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C Wood sent the link for this BCC meeting to Potterton Community Centre (Norman Boal), there has been no reply.

**ACTION:** C Wood will resend an invitation to Norman Boal AC to join the BCC December meeting.

**ACTION:** D Wallace to put the state of the Community Centre as an Agenda item for December.

## **17. AOB**

D McKendrick copied on a mail from the Balmedie Brethren Church (Rodney Hoare) asking if they could help with resilience as they already have this in place and also speeding within the village. D McKendrick has called the gentleman and is waiting a reply.

A McIntyre was contacted by a local resident as they could not get on a bus from Balmedie into Aberdeen as there was some kind of school trip with Ellon Academy pupils, the bus was full. This was cost effective for the school as the children used their bus passes, the bus in question did not stop at any bus stops in Balmedie as it was full. Cllr Hassan stated nothing wrong has happened here, but it would have helped if Ellon Academy had informed the bus company of the situation, and they may have put a second coach on, this is not likely.

**ACTION:** A McIntyre to raise the issue at the next Forum Meeting.

D McKendrick was also contacted by a local resident about a bus that he was waiting for did not arrive on its designated time, an hour later a bus arrived but was full.

A McIntyre reported Eigie House has had some incidents where residents have concerns about their safety, Cllrs Hassan and Nicol have visited Eigie House and have spoken to the residents and the issue is being monitored by the Housing Officer for Eigie House.

Meeting closed 21:07

**NB These November 2023 minutes were approved at the 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023 BCC Meeting. Next BCC Meeting Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December 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)