

BELHELVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL



APPROVED MINUTES of MEETING 19th February 2024 F2F

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

Members Online: No online meeting

Members F2F: D Wallace, G Middleton, J Fletcher, G Drummond, E Phipps, H Foxen

Apologies: C Wood, D McKendrick, A McIntyre

Formartine Area Councillors Online: No online meeting

Formartine Area Councillors F2F: None

Apologies: Cllr Nicol, Cllr Johnston, Cllr Ritchie, Cllr Hassan

Visitors: C Dryburgh (Barratts), Julie Ross, Stephen Kerr (Balmedie residents), Phil Alexander (Our local Balmedie shopkeeper), Rodney Hoare (Brethren Christian Church).

Visitors Online: No online meeting

1. Apologies & Introductions of any Visitors/Attendees

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

2. Chairmans Opening Remarks

Chairman said January 2024 meeting was cancelled due to the inclement weather, this was the first time that the BCC had cancelled a meeting in his time with the BCC.

The meeting is F2F and not online this evening because our Communications Coordinator (C Wood) is unavailable

3. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

None

4. Police Matters & Report Review

No Police presence, January 2023 report was received and distributed, again not much detail in the contents, no incidents reported in the Belhelvie area.

Formartine has now a new area inspector Barry Stewart, who started in his post 2 weeks ago.

ACTION Completed: Cllr Nicol sent B Stewart contact details

ACTION Completed: C Wood offered Inspector Stewart to join our next meeting

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. Visitor Items

Local residents asked about the police report to see if there were any incidents reported from Belhelvie, no incidents reported as above item 4. They all said that this was false as they had all been in touch with the Police about various incidents. They have witnessed racial abuse, stealing incidents in the shop and all have had antisocial behaviour directed at them, this has been happening for the past 6 months all around the shop area. The police have been notified and they took a statement on the theft, but it has to be a theft of over £200 before making it an incident, the police said that they have spoken to the culprits (S1 and S2 pupils at BOD Academy) but nothing else has happened. The BCC asked if they had the report numbers from the police, but were never given the incident report numbers. A delegation of residents are very worried that this type of antisocial behaviour will escalate as summer arrives and particularly with nothing being done about the incidents.

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BCC advised that any future incident should be logged with incident number, date, time and the police names and numbers of who attended.

Discussion ensued about the road pot holes in Balmedie and what we can do about the situation. Locals are damaging their cars but nothing is being done by AC. S Kerr said he has a claim with AC but will have to wait 4 months to see if it will be given.

There is also a complaint about the very full glass containers at the back of the shop the excess bottles are being broken and the glass is being scattered across the car parking area, safety issue for AC.

The new law for no pavement parking was also discussed, it seems in some cases if this is adhered to and an emergency is required for fire brigade or ambulance, it would be impossible to get to some houses and fulfil their tasks, this is a case for public safety.

Complaint about the Bus coming Ellon Academy for the after schools club is very unreliable with, children having to walk to the main road to wait for a bus that sometimes does not arrive, parents are having to go pick their children up from the school.

ACTION: Get link for the bus forum questions and answers from A McIntyre

Sadly there were no Councillors present as these are our first point of call if it is a AC issue and they are in regular meetings with police.

ACTION: BCC will raise the above issues with our AC Councillors and the police.

Barratts Potterton Housing Development Update

C Dryburgh (Barratts) gave an update on the Potterton development which they have been working to improve since the last Potterton consultation. They think they now have a layout that will suit all including biodiversity actions. They are encouraging all to come along to the consultation and will deliver leaflets to advertise the event, H Foxen will place the leaflets in the notice boards in Potterton. C Dryburgh answered a question about the feed back from the previous consultation being ignored, saying the feedback that was received hasn't all been actioned, but it has all been taken into account, all has not been included but hopefully it has been addressed and she would like to hear from the residents if they have things that need addressing as they still have time.

Timeline application will be by the end of March, and C Dryburgh said they are still working on the layout and spent a lot of time designing the road accesses, there will be approximately 200 houses built. The development will be completed in phased build out, this has not been agreed on at present. The consultation will take place at 3-7pm on Wednesday 6th March 2024 at Potterton Community Centre, Laingseat Road.

6. Resilience Planning (A McIntyre)

As per item 13 External Meeting Report

7. Planning Report (G Middleton)

January 2024 Woodend Cottage, Potterton, change of use from agricultural land to class 9 housing and an extension to the house.

1 Validated, 1 Decided, a disabled access to house

February 2024 House and garage, Whitecairns, extension to East lodge at Belhelvie

Braehead of Muirton, Potterton, steading PA for 2 houses, from the site plan you cannot see where these houses will be sited.

Questionnaire on the Development Plan Scheme, from AC, it was decided by vote and all in favour of G Middleton answering the questionnaire on behalf of BCC.

8. Treasures Report and Funding Update (E Phipps)

E Phipps Insurance issue, Zurich Insurance Presentation, BCC (E Phipps) will attend the presentation to check what BCC will be insured for and if it is sufficient for our needs.



9. Funded Projects Status Update (E Phipps)

ACTION Ongoing: E Phipps asking for new projects that the BCC can be involved in. Suggestion about the Potterton football park, changing rooms and tennis courts, is there anything that is required, who funds this at present as the land is owned by AC, is it possible for outside funding from various sources.

H Foxen said the Potterton Community Centre, requires new windows and there is a hole in the door, the building is owned by AC and they have a budget for maintenance work, so they should see about getting this done. The outside hut also requires repairing as it is collapsing, this is used for storage, this may be allowed as a community funded project. There is a thought process of appealing to local tradesmen for help in projects if the materials are available through funding.

The two outstanding benches have been delivered to G Drummonds workplace. These may be situated at Balmedie and Belhelvie, awaiting for good weather to install these. There may be money in the BCC kitty to purchase two more chairs.

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

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

11. Matters arising from Previous Meeting (J Fletcher)..

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

ACTION Completed: Remaining benches arrived at G Drummonds business address

ACTION Completed: G Drummond to cost the Belhelvie planters and contact R Moffit

G Drummond sent email to BCC with costs and drawings, These are the notes and a quick drawing on the planters that will give you an idea of costs etc and maybe a thought of how many and where and a plan to implement, if there is a loose budget for each area?

ACTION: E Phipps to see how much money we have to spend on the planters.

ACTION Completed: G Drummond to give an update on the notice boards placement

ACTION Completed: C Wood to distribute the proforma and discuss at next meeting ready for the following, Belhelvie Parish Emergency Resilience Meeting on 5th February 2024 18:00

ACTION Completed: H. Foxen to arrange a visit to Potterton Community Centre for BCC members to help them understand the issues with the Community Centre

Potterton Road Accident Blackspot

40mph signage now in place, this will be in operation for 18 months, No accidents in the last month.

ACTION Ongoing: G Drummond to continue to monitor.

H Foxen asked if one of the 40mph signs which is very faded (B999) could be replaced.

ACTION: J Fletcher emailed Cllr Nicol to ask Roads Dept.

12. General Projects Update (E Phipps)

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

Action Planning Meeting for Potterton (H Foxen)

Discussed the way forward with project lead nominated by AC, asking questions on what communities would like or what improvements they would like implemented, A Steering Group has been set up with Cllr Nicol, H Foxen and other people to help, they are looking to encourage residents to discuss topics that would make things better for Potterton residents. While this meeting was proceeding a gentleman from Liv Life Aberdeenshire and a team of ladies arrived and started to remove materials, previously used for the nursery, the articles were placed into a van and cars. The ex-care taker of the Community Centre was present and she noted that benches and tables were missing so she asked where all the articles were being taken and was informed that the Liv Life gentleman had bought them and sold them to Stonehaven. The ex-care taker informed these people that they could not do that as they belong to Potterton CC, she in fact had all the articles on an inventory (made in 2010), she also asked for his invoice, which he could not produce. The articles were then brought back to the CC. The Potterton Community Group have now disbanded and handed the keys over, the Action Group are going to meet again, a coffee morning has been organised for the 5th April 2024 this will be advertised on the BCC notice board, BCC FB page, in an attempt to get the Potterton residents back



to using the CC. Coffee mornings will continue on Saturday or weekdays monthly until the end of June 2024, then may continue on a monthly basis.

13. External Meeting Report Back

BCT AGM and Regular Meeting (A McIntyre) 22nd January 2024

Sand Bothy hope to increase the number of workshops they hold in 2024

Sand Bothy looking at possibility of extending opening hours and looking for additional volunteers to support this

Beach Wheelchairs saw significant increase in bookings in 2023. They have received some excellent individual and corporate support.

Consultation saw 280 responses which was somewhat disappointing. Currently being analysed. Joni Corbett shared some preliminary findings. Once survey responses have been analysed the findings will be shared with all Community Organisations

Sand Bothy lease expires in July 2026 but work needs to be started soon to hopefully ensure a smooth renewal.

Joni's funding runs out on March 2025 and efforts need to be made to hopefully extend the tenure of her role.

Meetings moving from Monthly to Quarterly.

BCT include the following organisations within its' umbrella:

Sand Bothy, Balmedie Beach Wheelchairs, The Warm Hub, Better Balmedie,

Balmedie Litter Pick Group, The Sensory Garden, Potterton Volunteers

BCT meetings dates please note these are now quarterly (2024)

Monday 22nd April 2024 location TBC

Monday 22nd July 2024 location TBC

Monday 28th October 2024 location TBC

Resilience Planning (A McIntyre) 5th February 2024

Meeting was not as well attended as the previous meeting. Representatives from Potterton Community, Potterton BCC Member (H Foxen) and Aberdeenshire Councillor Nicol, 3 members from Leisure Centre and J Corbett on behalf of BCT. Apart from the visit to Potterton Community Centre in December nothing else had progressed.

Discussion took place on a number of issues including extent of Resilience Support, Temporary Generators, other resilience items e.g. lanterns

It was agreed that the group should have a name and the consensus was that Belhelvie Parish Resilience Group was the most suitable name. The inclusion of the word Parish reinforced that the Group was not only for Belhelvie but the entire parish including all the settlements. Documentation produced will make it clear that it covers the 5 settlements and the surrounding area.

The word Emergency was excluded to reinforce that the Group is intended to provide support for residents within the Parish **after** an Emergency and is not part of the rescue services.

Communication lines were seen as the crucial items and discussion took place around buddy systems and cascading of requests for support with a clear line of approach where residents should go for help. In order to provide an effective chain of support that a mobile phone held by the duty person is the best way to provide clear routes of sourcing and cascading support (a similar approach is used by Beach Wheelchairs)

It was felt that the lines of communication between the group and Aberdeenshire Council needs to be clarified.

It was agreed that an article outlining the purpose of the group should be published in the Spring Banter with a more detailed input with the relevant contact details in the Autumn edition.

Next Meeting 25th March at 6.00pm at Balmedie Leisure Centre

Actions:

- 1 J Corbett to collate inputs from all relevant groups to Resilience Plan
2. A McIntyre / S Jenkins to arrange follow up visit to review alternatives to provide limited power to Potterton Community Centre
3. A. McIntyre / B. Murray to review Distribution system at Leisure Centre to come up with a cost effective solution of ensure Leisure Centre can provide effective support
- 4.A. McIntyre to investigate costs associated with a dedicated contact mobile phone.
- 5 J Corbett to set up a Facebook page for the Resilience Group.



14. Attending Nomination for Future External Meetings

Upcoming meetings / training

Formartine Community Council Forum

Date/time: Wednesday 21 February, 6.30pm

Location: Ellon Community Campus / online

Description: Regular forum meeting

Organiser: Aberdeenshire Council / Community Councils

ACTION Completed: Circulated to all BCC members 16th February 2024

D Wallace and A McIntyre to attend.

Scottish Conference of Community Councils

Date/time: Saturday 24th February 2024 starting at 10:30am

Location: Online register to be sent a Google Meeting invite <https://forms.gle/reSRYGVWHyr7xF5t9>

Description: hearing your views on the Democracy Matters 2 consultation

(<https://consult.gov.scot/local-government-and-communities/democracy-matters/>) and possible legislation

Deadline consultation for responses: 28 Feb 2024

Organiser: Scottish Forum of Community Councils (open to all Community Councils in Scotland)

ACTION Completed: Circulated to all BCC members 16th February 2024

NOTE: Attendance by BCC members TBC (Carolynne has registered to attend)

Carolynne has asked AC to circulate the information to Community Councils directly

Barratt's Potterton development public consultation meeting

Date/time: Wednesday 6th March 2024 3-7pm

Location: Potterton Community Centre (TBC)

Description: public engagement/consultation (TBC)

Organiser: Barratts

ACTION: Circulate to BCC members, post on FB / notice boards

G Middleton, H Foxen to attend.

Country Park Meeting 20th March 2024 6pm, attendees TBA.

Zurich Insurance Presentation attendee E Phipps

15. New Correspondence & Communication

ACTION Ongoing: Advertise on notice boards in January

ACTION Ongoing: C Wood to send resilience contacts

15th December 2023 Coastal Communities Challenge Fund Round 6

Deadline for applications 29th January 2024

ACTION Completed: Post shared on Facebook

31st December 2023 report on recent bus forum from A McIntyre

ACTION: BCC members to discuss in meeting and agree communications on the meeting points raised by A McIntyre to our communities

8th January 2024 Resilience Funding opportunity (up to £15,000)

Forwarded on to BCC and David W by Alex

ACTION: BCC Members to discuss in the meeting

9th January 2024 Community Council Insurance, Update on new process from AC

Forwarded to E Phipps and D Wallace for action (9th January 2024)

10th January 2024 missing bin collection Eigie Avenue, Balmedie, Report to BCC by resident Tunde Gourlay, Issue forwarded to D Wallace and J Fletcher

Asked T Gourlay to report the missed collection via AC website (no missing collections listed for Balmedie on AC site for 8 January) and asked if she can attend the BCC meeting in person to raise the issue/explain situation.

ACTION: Discuss issue at meeting with Councillors, no Councillors or T Gourlay present

11th January 2024 changes to bin collections - information from AC, changes starting 26th February 2024, Forwarded to BCC members.

ACTION: Share publicity from AC (FB posts, press releases etc) when available on FB, website and notice boards).

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7th January 2024 Rodney Hoare Brethren Church, Request to attend January meeting but wrong date of 22nd Jan 2024.

ACTION Completed: Replied letting R Hoare know February meeting details and where to find agendas/ minutes on the BCC website.

18th January 2024 rural transport consultation by AC

ACTION Completed: Shared post through FB, asked notice board managers to add poster to the boards.

ACTION ongoing: Asked A McIntyre to review for a BCC response and to discuss at February meeting

18th January 2024 Inspiring Aberdeenshire Awards 2024

Deadline for nominations: 29th February 2024

ACTION Completed: Circulated to all BCC members, FB post and BCC website.

ACTION: Discuss at February meeting, A Neave, local litter pick around the Potterton area

19th January 2024 Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan Evidence Report Topic papers.

ACTION Completed: Forwarded to G Middleton D Wallace

ACTION Completed: C Wood asked if G Middleton /D Wallace want this promoted through FB and website (news and planning pages)

19th January 2024 Feedback on the "Improvements to the Amenity of Towns and Villages for the benefit of all 2023/24 Funding" deadline for submission 31st January 2024.

ACTION Completed: J Fletcher submitted the info asked for

22nd January 2024 Planning appeals training with the DPEA material / presentations

ACTION Completed: Circulated to all BCC members 24th January 2024

30th January 2024 Gwen Pirie, Barratts consultation meeting location request to not be at Stead Inn

ACTION Completed: Meeting changed to Potterton Community Centre

12th February 2024 Cllr Request: Road Survey on Eigie Rd 1270570234

ACTION Completed: C Wood forwarded the report from AC roads team to BCC members

ACTION: BCC to discuss at February meeting if necessary.

16. AOB

Rodney Hoare (Brethren Christian Church Balmedie) attended the meeting and asked if there was anything they could help the Balmedie Community with.

Meeting closed 22:20

**NB These February 2024 minutes were approved at the 18th March 2024 BCC Meeting.
Next BCC Meeting Monday 15th April 2024 at 7:00pm F2F at Balmedie Leisure Centre and
Online Teams (Resources permitting)**

Visitors welcome.

Belhelvie Community Council

Email: belhelviecommunitycouncil@hotmail.com **for the phone-in number or Teams Link**

Web: www.belhelviecc.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/BelhelvieCommunityCouncil

Meetings: belhelviecc.org.uk/meetings.html