

Stonehaven and District Community Council Monthly Meeting, 8th January 2019

1 Introduction by Chairperson

Thanks to all the voluntary organisations around Stonehaven who helped to make the events over the festive period such a success.

Chair mentioned that he had received clarification that up to 4 more members could be co-opted.

(**Action:** all Members to identify suitable candidates)

Attendance

1.1.1 SDCC:

Raymond Christie (RC), Paul Lindop (PL), Patrick Coffield (PC), Mike Duncan (MD), Ian Hunter (IH), Alistair Lawrie (AL), Jim Stephen (JS), Lindsey Wood (LW), Bill Watson (BW), Gerry Towler (GT), Danny Veltman (DV)

1.1.2 Aberdeenshire Councillors:

Councillor Dickinson (Cllr D), Councillor Agnew (Cllr A)

1.1.3 Others in Attendance: members of the general public

1.1.4 Apologies:

Donald Lawrie Morrison, Alix Gunn, Councillor Robertson, Councillor Wallace

1.1.5 Absent without Notice: Fiona Tavendale, Jim Morrison

1.2 Declarations of Interest: None

2 Previous Minutes (Nov 2018)

Minutes proposed BW, seconded LW, approved.

Matters Arising

2.1 Item 11 (TRAK): IH reported that he had received a letter from Stuart Alexander requesting more information and time to answer some questions about the proposed modifications to Stonehaven Railway Station. IH will fix a date to meet with him and LW. Cllr D suggested inviting Aberdeenshire South Access Panel also. (**Action:** IH)

2.2 Item 3.4 (Participatory Request): AL has agreed to the Aberdeenshire Council proposal to arrange a workshop. Mearns CC and Kemnay CC are interested in taking part also.

2.3 Item 6 (Presentation of Hannah Dyson/Community Awards) – carried forward (**Action:** AL)

3 Police Report

No report

4 Matters Raised by the public

Caroline Duguid asked whether there had been any feedback yet from the public meeting to consider the impact of Stonehaven Medical Centre's new econsult system:

RC reported that over 200 had attended, and that the trial was funded by the Scottish Government until May 2019. There are no proposals to change the procedure. However it was pointed out that it is still possible to request an appointment or consultation by phone.

5 Planning

The Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan Main Issues Report was published near the end of 2018. Public consultation is open until 8th April 2019. This provides an opportunity for community engagement by the Community Council also.

It was pointed out how difficult it seems to be able to follow the planning status of the various developments proposed on the Ury Estate.

MD said that we needed a strategy. IH expressed doubt that much regard was paid to public views on the LDP. PL said we needed to engage with our community and represent their views to the Planning Dept.

Cllr D said that the Community Action Plan was taken into account in Portlethen.

Cllr A said that the Leisure Centre was not fit for purpose and that the future development of Mackie Academy would be crucial. Aberdeenshire Council have setup a new business unit for Cultural and Leisure facilities which would have responsibility for these decisions.

Action: PL will review and summarise the implications for Stonehaven.

6 Business Matters

(Items on Nippy Dip and Defibrillators brought forward to accommodate early departure of JS)

6.1 Nippy Dip

Was a great success. It was estimated that 280 signed up and there were 500-600 altogether in attendance. Some volunteers from the Community Council, The Lions and the Stonehaven Fireballs team acted as marshals. £1344 was raised in sponsorship and donations for maintenance of the defibrillators and provision of CCTV for security. Agreed that we should allocate some funds (around £100) for tabards and branded buckets for the collection next year. RNLI also raised funds, partly from sale of teas and coffees.

Action: PL to table costed proposal to purchase collection buckets and SDCC tabards.

6.2 Defibrillators.

PL provided a map of the location of the public defibrillators. An eighth public defibrillator will be added at the Firestation while the Co-op will replace the one at the David St store with one of their own, freeing one to be redeployed in the Redcloak vicinity. There are some other defibs around the town (e.g. Semi-Chem, GPH) but not open for use by the general public.

SDCC will organise a Defib Awareness event which we expect some staff from the Co-op to attend also. (**Action** PL).

The defib at the Market Square will be relocated adjacent to the Taxi Rank for better security.

Propose to make the map of the defibrillator locations available on the SDCC website.

(**Action:** Communications Group)

Propose to deploy CCTV around the three 24 x 7 defibs. (**Action:** JS to bring forwarded costed proposal).

MD proposed that we ask the Area Manager to include an item on standards and best practice for operation of defibs in the next CC Forum agenda.

JS estimated £500 p.a required for basic maintenance of the defibs so fundraising will be necessary.

Action: AL to place agenda item for next CCF regarding Defibrillator Best Practise.

6.3 Open Air Pool

Around £122,000 was needed for repair work in the Open Air Pool. When the work is completed, the Friends of the Pool will be in a position to take up their support activities again.

6.4 Mental Health Care

MD met with Aberdeenshire Council officers including Karen McWilliams to discuss how the SDCC might be involved in the provision of a revised mental health service. It was agreed to follow the Participatory Request procedure. It would seem reasonable that SDCC would take a leading role in the review of the service provided by Aberdeenshire Council. In particular it is expected that MD will participate in defining the engagement strategy.

BW suggested it would be good to formalise the role of SDCC in the process.

IH proposed that there be an item on the participation of Community Councils in defining the service on the next CC Forum agenda.

BW proposed that SDCC submit a Participatory Request for the review of mental health provision, that we inform the CC Forum and that we suggest also that we discuss how to pursue future PRs together.

Action: MD to determine appropriate timing for approach & involvement.

Action: RC to place agenda item for next CCF meeting to discuss and gather support behind any PR Application.

6.5 Camper Vans

Cllr D reported that a meeting of interested parties including Aberdeenshire Council Roads Dept, the Police and Fire and Rescue discussed camper vans parking on the Beach Boulevard. Aberdeenshire Council Roads Dept will look at options for encouraging camper vans to park elsewhere. There seemed to be some agreement that a good option would be to paint double yellow lines along the west side of the boulevard alongside the east wall of the open air swimming pool.

6.6 Communications Group

BW reported that the website was already up and running and that meeting agendas and minutes would be posted there. Next steps will be to setup a domain name and upgrade to the advert-free version.

(Action: Comms Group)

PC reported that he had received feedback from community councillors and that he would summarise the comments and circulate them to community councillors for further consideration before the next meeting. **(Action:** PC)

Action: Any SDCC Members willing to have their photo and description of why they are Members should forward same to BW.

6.7 Roads

MD reported his meeting with Ewan Smith during which they discussed the congestion at the end of the Slug Road near the Evan Street junction. It seems that the Roads Dept are somewhat reluctant to propose double yellow lines there in view of a previous consultation with residents who expressed their objections to that action.

MD pointed out that if the supermarket development at Ury went ahead the situation would quite likely be made worse.

MD had also discussed articulated lorries parking at Redcloak. It seems that there is likely to be some new legislation forbidding parking on pavements. However, it is not clear that such legislation would resolve the issue since legal parking of such large vehicles there could still be problematic.

IH added that parking near the junction of Ann Street and Bath Street next to the Community Centre was now also becoming a hazard.

DV raise question of the quality of signs on the new AWPR.

6.8 2018/19 Budget Update

PL presented a review of the accounts spending v budget. Forecast £545 retained funds (cf projected £131 at beginning of accounting year).

7 Correspondence

None

8 AOCB

8.1 DV will attend the Stonehaven Harbour Advisory Committee meeting, 15th Jan. **(Action:** DV)

PL pointed out that we had a small surplus from the Christmas Lights fundraising and maybe it would be worth proposing to the Harbour Committee that we could use it to make a contribution towards some festive decorations around the harbour.

Julie Lindeman said that we could apply for more funds next year and she thought it was quite likely that we would be successful again.

Cllr A mentioned that the bench near the Harbour Master's might need to be refurbished.

8.2 IH proposed we invite someone from Citizens Advice to speak at the March meeting. **(Action:** PC)

8.3 BW suggested that the Community Council could benefit from having a large screen TV for presentations at monthly meetings and asked whether there was a location with one available.

8.4 Concerning junior members of the CC, AL planned to meet with any Mackie pupils who might be interested in joining the CC next Tuesday, 15th Jan, and provide some induction training. He will also document the process of engaging young members for the benefit of other CCs. **(Action:** AL)

8.5 DV mentioned that the Dunnottar Woodland Park Association met each second Monday of the month in Invercarron Resource Centre if anyone was interested in attending.

8.6 LW suggested that we establish a "Contemplation Tree" in the Burns Memorial Garden. **Action:** LW to write to the Advising Group to identify interest.

8.7 PC reminded community councillors that there would be Community Council elections this year. Aberdeenshire will propose a timetable. **Action:** Council

14 Next Meetings:

Agenda Meeting: 5th February 2019

Business Meeting: 12th February 2019

(See also Calendar on the website, <http://www.community-council.org.uk/stonehaven/calendar.asp>)