



**STONEHAVEN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**  
19:00 – 21:00 11 October 2022  
Meeting held in the Sheriff Court Buildings, Stonehaven

<b>Present</b>
<p><b>Community Council Members:</b> Ian Hunter (IH), David Lawman, <i>Chairperson</i> (DL), Jim Stephen (JS), Steve McQueen (SMcQ), Danny Veltman (DV) <b>via Zoom</b>, Raymond Christie (RC), <i>Vice Chairman</i>, Phil Mills-Bishop (PMB), Caroline Evans (CE), Fiona Tavindale (FT), Bill Watson, <i>Treasurer</i>, (WW) <b>via Zoom</b></p> <p><b>Aberdeenshire Council Elected Members:</b> Alan Turner (Cllr T), Wendy Agnew (Cllr A) <b>via Zoom</b>, Dawn Black (Cllr B) <b>via Zoom</b>, Sandra Dickinson (Cllr D) <b>via Zoom</b>.</p>
<b>In Attendance</b>
Fiona Malcolm, <i>Minutes Secretary</i> , Tarryn Maxted, (The Haven) <b>via Zoom</b>

1 & 2	Chairperson's Welcome	Action
	It was agreed to record the meeting on Zoom (to be deleted once minutes agreed). DL welcomed members of the Stonehaven and District Community Council (SDCC), Aberdeenshire Councillors, and members of the general public.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Apologies and Declarations of Interest</b>	
	Adam Cadamerteri, Alistair Lawrie, <i>Secretary</i> , Andrew McArdle, Donald Lawrie Morrison, James Morrison, Janine Esson, Julia Lawrie Morrison, Michael Ogden, Pauline Brindley, David Charnley, <i>Police Scotland</i>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Co-option of Community Councillors</b>	
	John Emslie, one of the agreed co-opted members, has been on holiday. DL will contact him again to confirm if he still wishes to become a Community Councillor.	DL to contact John Emslie
<b>5</b>	<b>Police Scotland Report</b>	
	No report was available prior to the meeting. PMB asked if it is a requirement for a representative of Police Scotland (PS) to attend SDCC meetings. DL advised that PS operational matters take priority. PMB noted there had been no PS representative at the previous three	DL to contact Police Scotland

	SDCC meetings. DL offered to contact PS and encourage them to submit a regular report prior to future SDCC meetings.	
<b>6</b>	<b>Matters Arising from Previous Minutes</b>	
	<p>a) Report back on microphone trial/purchase of Omnidirectional Conference Room Microphone DL thanked Cllr T for lending his personal omnidirectional microphone for the meeting, this had worked well at the recent Agenda Planning Meeting. Those attending via Zoom agreed that the sound quality was much improved, compared to the handheld microphone. The meeting agreed unanimously to support the purchase of a similar microphone, speakers and camera for SDDC use, at a cost of £200.000</p> <p>b) Dedicated SDDC e-mail accounts DL confirmed that email accounts have been set up for the Chairman, and Planning Secretary. Forwarding only accounts have also been set up for the Secretary, Treasurer and Vice Chairman.</p> <p>c) Invercarron Resource Centre – Participation Request DL asked if the Participation Request which had been approved at the previous meeting had been submitted to Aberdeenshire Council Kincardine &amp; Mearns Area Manager? RC advised he understood AL was going to submit the Participation Request to the Area. DL to confirm with AL if this had been done.</p> <p>PMB had recently attended the Resource Centre for vaccinations, and had noted there was plenty of space available.</p> <p>RC said it was unfortunate that the Resource Centre is being used solely for vaccinations, and noted the exit for is a potential tripping hazard for members of the public as there are steps.</p> <p>Cllr A said the Integration Joint Board (IJB) meets on 12 October. She has already raised her concerns about the change of use of the Resource Centre with them, and provided them with a copy of the court case. She advised the next stage will be taking the issue to the Ombudsman. There is now no dedicated place available for the support of vulnerable people this winter.</p> <p>RC asked if the Resource Centre is the only vaccination clinic in Kincardine and Mearns, as there are issues with the Stagecoach X7 bus service.</p> <p>Cllr A confirmed there is out reach vaccination clinic at Mearns Academy. She thought the Resource Centre is too big for the sole purpose of vaccination clinic, and the space could be shared with others. She felt that Forest View could be used as an alternative.</p> <p>PMB thought the back room could be used for other purposes, he also noted that all the NHS staff at the clinic were brilliant.</p>	<p>DL to order new equipment.</p> <p>DL to contact AL</p>

<p>Cllr T advised the original plan was to have mobile vaccination clinics, headquartered at the Resource Centre.</p> <p>PMB asked if details of the numbers of people attending for vaccinations will be made available?</p> <p>Cllr A said that the IJB does not respond to queries.</p> <p>DL and AL will ensure that the Participation Request is submitted.</p> <p>d) Stonehaven Surface Flooding DL noted that this issue had been discussed at the previous meeting. A report compiled by Cllr B had been circulated to members prior to this meeting. He said that SDDC must work with Aberdeenshire Council and Scottish Water to find a solution to the drains problem.</p> <p>Cllr T said that unless SEPA has a study/consultation identifying the causes of flooding, it is difficult for them to design a solution. Studies are undertaken on a 6 yearly cycle. SEPA publish all of the information on their website, then discuss the findings with each Local Authority before developing a plan. SEPA pays for any required action, their funding comes from the Scottish Government.</p> <p>JS said we need to pool resources, four Councillors and representatives from the Flood Prevention Group (FPG) came to the last SDDC meeting, these issues have been raised time and time again. The FPG representatives feel they are on their own. The issue is not being addressed. He asked if the SDDC could be a voice on behalf of the FPG?</p> <p>PMB asked Cllr T what evidence SEPA require to inform their plans?</p> <p>Cllr T explained SEPA carry out a Scotland-wide consultation, with input from Local Authorities as they have local knowledge. The coastal study had a SEPA secondee. The evidence is then used to carry out a cost v benefits analysis, this informs SEPA's decisions.</p> <p>PMB asked if SEPA prepare a worst-case scenario?</p> <p>Cllr T said they do not, but there is a live map of Stonehaven showing three flood severity levels on the SEPA website. Stonehaven is identified as a vulnerable zone.</p> <p>DL said a member of the public had suggested there should be a public meeting.</p> <p>JS asked if SDDC should contact FPG as we need to get the flooding problem a level up.</p>	<p>DL and AL</p>
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	<p>Cllr T reflected that the FPG has always organised public meetings before. Very few people attended their June 2022 meeting. He agreed the SDDC could reach out to them about coastal, drainage and Carron River flooding risks.</p> <p>DL asked JS if he would contact the FPG and ask how SDDC can work with and support them. The meeting agreed this action.</p> <p>e) Nippy Dip JS has agreed to complete the safety documentation for this event on New Year's Day 2023. DL will help with the registration process. JS, RC and DL will meet on Monday 17 October to take this forward.</p> <p>f) Formal Complaint Against SDDC This was passed to Aberdeenshire Council Area Committee who were satisfied with the report prepared by the Area Manager. This was copied to all SDDC members following the recommendation.</p> <p>g) Planning Application APP/2022/1676 – Dunnottar Castle All members had sight of the SDDC response prepared by PMB before it was submitted.</p> <p>PMB commented that Aberdeenshire Council Roads Department had not submitted a response (sic, to the planning application).</p> <p>DL noted that, overall, SDDC is supportive of the planning application, albeit there are some concerns.</p> <p>PMB said that most respondents have been supportive, the application will go to the Area Committee next, but it is not clear when this will be.</p> <p>Cllr T said this will depend on Aberdeenshire Council officials, Cllr D agreed there was at present no information about a date.</p>	<p>JS</p> <p>JS, RC and DL</p>
<b>7</b>	<b>Approval of Previous Minutes 20 September 2022</b>	
	<p>The August 2022 minutes had not been formally approved. These, with relevant changes, were agreed at the meeting, proposed by RC and seconded by PMB.</p> <p>The September 2022 minutes were approved by IH and seconded by DV.</p> <p><i>DL to add the correction to the September minutes, which was noted by PMB</i></p>	
<b>8</b>	<b>Planning Report and Reviews</b>	
	<p>PMB advised that the East Newtonleys industrial estate planning application has been fully approved. The foul water proposals will use the Braehead sewage system, this may put pressure on that, the Flood Prevention Group (FPG) are concerned.</p>	

	<p>DL said that SDDC cannot influence this decision, as it had now been approved.</p> <p>It was noted that the decision by Aberdeenshire Council's Kincardine &amp; Mearns Area Committee to reject the Craigneil Wind Farm. planning application had been overturned by the Scottish Government. There was a discussion about the anticipated £176k funding that will become available to the local community from the windfarm. It was agreed that SDDC should pursue this.</p> <p>Cllr A said she had not read the decision, however the Scottish Government has 'torn up' the Local Development Plan. It looks like money talks. She noted that it will not just be Stonehaven that benefits from the community funds that come from the windfarm.</p> <p>PMB noted that BP Filling Station may be installing a second vehicle wash bay., they had withdrawn their application but may resubmit. The FPG are concerned about run-off. Cllr T advised that 2<sup>nd</sup> wash-bay was not withdrawn and was approved by the Aberdeenshire Council's Kincardine &amp; Mearns Area Committee.</p> <p>PMB also raised the issue of tree removals appearing in planning applications, trees are very important to the environment. It was noted that trees in conservation areas are protected, and removal of trees is considered withing planning applications on a case by case basis.'</p>	
<b>9</b>	<b>SDDC Committees/Sub Groups</b>	
	<p>a) Local Development Plan/Local Place Plan</p> <p>DL had hoped to hear more details about the support for SDDC offered by Aberdeenshire Council. He proposed meeting with all the sub-groups on Tuesday 25 October, then feedback to the main SDCC groups.</p> <p>Cllr D advised that until the regulations are finalised by the Scottish Government, Aberdeenshire Council cannot formally approach Community Councils about support for their input to the Local Place Plan.</p> <p>DL suggested a discussion amongst the sub-groups should still go ahead.</p> <p>PMB advised he had spoken to Planning Aid Scotland (PAS) <a href="http://www.pas.org.uk">www.pas.org.uk</a>. They can provide support to Community Councils.</p> <p>DL agreed this was an option, but felt the sub-groups should meet first.</p> <p>Cllr D said this was a good idea, the timeframe for finalising the Local Place Plan is 18-24 months. She advised that SDDC should start</p>	

preparing now, however Aberdeenshire Council does not have capacity to support SDCC at present.

PMB said that Paul Macari, Head of Planning and Economy had offered one of his staff to support SDDC.

WW agreed that there had been a promise from Aberdeenshire Council to provide support, and agreed with PMB's suggestion about PAS.

DL agreed to send out invitations to all regarding the sub-group meeting on Tuesday 25 October.

PMB asked for an agenda for the proposed sub-group meeting.

DL clarified this would be an initial (informal) discussion to raise ideas, without the need for a formal agenda.

PMB asked if other (external?) groups could be invited?

DL felt it should be SDDC members initially to have a clearer idea of their priorities.

JS agreed it should be for SDDC members to generate ideas about what they think is needed in Stonehaven, before opening up the discussions with other groups.

PMB noted that the Place Based Plan has to be evidence-based.

JS said the Place Based Plan is where ideas go, so SDDC needs to discuss priorities.

Cllr T observed that everyone was saying the same thing, however SDDC should get together 'offline' to discuss and agree priorities.

PMB asked if Councillors could be involved in these discussions?

DL felt that SDDC should find their own feet first, and bring everyone up to speed.

b) Invercarron Resource Centre

This had already been discussed – see 6c

c) Community Resilience Plan

JE is no longer in a position to lead on this. MO has agreed to chair the sub-group. The sub-group had circulated a separate report prior to this meeting, this was well received. MO said the sub-group would like to produce an A5 leaflet for distribution to homeowners, and asked if SDDC would cover the printing costs up to £100.00. The meeting unanimously agreed to support this proposal.

	<p>d) SDDC Communications Social media training will be available in November. DL &amp; S McQ shall attend.</p> <p>PMB was concerned that members of the public do not attend SDDC meetings, and suggested putting an advert in the Mearns Leader, also to encourage other community group representatives to attend via Zoom.</p> <p>Cllr B said there is always an article in the Bellman about SDDC forthcoming meetings and a report following each meeting, DL confirmed this, and said there are regular updates on the SDDC Facebook page.</p> <p>S McQ said the Communications Sub Group had not yet met.</p>	
<b>10</b>	<b>Outside Bodies/Committees</b>	
	<p>a) Transport Action Kincardineshire (TRAK) – no update.</p> <p>b) KDP – Wind Farm Grant Application Reviews – the panel is due to meet soon.</p> <p>c) Town Centre Improvement Group – next meeting in November.</p> <p>d) Stonehaven Community Resilience Plan – already discussed – Item 9c.</p> <p>e) Kincardine and Mearns Community Council Forum The next meeting is on 17 November 2022. PMB asked about submitting agenda items, DL said items would be welcomed.</p> <p>f) Kincardine and Mearns Community Planning Group This is due to meet on 12 October 2022.</p> <p>IH said he had attended an initial meeting about setting up an Older People’s Forum.</p> <p>Cllr T asked about the focus of the proposed Forum.</p> <p>IH advised it was similar to the previous forum which included a walking group and the talking newspaper.</p>	
<b>11</b>	<b>Treasurer’s Report</b>	
	The Treasurer’s Report was circulated prior to the meeting. The annual grant sum of £1899 was received on 6 October 2022.	

	<p>JS advised that a local business was looking to make a donation to support the Christmas Tree Lights.</p> <p>DL noted that AL had already circulated details about the SDDC grant and how it is calculated on more than one occasion.</p>	
<b>12</b>	<b>Bervie Braes – Request for Update</b>	
	<p>PMB said that Stonehaven Business Association (SBA) would welcome the reopening of the Bervie Braes.</p> <p>There followed a discussion about the lack of suitable paint for the barriers on the Bervie Braes.</p> <p>Cllr D thought the Traffic Management Review (which would include the Bervie Braes) had not been submitted to Councillors yet.</p> <p>PMB said he was looking for a commitment from Aberdeenshire Council to open up the road again.</p> <p>Cllr A is also keen to see the road open again, however the reasons for the last landslide need to be understood, engineers have investigated, and a report is pending. She agreed to follow this up.</p> <p>JS suggested putting this to the Town Centre Improvement Group (TCIG), as more Aberdeenshire Council officials attend that, and other local groups have an interest. It was suggested that AL and JS should add this to the group's agenda.</p> <p>PMB asked if the Councillors are aware of the public concern about the Bervie Braes?</p> <p>JS said the route is a main artery into the town, it would be beneficial if it was open.</p> <p>S McQ asked PMB which representatives of the SBA had raised concerns? It was clarified that those who raised concerns are local leading business people, rather than SBA representatives.</p> <p>Cllr T said the Bervie Braes were closed because the ground was unstable. Historically this road has been closed during winter.</p> <p>Cllr B noted that SBA, the SBA committee, and local business people are all different groups.</p> <p>PMG suggested adding this to the Community Council Forum agenda too.</p>	<p>Cllr A</p> <p>AL and JS</p>
<b>13</b>	<b>Allardice Street Resurfacing Works</b>	
	This should have been completed by now. Cllr T will ask for an update.	Cllr T



	Cllr D agreed, and wondered if the late Queen's death and subsequent mourning period had contributed to the delay in the work being undertaken.	
<b>14</b>	<b>Hannah Dyson Award</b>	
	In AL absence, this was carried forward to the next meeting.	
<b>15</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>	
	<p>Stonehaven Lions Club will organise the "Christmas Lights Switch on Event". DL advised as SDCC and SBA are significant contributors to the event (SDCC – Look After the Christmas Tree and SBA look after the Town's Christmas Lights), the Lions had offered both groups a stall at the event.</p> <p>DL said the Lions would welcome any support from SDCC to help with stewarding during the busy period.</p> <p>DV asked when this event will take place?, DL advised the date is 26 November 2022.</p>	
<b>16</b>	<b>AOCB</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Stevie's Walk has been approved.</li> <li>b) SDDC will participate in the Remembrance Day Parade. JS noted that 20 May 2023 will mark the 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the completion of the War Memorial</li> <li>c) PMB noted the First Minister's recent announcement about freezing rents, and asked if Councillors are aware of the implications for tenants? DL suggested this item should be added to the agenda for the next meeting.</li> <li>d) IH noted that the BBC is 100 years old, and that Lord Reith was born in Stonehaven.</li> </ul>	
<b>17</b>	<b>Dates of Next Meetings</b>	
	<p>Agenda Discussion Meeting – Tuesday 1 November 2022</p> <p>CC Business Meeting – Tuesday 8 November 2022</p>	
<b>18</b>	<b>Carried Forward to Future Meetings</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Local Place Plans – Meeting (EGM) with Ailsa Anderson (Aberdeenshire Council) to be arranged, potentially September (date slipped) regarding what support Aberdeenshire Council can provide regarding the preparation of a Local Place Plan</li> <li>b) Traffic Management consultation, second stage</li> <li>c) Coastal Paths</li> <li>d) Ury Estate/FM Developments Update</li> </ul>	