



**STONEHAVEN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**
19:00 – 21:00 8 November 2022
Meeting held in the Sheriff Court Buildings, Stonehaven

Present
<p>Community Council Members: Adam Cadamerteri, Ian Hunter (IH), David Lawman, <i>Chairperson</i> (DL), Jim Stephen (JS), Steve McQueen (SMcQ), Danny Veltman (DV) via Zoom, Raymond Christie (RC), <i>Vice Chairman</i>, Phil Mills-Bishop (PMB), Caroline Evans (CE) via Zoom, Fiona Tavindale (FT), Bill Watson, <i>Treasurer</i>, (WW) via Zoom, Mike Ogden (MO), Julia Lawrie Morrison (JLM) via Zoom, James Morrison (JM), Andrew McArdle (AMcA), Alistair Lawrie (AL) via Zoom, Donald Lawrie Morrison (DLM) via Zoom, Pauline Brindley (PB) via Zoom</p> <p>Aberdeenshire Council Elected Members: Alan Turner (Cllr T), Wendy Agnew (Cllr A), Dawn Black (Cllr B), Sarah Dickinson (Cllr D) via Zoom.</p>
In Attendance
David Charnley, <i>Police Scotland</i> , Jane Cruickshank, <i>The Bellman</i> , Fiona Malcolm, <i>Minutes Secretary</i> , Stuart Alexander, <i>Stonehaven Recreation Club</i> , John Cruickshank, <i>Stonehaven Horizon</i> , James Bronley.

1 & 2	Chairperson's Welcome	Action
	It was agreed to record the meeting on Zoom (to be deleted once minutes agreed). DL welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
3	Apologies and Declarations of Interest	
4	Police Report David Charnley had circulated a report on behalf of Police Scotland prior to the meeting. He confirmed that 36 ASBOs had been issued to adults, and a further 11 to young people during the period of his report.	
5	Stonehaven Tennis Club : Proposal for Indoor Tennis Courts DL invited Stuart Alexander (SA), a trustee of Stonehaven Recreation Club, to address the meeting. A copy of the proposal had been circulated prior to the meeting. SA said he was not seeking a full discussion with SDDC at this meeting, but hoped to have a more formal record of support for the proposal at a later date. There is a presumption that most Tennis Club members will be supportive of the	

	<p>proposal, given that the opportunity to lay tennis indoors could be a boon during winter. The recent Participatory Budgeting consultation run by Aberdeenshire Council resulted in most of the available cash being invested in improvements to Stonehaven Leisure Centre. However, £250k had been allocated to the Indoor Tennis Court proposal, although there are tight timescales for spending the money. A suitable site needs to be identified, and the support of the Recreation Club members is necessary. The proposal will undergo the full planning process.</p> <p>SA also confirmed that contractors have been appointed to undertake improvements to the Putting Green. The Bowling Green is also due for a re-vamp, this will include the creation of a Petanque pitch.</p> <p>DL thanked SA for updating the meeting, and said he looked forward to hearing about the next stage.</p>	
6	Matters Arising from Previous Minutes	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Purchase of Omnidirectional Conference Room Microphone – the equipment has been purchased and is in use. b) Dedicated SDDC e-mail accounts – these are now available and in use. c) Invercarron Resource Centre Participation Request – this has been submitted. d) Stonehaven Surface Flooding – JS and Cllr T had met with representatives from the Flood Prevention Group (FPG). The FPG perceives there is a lack of progress towards resolving their concerns. JS and Cllr T had suggested they might consider holding another public meeting to raise awareness and get the issue back on the agenda. The FPG representatives would like to meet with JS and DL to understand how SDDC can support them. PB said it was the responsibility of SDDC to support FPG proactively DL agreed to arrange to meet with the FPG representatives. e) Nippy Dip – volunteers required to support the event on the day. f) Bervie Braes – Cllr A advised that the structural engineers' report had not been completed yet. g) Allardice Street Resurfacing Works – underway now. 	DL
7	Approval of Previous Minutes 11 October 2022	

	The previous minutes were approved by S McQ and seconded by RC	
8	Planning Report and Reviews	
	<p>A planning report was circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>PMB highlighted the planning application to replace the arial on Fetteresso Church, and was not aware of any objections.</p> <p>JM asked for an update on the proposed offshore wind farm, and any potential Community Fund. PMB had spoken to the developers, they will contact the relevant Community Councils directly.</p> <p>PMB advised the meeting he was standing down as Planning Convener, and also tendered his resignation as a Community Councillor. PMB left the meeting.</p>	
9	SDDC Committees/Sub Groups	
	<p>a) Local Development Plan/Local Place Plan</p> <p>DL advised that the meeting about the LDP/LPP on 25 October had identified there will be a lot of work involved in taking forward the many ideas likely to be suggested by the community.</p> <p>James Bronley (member of the public in Said there were lots of funds available through the UK Government’s Levelling Up initiative.</p> <p>Cllr A and Cllr T have already met with Andrew Howie, MP, about Levelling Up.</p> <p>CE said it was important to engage with the local community and local business.</p> <p>DL agreed SDDC needs to decide how to take this forward, and suggested arranging a meeting to discuss the LPL. He agreed with MO there needs to be evidence of need for proposals to be included in the LPL.</p> <p>IH asked if Aberdeenshire Council’s Allardice Street premises are still for sale, it was confirmed they are.</p> <p>DL suggested other SDCC members should do some preparation work before the next meeting, and agreed to share the previous LDP. JS and CE volunteered to help.</p> <p>Jane Cruickshank, The Bellman, addressed the meeting. She wondered if more recent Community Councillors did not fully understand that the Local Place Plan (LPP) is a new ‘thing’, and an important part of the Local Development Plan (LDP). The LPP should capture the views of the local community, particularly around land use, and inform the LDP.</p>	DL to arrange a meeting for 22/11/2022

	<p>IH asked whether it was public or private land that might be available for public use?</p> <p>WW said the planning process is neutral, and the focus is on what people want rather than where.</p> <p>AL said a representative from Aberdeenshire Council Planning Department had met with SDDC previously, a follow up meeting had been requested, he understood that Local Authority staff would be available to support CCs. He asked the Councillors if they knew any more about this?</p> <p>Cllr B advised that Aberdeenshire Council is waiting for further contact from the Scottish Government. The Council has not yet started the process., but she suggested SDDC to start planning now. She confirmed the Council will be in contact with SDDC, and suggested asking for an official to come back and explain about LDP and LPP again.</p> <p>PB said she felt it was elected members who make decisions about planning applications, but there should be discussions with local people.</p> <p>DL said that the job of SDDC is to make elected members aware of what people want. As a team, SDDC needs to agree how to do this.</p> <p>Cllr D noted that elected members are required to substantiate all planning decisions within the Local Authority's Planning Policy.</p> <p>Cllr A said that elected members always listen to local people.</p> <p>JS suggested that, as this is such an important process, SDDC should revisit the original Aberdeenshire Council presentation.</p> <p>DL said that SDDC needs to work as a team.</p> <p>Cllr T said that elected members make the fairest decisions, and that the LPP feeds into the LDP which then informs Planning Policy.</p> <p>b) Invercarron Resource Centre RC wishes to approach Jane Mitchell at the Mearns Coastal Healthy Living Network (based in Laurencekirk) to sound them out about the Resource Centre. This was agreed.</p> <p>IH said he had spoken to someone there, they seemed quite interested in moving into the building.</p> <p>Cllr A has had an unsatisfactory response from the Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP), she is now pursuing the issue with the Ombudsman.</p>	
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	<p>JS asked if SDDC and elected members can all unite on this, and asked what the HSCP is doing to provide alternative premises for the Resource Centre.</p> <p>c) Community Resilience Plan MO said there had been positive feedback from the first draft of the plan. Welfare packs will include things that can be useful for emergencies. A leaflet for distribution to households is ready to print. The Running Club has agreed to deliver these. Local churches have been supportive, offering use of their halls in the event of an emergency. The next meeting of the Community Resilience Group is on 16 November. Tess Whyte, Regional MSP, is keen to engage with the Group.</p> <p>d) SDDC Communications SMcQ and DL attended a connectivity training course at Woodhill House on 7 November. This was about using social media to engage with the community. DL said there were many social media tools available, for example, short videos. However, Community Councillors need to become involved in the Communications Group.</p> <p>MO asked how SDDC communicates with the community? Communication needs to be visible and accessible.</p> <p>PB asked for more detail about what is required, but was keen to be involved.</p> <p>AL offered to circulate membership details of all sub-groups.</p>	AL
10	Outside Bodies/Committees	
	<p>a) Transport Action Kincardineshire (TRAK) – no update.</p> <p>b) KDP – Wind Farm Grant Application Reviews – Stonehaven Fireballs and Youth Clubs have applied for grants.</p> <p>c) Town Centre Improvement Group – AL to circulate full report which includes improvements to the coastal path. Three bicycle repair points are to be provided.</p> <p>d) Stonehaven Community Resilience Plan – see item 9b</p> <p>e) Kincardine and Mearns Community Council Forum – no update.</p> <p>f) Kincardine and Mearns Community Planning Group – the group had noted that in-work poverty is now an issue, also there is concern about older people living in cold homes. DV asked for a copy of the group’s agenda for its next meeting.</p>	

11	Treasurer's Report	
	The Treasurer's Report was circulated prior to the meeting and was approved.	
12	Proposed Court Building SDDC Use Hire Costs	
	<p>DL explained the Court Building is asking users for a contribution of £10 per hour. SDDC uses the building for both full and agenda planning meetings, the annual cost would be therefore be £600. IH suggested sub-committees might consider using school premises or the Community Centre free of charge for their meetings. There is a room available at Mackie Academy, however he wasn't sure about Wi-Fi connectivity.</p> <p>RC proposed that £600 be allocated from SDDC funds to pay for the annual costs of Court Room hire. SMcQ seconded this.</p> <p>For clarification, DL summarized that an annual budget of £600 be allocated for the cost of hiring the Court Room.</p> <p>RC added this was for agenda planning and full SDDC meetings.</p>	
13	Coastal Paths	
	<p>JS reported that the paths from Stonehaven Golf Course are to be upgraded and widened where possible to allow better access. Paths for All have funding for this work which is ongoing. There are plans to improve the quality and accessibility of the path from the War Memorial to Dunnottar Castle. Dunecht Estates are supportive of alternative access to the War Memorial. The Queens Jubilee Coastal Path, Lord Lieutenant, and Aberdeenshire Council are all supportive.</p> <p>DL said this was a great project, and with the provision of signage and benches, was a good thing for Stonehaven.</p> <p>CE gave her apologies and .left the meeting at 20:41</p>	
14	Hannah Dyson Award	
	AL is progressing this.	
15	Horizon Group	
	<p>DL invited John Cruickshank (JC) from Stonehaven Horizon Group to address the meeting. JC said he was delighted to secure the Keep Scotland Beautiful 2022 Gold Award, also the Best Coastal Town Award. He highlighted that the story of John Duncan, weaver and botanist, was a winning entry to the BBC's Scotland's Year of Stories, all the entries are available on BBC Sounds. Horizon has supported leaflets providing links to the stories.</p> <p>DL recorded his thanks on behalf of SDDC to all the individuals and groups involved in keeping Stonehaven beautiful.</p>	

	AL also recorded his thanks.	
16	Correspondence	
	None.	
17	AOCB	
	<p>DL invited PB to put together her thoughts on the issue of mental health in the local community, as PB had raised this as a concern. This could be added to the agenda of the next meeting.</p> <p>AL suggested approaching relevant local forums and groups (e.g. MCHLN and Pillar) to tell SDDC what issues people have. He said SDDC could work with the relevant groups and help them to access funding. But first it was important to identify if mental health is an issue, and if there is a need for additional support.</p> <p>DL invited PB and AL to discuss this issue after the meeting.</p> <p>Cllr B recalled that SDDC was previously involved in a participation request about mental health. The documents are still available. She agreed that other groups should be invited to update SDDC on Mental Health.</p> <p>RC suggested approaching Mike Duncan.</p> <p>AL agreed to approach MCHLN and Pillar.</p> <p>JLM said she was keen to participate.</p> <p>Cllr D recalled the previous work (on mental health) was not specifically about Stonehaven.</p> <p>DL had visited HMS Archer, then laid a wreath at the War Memorial on Sunday 6 November. DL and SMCQ will lay a wreath as part of the Memorial Day ceremony on Sunday 13 November.</p> <p>DV asked when the Town Square clock will be repaired? Cllr A confirmed the clock maker is scheduled to carry out the repair.</p> <p>JC noted that the current form of hybrid meetings were quite difficult, DL asked should these continue? There followed a discussion, it was agreed that, whilst not ideal, giving people the opportunity to attend 'remotely' was advantageous, particularly for those CCS and elected</p>	AL

	members who can't always attend in person. It was agreed to continue the hybrid meetings in the meantime.	
18	Date of Next Meetings	
	Planning Meeting – Tuesday 29 November. SDDC Meeting – Tuesday 6 December.	
19	Carried Forward to Future Meetings	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Stonehaven Youth Club – Proposed Community Asset Transfer of the former Sea Cadet Hall on High Street b) Traffic Management consultation, second stage c) Ury Estate/FM Developments Update d) 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. 	