



**STONEHAVEN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
INAUGURAL MEETING MINUTES**  
19:00– 20:30 Monday 23 September 2024  
Meeting held in the Sheriff Court Buildings, Stonehaven

<b>Present</b>		
<b>Community Council Members:</b> Alistair Lawrie (AL), Audrey Malcolm (AM), Brian Menzies (BM), Caroline Duguid (CD), Christopher Morris (CM) <b>via Zoom</b> , Daniel Veltman (DV), David Lawman (DL), Fiona Tavendale (FT), Ian Hunter (IH), James (Jim) Morrison (JM), James (Jim) Stephen (JS), Norman Mackay (NMck), Philip (Phil) Mills-Bishop (PMB), Rachel Frame (RF), Raymond Christie (RC) and Steven McQueen (SMcQ)		
<b>Aberdeenshire Council Elected Members:</b> Alan Turner (Cllr T) and Sarah Dickinson (Cllr D)		
<b>In Attendance -</b> Jane Cruickshank, <i>The Bellman</i> , Andrew McArdle, Andrew Newton, Lisa Lawman <b>via Zoom</b> , Tricia Gordon <b>via Zoom</b>		
<b>The meeting will kindly Chaired by Councillor Sarah Dickinson</b>		
-	<b>Apologies and Declarations of Interest</b>	<b>Action</b>
	Julie Lindeman (JL) and Dawn Black (Cllr B)	
1	<b>Welcome and Introductions (Community Councillors to provide an overview of their experience and skills set)</b> (Cllr D) welcomed all the (New & Returning) Community Councillors to there role and invited all to introduce themselves and tell everybody a little about themselves, including if they were new to the community council, if they were returning and to share what motivated you to join and what you hoped to contribute.	

<b>2</b>	<b>Appointment of Officer Bearers</b>	
	<p><b>Role</b>            <b>Nominee</b>            <b>Proposer</b>            <b>Second</b>  Chair            David Lawman            Ian Hunter            Fiona Tavendale</p> <p>There were no other nominations, David Lawman was duly elected.</p> <p><b>Role</b>            <b>Nominee</b>            <b>Proposer</b>            <b>Second</b>  Vice Chair            Alistair Lawrie            David Lawman            Raymond Christie</p> <p>There were no other nominations, Alistair Lawrie was duly elected.</p> <p><b>Role</b>            <b>Nominee</b>            <b>Proposer</b>            <b>Second</b>  Secretary            Julie Lindeman            David Lawman            Alistair Lawrie</p> <p>As JL was not present in the room or online Cllr D asked for conformation that JL was happy to stand. DL advised he had messaged JL who confirmed she was happy, and advised she had tried to dial into the meeting from her holiday location unsuccessfully.</p> <p>There were no other nominations, Julie Lindeman was duly elected.</p> <p><b>Role</b>            <b>Nominee</b>            <b>Proposer</b>            <b>Second</b>  Treasurer            Norman Mackay            David Lawman            Jim Morrison</p> <p>There were no other nominations, Norman Mackay was duly elected.</p> <p>Cllr D congratulated David, Alistair, Julie and Norman on becoming office bearers.</p>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Adoption/approval of Constitution and Standing Orders (if appropriate)</b>	
	<p>Cllr D, asked members if they were happy to adopt the Constitution and Standing Orders which were circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>PMB raised a point in section 3.6, regarding a community council member being unable to attend three consecutive meetings with a valid reason and as such was concerned, they would be asked to leave.</p> <p>Others advised this was not how we had operated in the past, and would continue to use discretion in these circumstance.</p> <p>Cllr D on re-reading the section in question highlighted the wording said the Community Council “<b>May</b>” ask someone to leave, thus confirming members still have the flexibility they had in the past to use their discretion in these matters.</p>	

	<p>For Info: The full wording of the relevant section is noted below:</p> <p><i>If any Community Councillor of the Community Council fails to attend three successive Community Council meetings, with or without submitting apologies, the Community Council may terminate their membership provided that the termination of the membership must be an item on a meeting agenda and must be carried with a two thirds majority vote of those present and voting provided that, at the discretion of the Community Council, a period of leave of absence of up to six months for the Community Council member may be granted and minuted at any meeting of the Community Council. This period may be reviewed by the Community Council</i></p> <p>PMB was happy with the explanation.</p> <p>All Community Councillors were content to approve the Constitution and Standing Orders.</p>	
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Confirmation of Meeting Dates and Venues for 2024/25</b></p>	
	<p>All were happy to continue with our meetings taking place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, in the old “Court Room in the old Sheriff Court Building.</p> <p>It should be noted meeting are held in a “Hybrid Format”, where members can choose to attend “In Person” in the old “Court Room” (Sheriff Court Building, Dunnottar Avenue, Stonehaven, AB39 2JD) or “Online” via “Zoom” which is published with the agenda.</p>	
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>Induction Training Information:</b></p>	
	<p>Cllr D, provided information of two training sessions available to community councillors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm – Role of a Community Councillor.</li> <li>• Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm - Introduction to Community Councils’ statutory role in the planning process.</li> </ul> <p>Sign up via <a href="#">this link</a> to attend.</p> <p>There is also a range of e-learning modules specifically for Community Councillors which you access by completing <a href="#">this form</a> to register for an account or you can contact the Area office Kincardine and Mearns via e-mail <a href="mailto:kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk">kincardineandmearns@aberdeenshire.gov.uk</a></p>	

**DL took over the Chair and thanked Cllr D**

DL took the opportunity to share information about the many Committees / Sub-Groups and Outside Bodies / Committees SDCC have been involved with:

- Community Resilience Plan
  - Thanks to Mike who has stepped down from SDCC for his work on this.
  - The Plan is almost complete
  - Generator Tie-in points are going in (St James Hall installed today & Fetteresso due to be installed on the 5th October – This was funded by an SSEN grant)
  - Need to look at generators, we can hire as required (will need to build up a fund) or purchase one (look for grant funding – would suggest one that can be used by wider community for events etc., as likely not to start if just left in storage for long periods.)
  - SSEN have advise there is an option to use the underspend (around £5K) from their grant – We need to decide what we need / and source additional funding (Grants / Nippy Dip etc.)
  - Community Resilience Conference 2024 on 3rd October in Westhill.
  
- Local Development Plan / Local Place Plan
  - This is progressing well, with a big thanks to Mike Ogden (Who as noted above is stepping down from SDCC), Rachel Frame (who has just joined SDCC), Pippa Robertson and Jane Cruickshank (The Bellman) who have stuck with it, putting in a power of work.
  - A lot has been learned along the way, and I expect if we were starting again with the information we have now, we would have done something differently. But we will have a document which we believe is a good reflection of what the town’s folk’s have told us.
  - Aiming to share the document for approval / comment with the wider community during October.
  
- 24 hour Public Access Defibrillators
  - SDCC works along side many community groups to look after the towns defibrillators, it is a real community effort. We get support from “Keirans Legacy”, the local “SAS Wildcat Cardiac Responders”, The Rotary Club of Stonehaven and many other local organisations and businesses.
  
- Christmas Tree
  - Jim Stephen has looked after this for many years, and we work with SBA who do the Christmas Lights around the town and Lions Club who organise the “Stonehaven Christmas Lights Switch on Event”

- Nippy Dip
  - Are we keen to do it this year? – Who is going to take the lead? – Event Plan Prep? – Online Registration etc.?
  - Who should we raise fund for – Suggest SDCC Projects (Resilience Generator {hire or Purchase} and Fuel Fund / SDCC Awards – These now cost – We could also look at sponsorship.
  
- Wind Farm Decision Making Panels
  - SDCC sits on the two local Wind Farm Community Funds Grand Decision Making Pannels. (Steve McQueen)
  
- Swim the Bay
  - We were asked if SDCC would help facilitate this event (take the lead) thus a group has been looking into what is possible and what we need to do.
  - At a “Swim the Bay” meeting last week, we have ruled out swimming across the bay on safety grounds, but the group is looking to see if a swim out from and back to “Botany Bay” is a practical option.
  
- Achères & Stonehaven Twinning Partnership
  - The previous Community Council decided to park this until the new Community Council was in place.
  - As most will know SDCC were involved with this previously.
  - How do we wish to progress with this project.
  
- SSEN Kintore -Tealing 400kV Connection and Hurlie (Fetteresso Forest) 400kV Substation
  - Again we have provided feedback to SSEN directly and also jointly with other local community councils.
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  - SSEN’s next consultation (A pre-application Consultation) regarding the Kintore -Tealing 400kV Connection Project is on the 8th October 2024 in the Town Hall. They will be sharing their potential alignment for the overhead route.
  - They are also consulting on the Glendye Windfarm Connection on the same day.
  - Potential Question Time, type Event – Supported by Save our Mearns – Carline Duguid.
  - Thistle Wind Partners Limited (TWP) - Bowdun Offshore Windfarm - ScotWind E3 Site, 38km off Aberdeenshire Coast – Consultations are scheduled to take place between the 28th and 30th October – details to follow.
  - ESB have recently held consultations regarding their amended plans for the Craigneil Windfarm (Less turbines now 7 was 11, but max height increases from 135m to 180m)
  - Suggest we form a group to work on our responses.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Invercarron Resource Centre / Older People’s Services</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The closure of the Invercarron Resource Centre” for older people has caused lots of upset in the town, and one SDCC has raised many times with Aberdeenshire Council and the Aberdeenshire Health &amp; Social Care Partnership – AHSCP.</li> <li>- AHSCP are holding a road show visiting locations around the shire, with an event at Viewmount Council Chamber in Stonehaven on the 22nd October between 3pm-7pm.</li> <li>- The road show is part of the exercise to help AHSCP plan for the future.</li> </ul> <p>“Every Health &amp; Social Care Partnership must create a Plan which sets out how it will provide services moving forward. Aberdeenshire's current plan comes to an end in 2025. In preparing for our next plan, we have completed a Needs Assessment which helps us to understand the health and social care needs of people living in Aberdeenshire.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We need to encourage town’s folks to go along and ask questions / have their say.</li> <li>- There article states that the number of older people within Aberdeenshire is increasing year on year and they need to change the way they provide services.</li> <li>- There is noise about the possibility of Forest View Closing, can they advise?</li> <li>- What is happening with the proposed dental facility at Forest View.</li> <li>- There is no minor injuries unit in the town.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <u>Town Centre Improvement Group</u></li> <li>• <u>Kincardine and Mearns Community Council Forum</u></li> <li>• <u>Stonehaven Patient Participation Group</u></li> <li>• <u>Kincardine and Mearns Community Planning Group</u></li> <li>• <u>Transport Action Kincardine-shire (TRAK)</u></li> </ul>	
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>Dates of Next Meetings</b></p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agenda Discussion Meeting: Tuesday 1 October 2024 @ 7pm</li> <li>• Business Meeting: Tuesday 8 October 2024 @ 7pm</li> </ul>	

	<b>Correction to Draft Minutes</b>	
	<p>The following points were omitted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PMB had reminder community councillors as per section 3.3 of our constitution, of the opportunity to involve young people (aged 14 &amp; 15) as Junior Members of the Community Council.</li><li>• PMB had advised members of the VUE Venue User Engagement meeting organised by LLA for the Leisure Centre after it's upgrade to be held at the Community Centre on the 1st October 2024.</li></ul>	