



**STONEHAVEN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**  
19:00– 21:15 Tuesday 12 November 2024  
Meeting held in the Sheriff Court Buildings, Stonehaven

<b>Present</b>		
<b>Community Council Members:</b> Andy McArdle (AMcA), Audrey Malcolm (AM), Brian Menzies (BM), Caroline Duguid (CD), David Lawman, <i>Chairman</i> (DL), Ian Hunter (IH), James Morrison (JM), James Stephen (JS), Julie Lindeman, <i>Secretary</i> (JL), Phil Mills-Bishop (PMB), Rachel Frame (RF), Raymond Christie (RC)		
<b>Aberdeenshire Council Elected Members:</b> Alan Turner (Cllr T), Wendy Agnew (Cllr A), Dawn Black (Cllr B), <b>via Zoom</b> , Sarah Dickinson (Cllr D), via Zoom		
<b>In Attendance -</b> Jane Cruickshank, <i>The Bellman</i> , Fiona Malcolm, <i>Minutes Secretary</i> , John Cruickshank, <i>Horizon</i> , Helga Macfarlane (HM), <i>Stonehaven Patient Participation Group</i> , <b>via Zoom</b> , T Gordon, <b>via Zoom</b> , Carlo Williams <b>via Zoom</b>		
<b>1 &amp; 2</b>	<b>Chairperson’s Welcome and Rollcall</b>	<b>Action</b>
	DL welcomed everyone to the meeting, including those who were attending via Zoom.  He congratulated local woman, Angela Mutch, who was recognised at this year’s Women of the Year Awards.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Apologies and Declarations of Interest</b>	
	Alistair Lawrie (AL), <i>Vice-Chair</i> , Daniel Veltman (DV), Norman MacKay, <i>Treasurer</i> (NMck), Steve McQueen (SMcQ), Fiona Tavendale (FT)	
<b>4</b>	<b>Approval of Previous Minutes (8th October 2024)</b>	
	These were approved by AM and seconded by BM.	
<b>5</b>	<b>Co-option of Member – Andrew McArdle</b>	
	DL welcomed Andrew McArdle (AMcA) to SDCC, his co-option having been agreed unanimously.	

6	<b>Matters Arising from Previous Minutes</b>	
	<p>a) Speed Limits on the Towns Approach Roads –</p> <p>Cllr Turner has confirmed that the Road Safety team were asked to review the walk route from the Braehead Development in Stonehaven to Dunnottar School, where it was agreed that a pedestrian crossing assessment will be carried out on Dunnottar Avenue.</p> <p>DL had ben contacted by a member of the public who was bumped by a vehicle whilst walking along the Netherley Road. The pavement is too narrow and obstructed by overgrown bushes in places. Parents of children living locally have also raised concerns about safety.</p> <p>AM said that the company she works for has a contract to transport pupils from Glenury to Mackie Academy, but only 4 children use the service. When the junction to Glenury was put in, there was an option to widen the path, this was not done. If the plans for a supermarket go ahead, the developers have said they will add a wider footpath.</p> <p>Cllr D advised that Aberdeenshire does not own the land, so is unable to extend the footpath.</p> <p>JS wondered if there was an option to add a railing. As more housing development is planned, Aberdeenshire council needs to review the traffic management plan.</p> <p>Cllr B agreed to ask for this (the narrow footpath) to be looked at again.</p> <p>PMB said that the Roads Department was unaware of accidents at Braehead. He congratulated Aberdeenshire Council for receiving a grant of £636k, and urged them to apply to a £4m ‘Twenty is Plenty’ Scottish Government Fund.</p> <p>Cllr T confirmed that ‘Twenty is Plenty’ will be rolled out across Aberdeenshire towns next year. Regarding Glenury, the onus is on the developer to do certain things. He also noted the responsibility of drivers.</p> <p>DL asked about the sign that was previously sited on Broomhill Road warning approaching vehicles to slow down. Can this be replaced? Cllr D will ask, the sign has been relocated to Drumoak. She noted the overgrown bushes (which were blocking the footpath on the flyover) have been cut back.</p> <p>DL confirmed his request for a replacement speed sign for Broomhill Road. He also asked if there is a plan to trim the bushes on Kirkton Road on the approach to the dual carriageway, as traffic signs are obscured by overgrown foliage.</p> <p>Cllr B advised reporting any instances on the Aberdeenshire Council website. The Roads Department needs to know specific details, they can also contact householder if necessary.</p> <p>DL also noted a similar issue on Slug Road near the bus stop.</p>	<p><b>Cllr B</b></p> <p><b>DL</b></p>

	<p>BM suggested someone might collate a list of examples, DL agreed to do this</p> <p>b) Stonehaven Recreation Grounds DL and other SDDC members had met with the Recreation Grounds Outdoor Tennis Facility - Project Lead on 11 November offering SDDC support.</p>	
<b>7</b>	<b>Aberdeenshire Council Updates</b>	
	<p>a) Street Lighting Market Square DL said the Area Manager had confirmed that some of the faulty lights had been repaired, 6 are still not working, he has advised the Area Manager about this, as the Christmas Lights Switch-on Event is happening soon. JS asked about the faulty streetlights at the Leisure Centre Car Park, surely basic street lighting should be ‘top of the list’? JM commented that a lack of streetlighting may lead to an increased risk of crime. Cllr D agreed this needs addressing and offered to raise with the Head of Roads. Cllr T had already reported the issue to the Head of Roads, there is a severe lack of electricians available to undertake repairs across Aberdeenshire.</p> <p>b) Lower Cowie Path Cllr D confirmed the path will be closed indefinitely due to safety issues – falling rocks and path erosion.</p> <p>c) Old Pier Potholes &amp; Lighting Issues DL reported an incident involving a Tolbooth Restaurant customer who tripped in a pothole outside the restaurant. The street lighting there is also poor. Could someone have a look at this? JS advised the pothole has been filled in, but agreed there is a big gap between streetlights at the Tolbooth and the Old Pier. Cllr D agreed to take this forward. BM asked if the Council undertakes an annual review of the condition of roads across Aberdeenshire, and IH commented that potholes may be a low priority. Cllr D explained there is no regular or annual review of roads, the Council repairs significant potholes, but everything is subject to budgetary restrictions. He agreed with DL that the Council relies on the public reporting local issues. BM asked if there should be a register for Stonehaven, and Cllr T clarified that the Aberdeenshire Council ‘system’ shows the location of all issues. BM suggested adding a link to the system on the SDDC website. DL encouraged people to report any problems, Cllr T offered to send out a link to the appropriate section of Aberdeenshire Council’s website. PMB felt the Council is reactive rather than proactive, CD agreed.</p>	<p><b>Cllr D</b></p> <p><b>Cllr D</b></p> <p><b>Cllr T</b></p>

	<p>Cllr T reiterated that everything depends on budget.          BM suggested that people need to understand the scale of the issues in Stonehaven and offered to assist DL to update the SDCC website.</p>	<b>DL/BM</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Stonehaven Local Place Plan (LPP) – Approval</b>	
	<p>DL had circulated the LPP, it has been published and copies are available at the Library. He highlighted the SEPA data which is out of date, this is noted in the document.          PMB asked about the source of data used to project future population and school rolls.          DL confirmed that Aberdeenshire Council is the source of this data, there are links to the data sources in the published Plan. He added that local people had been asked an agreed set of questions, the Plan must reflect the answers people have given. He was confident the approach is correct.          PMB was concerned there will be things that Councillors will not accept, as needs are a priority over aspirations.          DL explained that to change the LPP would require going back and asking people again, he felt the published document is a fair reflection of what local people said.          JS noted there were over 1000 responses, local people were given every opportunity to contribute, and a thorough job was done.          AMcA agreed, the LPP is a good piece of work and reflects what the community said.          DL asked if members were comfortable to submit the LPP on behalf of SDCC, the majority were supportive.</p>	
<b>9</b>	<b>The Management of Anti-Social Behaviour ASB)</b>	
	<p>DL had asked Aberdeenshire Council for clarification about ASB policies – whether these are Scottish Government or Local Authority. The current system needs to be improved as the current process is not working in a timely manner. The Area Manager had agreed to share more information with SDCC. BM agreed this would be useful. JS agreed the current processes were out of date, he had raised this with DL and thanked him for taking it forward.          DL wished to work with Councillors on this, and will raise at the CC Forum to ask how issues are resolved in other localities.</p>	<b>DL</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Police Report</b>	
	The latest report had not yet been received.	
<b>11</b>	<b>Planning</b>	
	No items.	
<b>12</b>	<b>SDCC Committees / Sub-Groups</b>	
	<p>a) SSEN Kintore -Tealing 400kV Connection and Hurlie          BM and CD suggested holding a facilitated public meeting (involving SSEN) in the new year so people understand the potential benefits that may be available to the community.</p>	



regulations governing the staff and facilities required for a MIU. Stonehaven Medical Practice is keen to provide a Minor Injuries service.  
PMB noted there is a sign at Stonehaven Medical Practice explicitly saying it is not a Minor Injuries Unit.  
RC thanked HMcf for her contribution to the meeting.

f) Christmas Tree

JS said the tree will be selected on 23 November, the lights switch-on will be on 30 November., he recorded his thanks to Stonehaven Lions Club. DL thanked JS in recognition of all the hard work involved.

g) Nippy Dip

DL confirmed that on-line registrations ‘go-live’ on 1 December. He appealed for people to assist at the event. RF, BM, Cllr D, Cllr B, indicated their support.  
PMB asked if the registration fee is £15 for pre-booking and £20 on the day. He thought these amounts were high.  
DL explained the fees are in fact a charitable donation, the Nippy Dip is a fun event, but also a fundraiser.  
PMB asked about the costs incurred by SDCC, and the projected income from the event (around £4K?). He thought the actual costs incurred by SDCC would be a few hundred pounds, and was not comfortable about charging participants £15-£20.  
AM reiterated that all the money raised benefits the community.  
PMB also asked how on-line payments are managed, DL confirmed that the Ticket Tailor platform will be used.  
IH felt that, as SDCC overwhelmingly supports the annual Nippy Dip, the meeting should move on.  
Cllr T did not support the idea of reducing the registration costs. He suggested more card machines were needed as many spectators don’t carry cash.  
AM suggested looking at ‘Sum Up’ or using a QR code. AMcA recalled shaking buckets had raised a lot of cash donations previously.  
PMB asked if there was a nominated charity last year to benefit from the monies raised.)  
DL confirmed the beneficiaries would be the Community Councils own projects “Stonehaven Resilience Project Fund, Stonehaven 24 Hour Public Access Defibrillators Network Fund, Stonehaven Christmas Tree Fund and Community Awards and that it will be clear to when they registered to take part in the event.

h) Stonehaven 24 Hour Public Access Defibrillator Network

If SAS Wildcat Responders are available, they can attend a medical emergency before the Ambulance Service arrives. At present they have access to our older defibrillators, DL proposed looking at procuring two new ones for the Responders to use. The estimated cost would be £4.2K. He reminded the meeting that the Defibrillator

	<p>Group has representatives from across the community. SDCC has responsibility for managing the Defibrillator fund.</p> <p>JS recalled it was 10 years since a local gentleman died, this prompted the beginning of the first generation of local community defibrillators.</p> <p>DL noted the ongoing costs of regular maintenance of equipment must be included.</p>	
<b>13</b>	<b>Outside Bodies / Committees</b>	
	<p>a) Transport Action Kincardine-shire (TRAK) IH provided an update. A Council representative will attend the next on-line meeting. The digital bus timetable display unit outside Farmfoods has been repaired and is working again. The next Bus Forum meeting is on 27 November.</p> <p>b) Town Centre Improvement Group DL and BM will attend the next meeting on 26 November.</p> <p>c) Kincardine and Mearns Community Council Forum DL will be on holiday on the date of the next meeting (4 December.) The (hybrid)meeting is open to anyone who wishes to attend.</p> <p>d) Stonehaven Patient Participation Group (SPPG) IH attended the last meeting on 11 November. SPPG is keen to form partnerships with other community groups, and were looking at the possibility of holding meetings in Stonehaven Library. RF added that SPPG is trying to organise an information event about the menopause. They are also looking at how to connect with S5 and S6 pupils about e-consultations, in order to support good mental health amongst young people. HMCF confirmed this, highlighting that people can access 1-2-1 support via e-consult and other new technology tools. The educational evenings organised so far had proved to be popular. It is now possible to provide feedback to Stonehaven Medical Practice via the practice website. SPPG also has a facebook page, and welcome suggestions from the community.</p>	
<b>14</b>	<b>Treasurer’s Report</b>	
	<p>This was circulated prior to the meeting. There were no further queries or comments.</p>	
<b>15</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>	
	<p>None</p>	
<b>16</b>	<b>AOCB</b>	
	<p>CD asked whether Mackie Academy pupils would be interested in assisting with the development of the SDCC website.</p>	

	<p>DL confirmed SDCC has a policy for working with young people, but would check if it is current and ask the Council to review it, to enable future involvement of young people.                  PMB suggested Mackie pupils could contribute on-line or set up their own group. He had already spoken to 14 and 15 year old young people who are keen to become involved with SDCC.                  JL suggested inviting the Youth Development Coordinator at Mackie to speak at a future SDCC meeting.</p>	<p><b>JL</b></p>
<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>Dates of Next Meetings</b></p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agenda Discussion Meeting: Tuesday 3 December 2024 @ 7pm</li> <li>• Business Meeting: Tuesday 10 December 2024 @ 7pm – TBC by New Community Council</li> </ul>	