



**STONEHAVEN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

19:00– 21:00 Tuesday 14 January 2025

Meeting held in the Sheriff Court Buildings, Stonehaven

<b>Present</b>		
<b>Community Council Members:</b> Alistair Lawrie, <i>Vice-Chairman</i> (AL), Brian Menzies (BM), Caroline Duguid (CD), Daniel Veltman (DV), David Lawman, <i>Chairman</i> (DL), Fiona Tavindale (FT), Ian Hunter (IH), James Morrison (JM), James Stephen (JS), Julie Lindeman, <i>Secretary via Zoom</i> , (JL), Norman MacKay, <i>Treasurer</i> (NMCK), Phil Mills-Bishop (PMB), Rachel Frame (RF), Raymond Christie (RC) & Steve McQueen (SMcQ)		
<b>Aberdeenshire Council Elected Members:</b> Alan Turner (Cllr T), Dawn Black (Cllr B) <b>via Zoom</b> , Sarah Dickinson (Cllr D) <b>via Zoom &amp;</b> Wendy Agnew (Cllr A) <b>via Zoom</b>		
<b>In Attendance -</b>		
Glory Potter, David Potter, Paula Fogiel, Regina Erich, Alan Sutherland, Andrew Newton  Trish Gordon, <b>via Zoom</b> , Carlo Williams <b>via Zoom</b> , Caroline Farquhar <b>via Zoom</b> , Michael Milne <b>via Zoom</b> , Graeme Thain <b>via Zoom &amp; User 123 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.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Apologies and Declarations of Interest</b>	
	Andy McArdle (AMcA) & Audrey Malcolm (AM),	
<b>4</b>	<b>Approval of Previous Minutes (10 December 2024)</b>	
	These were approved by DV and seconded by IH.	
<b>5</b>	<b>Matters Arising from Previous Minutes</b>	
	a) The Management of Anti-social Behaviour DL advised that the K&M Area Manager is meeting with (Andrew Mackie and Andy Martin) in Housing tomorrow (Wednesday 15 January) to discuss this issue and policies surrounding. Housing would then look to generate a briefing for community councils on appropriate policies. Which should be available for our February meeting, where it is possible a housing officer may attend.	

	<p>b) Stonehaven Recreation Grounds Weather is delaying work on the Indoor Tennis Dome, but working to get it completed by the end of March, to meet budgetary / grant providers deadlines.</p> <p>c) Winter Road and Pavement Maintenance Cllr T confirmed that the focus is to treat the primary and then the secondary routes etc. During prolonged periods of winter conditions, the teams will try to cover other routes (as was done this time around), but this will depend on the severity and size of the areas effected by the winer weather conditions.</p> <p>Clr T also advised Officers from landscape services do support and work with Roads officers to cover winter maintenance issues. There will though always be reactionary elements to winter maintenance. e.g. Generally roads officers will be tasked with gritting routes the evening before. Similarly Landscape officers also have work assigned ahead of time. However, where required they do adapt their work plans etc.</p> <p>DL noted many comments on social medial both praising the work of the gritting teams and complaining some roads were missed. DL thanked the teams for their efforts during the recent winter conditions.</p>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Police Report</b>	
	<p>As circulated, nothing of major concern.</p> <p>JM asked about the issues with the Christmas Tree, JS advised there were two incidents where individuals had tampered with the securing straps. One was identified the other not. JS advised lessons had been learned and the ratchet straps would be secured going forward.</p>	
<b>7</b>	<b>Planning</b>	
	<p>a) Full Planning Permission For Erection of Visitor Centre (Class 10) Including Class 1 (Retail), Class 3 (Cafe/Restaurant), Class 3 (Kiosk) and Erection of 10 Dwellinghouse (Enabling Development) and Associated Infrastructure at Land at Dunnottar Castle</p> <p>As the K&amp;M Area Committee will be discussing the Visitor Centre / Enabling Housing Planning Application at their meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> January, SDCC took the opportunity to re-visit the topic.</p> <p>It was clear where all SDCC members fully supported the provision of a Visitors Centre for Dunnottar Castle, many members (possibly all) did have some concerns with the Enabling Housing aspect of the planning application.</p>	

	<p>Concerns included: No provision of low cost houses within the development; The location was not suitable and was not supported by the recent SDCC produced LPP.</p> <p>After a robust discussion, SDCC members voted not to support the combined Visitor Centre / Enabling Housing Planning Application by eight votes to seven.</p>	
<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>SDCC Committees / Sub-Groups</b></p>	
	<p>a) SSEN Kintore -Tealing 400kV Connection and Hurlie (Fetteresso Forest) 400kV Substation.</p> <p>The planned extra business meeting shall take place on the 21<sup>st</sup> January 2025 @ 7pm in the Court Room.</p> <p>The proposed format and agenda, which had been circulated prior to the meeting was agreed and will be circulated tomorrow.</p> <p>To give us time to summarise / report on the data collected by our online survey, it was agreed the survey will close at mid-day on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2025.</p> <p>A member of the public raised a concern that comments made on Aberdeenshire Councils Planning portal were not being published for people to see. They were advised that all comments would be published within five days of the closing date of submissions.</p> <p>There was some thought from our Cllr's this may be due to the volume of comments and the availability of staff to process the comments. PMB advised he understood they should be visible as they come in.</p> <p>There was a comment about the structure of the survey, DL advised due to timelines there was no meeting of the subgroup before Christmas, but the survey questions were circulated to all SDCC members for review, with no feedback received. We believe if folks go through the survey, there is plenty of opportunity to express their views, and as well as pulling out yes / no type responses, we will have the ability to filter the data to fully understand the feedback we have received.</p> <p>b) Community Resilience Group This will be picked up once AMcA is available.</p> <p>c) Aberdeenshire Health &amp; Social Care Partnership RC said little progress was being made, and saw no potential for improvement. He has suggested he prepares a letter to be sent to the Scottish Government and others expressing SDCC concerns. RC will prepare a draft and circulate to members via the secretary for</p>	

	<p>review. He would hope the final text could be approved at our February meeting.</p> <p>Cllr A, expressed similar disappointment with AHSCP and said she was hoping to meet with the CEO to discuss concerns. She said she would invite SDCC members to join her.</p> <p>d) Christmas Tree DL advised we had received a donation of £200 from the Stonehaven Bed Centre for the “Christmas Tree Fund”. JS advised now the weather was improving, they were looking to take the tree down next week.</p> <p>e) Nippy Dip – 1 January 2025 DL confirm the expected profit from the event would be around £4,700, and thanked everybody for there help on the day.</p> <p>f) Stonehaven 24 Hour Public Access Defibrillator Network DL confirm progress was being made in identifying / sourcing replacements for the older Defibrillator we had allocated to the Stonehaven SAS Wildcats Team.</p>	
<b>9</b>	<b>Outside Bodies / Committees</b>	
	<p>a) Transport Action Kincardine-shire (TRAK) IH advised there was no update as the group had not meet since our last meeting.</p> <p>b) Town Centre Improvement Group DL advised there was no update as the group had not meet since our last meeting. Next meeting is scheduled to take place on 28/01/2025.</p> <p>c) Kincardine and Mearns Community Council Forum DL advised there was no update as the group had not meet since our last meeting. Next meeting is scheduled to take place on 05/03/2025.</p> <p>d) Stonehaven Patient Participation Group (SPPG) RF &amp; RC DL advised there was no update as the group had not meet since our last meeting. Next meeting is scheduled to take place on 20/01/2025.</p>	
<b>10</b>	<b>Treasurer’s Report</b>	
	<p>NMcK circulated the report prior to the meeting.</p> <p>PMB had asked about the payment to Groundwater, information was provided.</p> <p>PMB also asked about the proposed payments for to STP for using the Court Room as he understood, SDCC may be able to use</p>	

	<p>Aberdeenshire Council building FOC. DL explained the background, and the reasoning SDCC members opted to use the Court Room for our meetings. All were happy with the status quo, but DL said if we wished to make a change, it should be planned ahead, to ensure any other option meet our needs.</p> <p>PMB also highlighted between this charge; the cost of preparing minutes; Zoom License Fees and Website / e-mail address fees etc., we were exhausting our Admin grant which Aberdeenshire Council provide. As our reserves are very healthy, there are no short / medium term issues, but this is something we should be monitor going forward.</p>	
<b>11</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>	
	JL will follow up with LLA to invite them to one of our future meetings.	
<b>12</b>	<b>AOCB</b>	
	<p>a. IH highlighted the proposed changes to some local libraries (Newtonhill and Inverbervie), where buildings would close, with library service being provided in other ways. IH was concerned if similar changes were to be introduced in Stonehaven, we would lose a community assets. RF reminded members the LPP has highlighted building that the community had asked to be kept in Community use if changes were ever made.</p>	
<b>13</b>	<b>Dates of Next Meetings</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extra Business Meeting to discuss SSEN’s Hurlie Substation Planning Application: Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2025 @ 7pm</li> <li>• Agenda Discussion Meeting: Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2025 @ 7pm</li> <li>• Business Meeting: Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025 @ 7pml</li> </ul>	