

BANCHORY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON 14TH JANUARY 2019

AT BANCHORY ACADEMY

PRESENT

M. Lennox (ML), D. Conroy (DC), J. Wills (JW), L. McNab (LM), T. Tullett (TT), D. Milner (DM), A. Murison (AM), Z. Conroy, and H. McNab (HM).

Also present were Councillor : R. Bruce (RB), along with J. Fernandez, and C. Luby as observers.

WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

ML welcomed all to the meeting, particularly the two observers, and noted that there were apologies from : Cllr. A. ROSS, Cllr. E. Durno, V. Kerridge, and A. Law.

COUNCILLORS REPORT

RB reported that two main issues were ongoing. Firstly the Council budget was due to be discussed in February. The block grant had been cut and there would probably be an impact on Council Services.

She also confirmed that the Main Issues Report (MIR) for the LDP Review had been published, and was open for comment until 8th April. There would be a public consultation event in Banchory Town Hall on 7th March. HM noted that he would circulate a synopsis of the proposals for Banchory to all members. RB asked that BCC members also give consideration to the Policies proposed to be included in the LDP Review.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER MINUTE AND MATTERS ARISING

DM proposed that the minute was approved, and this was seconded by LM. They were approved unanimously.

Under matters arising, RB asked that it be clarified that in the discussion on future parking charges, there would be no change to those parking spaces that are currently 'free'. It was only the 45 minute free period which could be affected by the Council debate later this month.

ML reported that she had submitted an article regarding BCC affairs to the Banchory 'Fly'.

TT reported that he had informed Landscape Services of the dead oak tree at Bellwood, and it had been cut down.

CORRESPONDENCE

LM reported on several items of correspondence :

A) A fee of £40 was required to be paid to the Registration Agency covering Data Protection.

B) The former BCC Secretary had advised that an out of date list of members was on several notice boards and on the Visit Banchory website. These had now been replaced with a new abridged list of members, which noted that contact should either be through the Facebook page, or by e-mail on banchorycommunity@hotmail.com

C) A complaint from a resident concerning dog mess on land to the south of the river, had been passed on to Feughdee West CC.

D) DM reported that a complaint he had received regarding the relocation of a grit bin, had been referred to Roads, but no response had yet been received. It was noted in the discussion that residents should be advised to report such matters directly on the Council's 'Report It' webpage, where a ticket number would be assigned, and the response could be tracked.

YOUTH CONCERNS

AL was not present, and ZC reported no major concerns. She suggested however that attendance at BCC meetings might be improved if refreshments were available at the meetings. ML indicated she was generally supportive of the proposal, but subject to time constraints on getting through committee business. ZC was asked to come up with a specific proposal for menu, funding, equipment and crockery requirements, and a tidy up protocol. DM mentioned the proposed pedestrian crossing at Morrisons, and asked if this was convenient for Academy pupils. HM suggested this was being looked into by ED, and RB noted the technical difficulties of installing a crossing here. ZC is to follow up on progress with ED.

TREASURERS REPORT

LM reported that the CC Account now stood at £1,519. 51. This was subject to one cheque being uncashed.

The Youth 2000 fund stood at £3,004, and the Treasurer's fund at £429.51

BANCHORY COMMUNITY FUND

LM reported an application for grant assistance of £1,500 from Banchory Tennis Club towards installing a defibrillator in Burnett Park. The unit would be located so as to be fully accessible to the public, and Banchory First Responders had agreed to take on the annual maintenance. This was agreed.

LM also suggested that as regards the outstanding grant towards the purchase of signs for the HoB Neighbourhood Watch, as the group was having difficulties with setting up certain procedures, BCC could purchase the signs, if the group would erect them. This approach was agreed, and AM is to confirm that the group is still interested in proceeding.

In the light of the apparent difficulties which some groups are having in complying with BCC

protocols for applications, LM is to review and where possible, simplify the application forms. To encourage more applications, DC is to consider a monthly 'flyer' on the BCC Facebook page, or on Visit Banchory website.

ML noted that a letter had been received from J. Henretty regarding the KGV Park Trust, which was setting up a team to distribute separate windfarm monies, and were asking whether BCC would nominate a member to join the team. It was agreed that LM should be suggested.

COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

Following the last Town Team meeting, HM, TT, and DM had met with BBA to discuss the Town Centre. A further meeting was proposed on 15th January with a representative of 'Elevator' in attendance to advise on assistance which might be available to small businesses.

HM reported that Banchory Heritage Hub was progressing. The Proposed LDP Site at Bellfield was considered too long term. Discussions were now ongoing regarding a possible site at the Milton, and the Prince's Foundation were now involved in discussions. Progress on 'Busy Banchory' had been noted in the 'Banchory Fly' with the establishment of networks to progress various topics being trialled.

HM further reported that he was updating the progress report on BCAP, and hoped to complete it for the next meeting.

KEITH WHITE AWARD

JW reported that he and VK were starting to plan for next year's award, and hoped to finalise a Report for the next meeting. JW would contact ZC and AL and involve the youth representatives in the planning. LM suggested that more interest might be generated if the award was re-branded as the Young Citizen award. JW to consider how this might be done while retaining reference to Keith White.

COAT OF ARMS

ML reported that she had been in touch with the Lord Lyon's office, and been given an assurance that the award would be confirmed by late April / early May. This would enable the planning of events to celebrate the award to continue apace.

A sub-committee had met and, apart from an award ceremony in mid-May, were considering events on 15th June - perhaps at Scott Skinner Sq. and Banchory Town Hall. The sub-committee would meet again after tonight's BCC meeting.

Duncan Hart had contributed to the work of the sub-committee, and it was agreed to co-opt him as a BCC member until at least 15th June.

CC REPRESENTATIVES

Planning : HM reported that the MIR to the LDP Review had been published, and a synopsis would be circulated before the next meeting.

HM also reported that he had noted that the east - west Banchory Core Path touched on the application site for 15 houses at Raemoir Road. He had added this to the concerns reported to Planning.

HM further reported that North Banchory Coy had submitted a Proposal of Application Notice (PoAN) regarding an Eco Village (consisting of 32 homes including 25% affordable housing) proposed on land to the east of Woodend Barn. The land is zoned for such development in the LDP. A public exhibition of the proposals is to be held at Banchory Business Centre on 23rd January. BCC members are invited to attend. It was agreed to invite representatives of NBC design team to make a presentation at the next BCC meeting. As HM had an interest in the application, G. Reid will be asked to report on the application for BCC.

Police : DM reported that he and TT had visited the Police station for an update, and were advised that there were currently no major concerns. However, they suggested that residents could be reminded to lock their doors as soon as they entered their homes, as sneak thieves remained active in the general area.

The Police also thanked BCC for publicising their annual 'Don't Drink and Drive' campaign on the BCC Facebook page.

DM reported that indiscriminate parking around the two primary schools was still a problem. An increased police presence had helped, and should be continued. Associated with this, AM reported that on at least one occasion recently, Arbeadie Road, between the primary school and Station Road, had been blocked with cars parked, to the extent that the bus had to mount the pavement to get through. RB is to enquire with Roads whether yellow lines could help obviate this situation.

Community Safety : DM reported that there had been no C.S. Partnership meeting since the last BCC meeting.

TT reported that the Lawson Avenue Neighbourhood Watch signs were now in need of repair, and that an application for windfarm funding would be forthcoming.

Transport : ML reported that there were no Marr Area Bus or Transport Forums planned until Aboyne in the spring.

ML further noted that Aberdeen to Glasgow trains after 8am and 6pm no longer stopped in Stonehaven. A connection to Montrose was now required.

HM reported that certain bus routes between Stonehaven and Westhill were to be re-routed along the AWPR. AM felt this might not involve Banchory buses, so VK to check.

BDI : TT reported that a neighbour, who had an interest in Deeside Radio (which was funded by BDI) was still keen to see the BDI accounts. LM reported that she had not yet asked for a copy of the BDI annual accounts, but would now follow up.

Windfarms : DC reported that there had been no developments with either the Glendye, or Fetteresso windfarm applications since the last BCC meeting.

Town Team : ML Reported that the next meeting would be in February.

AOCB

RB noted the closure of the B977 for a day next week, and suggested it be advertised on the BCC Facebook page. DC to action.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

11th February 2019, Room 4, Banchory Academy. At 7.30pm.