

BANCHORY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Monday 13 June 2016

Banchory Academy Library

7.30pm

Present: Mary Lennox (Chair); Rebecca Glansbeek (Treasurer); Louise Cameron (Secretary); Eileen Durno(Vice Chair);

Officials: Cllr Jill Webster

Apologies: Corinne Ogilvie; David Conroy; Harry McNab; Lyn McNab; Nicola Kenyon; Cllr Karen Clark; Cllr Linda Clark; Police Scotland

Members of the Public: Colin Pike (North Kincardine Rural Community Council); John Wills

1. Welcome and Apologies

Mary Lennox opened the meeting and noted the apologies.

2. Co-option of New Member

The meeting unanimously agreed on the formal co-option of David Conroy, Harry McNab and Lyn McNab to the Banchory Community Council. Mary Lennox confirmed that a process for application of full membership of the Community Council would be run after the summer.

3. Police Report

Police Scotland were unable to attend and no report had been sent.

Cllr Webster reported that at a recent Marr Area Committee she asked if Police Scotland were cutting back on attendance at Community Council meetings. Unfortunately a definitive answer was not received but when asked the same question the Policy & Resources Committee confirmed there were no plans to reduce such attendances.

Cllr Webster is to monitor the situation and was supported by Mary Lennox who expressed the Community Council's opinion that the Police presence is desirable.

4. Councillors' Reports

4.1 BT Issues

Mary Lennox noted that this is an issue being raised at Community Action Plan (BCAP) events. Cllr Webster reported that a representative from both BT and the Scottish Government are due to address a full Aberdeenshire Council meeting in September. Mary Lennox volunteered to provide any feedback gathered through the BCAP survey (as at the end of August) to assist the Councillors at this meeting.

ACTION: MARY LENNOX TO PASS ON BT ISSUES FEEDBACK TO COUNCILLORS BY END OF AUGUST

4.2 Road Signs at Hill of Banchory

Cllr Karen Clark raised the issue at a recent Marr Area Committee meeting but Cllr Webster did not have an update on any progress made. Rebecca Glansbeek commented that a sign for the Hill of Banchory School is still to be corrected and it was agreed she would email the Roads Department again. Cllr Webster asked to be copied in on this correspondence.

ACTION: REBECCA GLANSBEEK TO EMAIL ROADS DEPARTMENT AND CC CLLR WEBSTER

4.3 Disposal of Garden Waste near Deeside Way (also under item 7.1)

Louise Cameron reported that a complaint had been received from a member of the public concerning the fly tipping of garden waste near the Deeside Way between Glebe Park and the Paddock. Cllr Webster suggested Andy Sheridan of Aberdeenshire Council Waste Services and Alastair Fullwood of the Deeside Way be informed.

ACTION: LOUISE CAMERON TO CONTACT ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL AND REPORT FLY TIPPING

4.4 Planning Application APP/2016/1047 (also under item 7.2)

Louise Cameron referred the Community Councillors to an objection received to a planning application for a new build property next to Waterstone House along with an alteration to the entrance point of Waterstone House. The objection had been lodged with Aberdeenshire Council planning department but the sender wished for the Community Council to consider lodging an objection.

Unfortunately the correspondence was received after the deadline for comments but it was felt that there were no material reasons for the Community Council to object.

Cllr Webster noted that the Planners recommend granting the application but as an objection was received it had been referred to the three local Councillors for comment by 13 June 2016. The outcome was not known but if 2 or more of the Councillors objected to the plans, the application would be referred for debate by the Marr Area Committee.

Louise Cameron is to communicate the outcome of the above to the correspondent

ACTION: LOUISE CAMERON TO EMAIL RESPONSE TO OBJECTOR

4.5 Meeting re Development of New Health Centre

Cllr Webster advised the Community Council that a very positive meeting concerning the development of a new health centre in Banchory had recently been held. Reports are to be prepared in order to move to the next stage of the process.

4.6 Banchory Sports Village - Timescale

The delay in the timetable for the completion, now Autumn 2018, of the Banchory Sports Village was felt by the meeting to be the latest in poor communication between Aberdeenshire Council and the general public on this project. All reported encountering

scepticism and disappointment when speaking with the general public on the matter and a further delay will only reinforce the feeling felt by some residents that the project will never be completed.

CLlr Webster strongly asserted that the project will happen and the Community Councillors offered to continue to reiterate this point where they could but believed Aberdeenshire Council ought to be more pro-active in keeping the residents informed.

It was agreed the Community Council would write to Aberdeenshire Council's Chief Executive, the Project Lead (John Harding) and Marr Area Manager (Janelle Clark) and ask for clarity on the timescale for completion of the Banchory Sports Village.

ACTION: MARY LENNOX TO CONTACT ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL RE BSV TIMETABLE

5. Guest Speaker

None

6. Approval of May Meeting's Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes of 9 May 2016 were proposed by Rebecca Glansbeek and seconded by Eileen Durno.

Matters Arising

6.1 Emergency Planning & Ward Forum

Mary Lennox gave an overview of the recent Marr Area Form which covered emergency planning. A useful presentation, it gave Community Councillors contacts and details which will offer a starting point when the preparation of a Banchory Resilience Plan is considered after the summer break.

6.2 Burnett Park Junction

Mary Lennox reported that the wall near this junction had been lowered, vegetation on the verges cleared and some road markings added. Although Aberdeenshire Council are unable to maintain the verges, it is hoped that with help from local residents the vegetation can be kept to a minimum.

7. Correspondence

7.1 Disposal of Garden Waste near Deeside Way

Discussed under item 4.3

7.2 Objection to Application APP/2016/1047

Discussed under item 4.4

7.3 Burnett Park Junction

See item 6.2

7.4 Conduct of AGM and Communication with General Public

Mary Lennox addressed several points raised by members of the public.

AGM Minutes

There is a 12 month delay between an AGM and the approval of the corresponding minutes. This is normal practice but that an updated list of office bearers for 2016-17 along with the 2015/16 Chair's Report and Treasurer's Report is available in the library.

Timing of Chair's Report

It is usual for the Chair's report to be prepared for the AGM and anything that happens thereafter would be recorded in the minutes and, where applicable, the next Chair's Report.

Role of Returning Officer

This matter was referred back to Marr Area Office as the Community Council is not the appropriate body to comment on any issues with the role of returning officer.

Recruitment drive through Marr Area Forum

The forum cover a number of Community Councils are could only focus on recruitment in a general way and not specially Banchory.

Delay in the Scheme of Establishment

Mary Lennox explained that we are currently waiting for Aberdeenshire Council to finalise their revised Scheme of Establishment. In the meantime Banchory Community Council will continue to operate under the terms of the constitution dated February 2015.

The Community Council ought to continue throughout the Summer

It is in the constitution that the Community Council will not hold public meetings in the months of July and August. However Community Councillors continue to monitor issues and if it is deemed necessary will meet informally to address any matters arising throughout the summer.

7.5 Hanging Baskets

Rebecca Glansbeek reported that the hanging baskets were planted and arranged in time for the River Festival weekend of 11/12th June 2016.

7.6 Banchory Girls Football Team

Following an appeal for funding from the Banchory Girls Football Team, the meeting agreed to recommend the team apply for monies from the Mid Hill Wind Farm Community Fund.

Colin Pike also suggested applying for monies from community funds operated by Scotmid and Co-Operative Food.

ACTION: LOUISE CAMERON TO EMAIL AND RECOMMEND APPLYING TO BANCHORY COMMUNITY FUND

8. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer reported a bank balance of £2,449.92. An expense of £27 for printing approved. Cheques have been issued for the Keith White Award and the Dalvenie Centre in the sums of £200 and £500 respectively. It should be noted that Banchory Lions issued the Community Council a cheque for £100 towards the Keith White Award.

The current bank balances for Youth 2000 accounts are £4,226.59 and £545.82.

9. Mid Hill Wind Farm

Rebecca Glansbeek reported that a cheque for £500 was presented to the Dalvenie Centre. A photograph of the presentation is to be sent to the Deeside Piper.

Rebecca Glansbeek advised the meeting that she would send the approved May minutes to Mid Hill Wind Farm in order to release the recently approved funds for Banchory Sport Village and Banchory and District Initiative hub.

New applications are now welcome and will be reviewed in October 2016.

ACTION: REBECCA GLANSBEEK TO SEND APPROVED MAY MINUTES TO MID HILL WIND FARM

10. Notice Board

Rebecca Glansbeek reported on her conversation with the Planner who is present in the Burgh offices once a fortnight. A number of questions were raised which have been forwarded to the preferred contractor, Loftus Signs.

The meeting agreed that the latest quote from Loftus Signs required some clarification and that the project should proceed over the summer. It was agreed that up to £1,015 (excluding VAT) be spent, with a margin of up to 10%. A final decision was delegated to the office bearers to make over the summer but should the cost exceed £1,015 +10% the matter would be brought back to full Community Council.

ACTION: REBECCA GLASBEEK TO OBTAIN CLARIFICATION ON QUOTE & PROGRESS

11. Banchory Community Action Plan

Mary Lennox reported that the questionnaire went 'live' on 1 June 2016 with paper copies being available at the Library, Woodend Barn, Banchory British Legion and the Health Centre. Leaflets and posters have also been distributed throughout the town. Banchory Academy is supporting the survey and it is hoped the primary schools and Inchmarlo Nursing Home will also accept presentations and/or leaflets. As at 13 June 2016, the electronic format had been completed 300 times which the Marr Area Partnership believe to be a good response. Information events to promote the survey have been held at Tesco and the River Festival with more planned for the Farmers' Market and Morrisons Supermarket.

A meeting to assess and plan targeting of any missing demographic groups and to discuss the collation of the material will be held shortly.

12. Keith White Award

Louise Cameron informed the meeting that the presentation of the 2016 award to Connor Smith by all three local councillors at the River Festival had gone well. A Banchory Academy pupil, Connor was recognised for his work with the charity 'Cash for Kids' and coaching of football. Louise Cameron again thanked the local councillors for their support.

13. Community Council Representatives

13.1 Planning

a. Braehead

Ongoing / Nothing to report.

b. APP/2016/1047

See item 4.4 and 7.2

c. Other

Hill of Banchory

A detailed planning application has been received for 40 houses near the Deeside Dance Centre. Although planning consent has already been given the document makes several variations to the original, most noticeably for the need to complete the construction of footpaths prior to any of the houses being occupied. The Community Council agreed to submit a comment making clear the need for the early completion of footpaths on safety grounds.

ACTION: MARY LENNOX TO SEND PLANNER COMMENTS ON FOOTPATH COMPLETION

Road Crossing Near Morrisons Supermarket

Mary Lennox relayed Corinne Ogilvie's comments that the recent planning application for flats at 103 Station Road was granted without the condition of a pedestrian crossing being installed. Cllr Webster explained that the planners felt 5 additional homes did not justify the provision of a pedestrian crossing.

Rebecca Glansbeek noted that the issue had also been raised at a recent Parent Council meeting but that they would not be taking the matter further.

After some discussion it was agreed that the Community Council would contact Aberdeenshire Council and request a road assessment for this stretch of Station Road. It was agreed that the absence of a suitable crossing is affecting a far larger population than just school children.

ACTION: MARY LENNOX TO REQUEST ROAD ASSESSEMENT FOR STATION ROAD

Tor Na Coille Variation to Premises Licence

The meeting had no objections to the recent application to vary the times of the Premises Licence.

13.2 Community Learning and Development

As Nicola Kenyon sent her apologies, there was nothing to report.

13.3 B.D.I

Louise Cameron reported that the next BDI meeting is due to take place at the end of June / beginning of July.

13.4 Banchory Sports Village (BSV)

Rebecca Glansbeek reported the amount now raised is close to £600,000. Upcoming fund raising events include the Summer Ball on 18 June and from 8 to 12 August a number of sporting events to coincide with the Rio Olympics. There will also be a fund raising evening on 13 August at Banchory British Legion.

More details can be found at www.banchorysportsvillage.co.uk

13.5 Banchory First Responders (Defibrillators)

Rebecca Glansbeek reported that the group is to issue a press release shortly to look for more recruits. The next meeting will be after the summer holidays.

13.6 Community Safety Forum

Eileen Durno reported that at the recent Community Safety Forum both Police Scotland and Fire Services were unable to attend. However a report was received from Fire Services which noted that a recent recruitment campaign had been successful with Banchory Fire Services raising their number by two.

Cllr Linda Clark is to pursue the issue of improved lighting near Bellswood to increase the safety of schoolchildren walking home in the winter. Aberdeenshire Council Road Department replied that no funding was available but a lighting engineer will be sent to assess the area and Cllr L Clark is to monitor the situation.

Despite no new members the Forum is to continue and its most recent initiative is to encourage drivers to use old tax disc holders to carry information such as emergency contact details to help the emergency services in the event of an accident.

13.7 Banchory Community Sports Centre Stakeholders' Meeting (Mary & Rebecca)

Also see item 4.6

Mary Lennox reported that work is being done with various local sports clubs to ensure that if they wish to move to the Banchory Sports Village the transition can be as smooth as possible.

The next Stakeholder meeting is planned for 24 August 2016.

14. Other

Rebecca Glansbeek reported that at a recent Parent Council meeting an update was provided on the remedial work to Banchory Academy. The Multi Use Games Area is due to be repaired in 2 weeks time and lighting on one of the drama rooms has now been fixed.

John Wills asked the meeting if there had been any contact with the Community Council on the closure of the DISC (Deeside Indoor Sports Centre). The building is alleged to have been sold to a property developer for conversion to flats leaving members without a local facility for indoor bowls.

As the Community Council had not been contacted and were not aware of the sale no action is to be taken at this stage.

15. Date / Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Monday 12 September 2016 at 7.30 pm in the Banchory Academy Library.

Further information about many of the projects and events mentioned above can be found online at:

www.visitbanchory.com

www.facebook.com/pages/Banchory-Community-Council/606634609388296