

BANCHORY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON 10TH DECEMBER 2018

AT BANCHORY ACADEMY

PRESENT

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

Also present were Councillors : A. Ross (AR), and E. Durno (ED), along with A. Mitchell, and D. Hart as observers.

WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

ML welcomed all to the meeting, particularly the two observers, and noted that there were apologies from : Cllr. R. Bruce, D. Conroy, Z. Conroy, and A. Law.

COUNCILLORS REPORT

ED and AR reported that the question of car parking charges in Council carparks would be considered again in January. Officers had proposed that there should in future be no 'free' period (currently 45 minutes). However this was not supported, and the matter will accordingly be referred to the full Council. ML asked for the views of those present - as a guide for Councillors on the community view. BCC members were unanimous that both for attendance at the Health Centre, and town centre shopping, a free period was very desirable, and indeed essential for some.

ED and AR reported that concern had been expressed by the Fire Service about overspill parking on Glebe Road (leading to the fire station) by those visiting the new café there. Roads and Police were monitoring the situation, and it was noted that double yellow lines might be required. LM suggested this may be a teething problem. While public safety should always be the priority, potential impacts on small business should be considered carefully.

AR reported that the continuance of the Banchory TPOs had been discussed in outline with Council officers. While the review was still ongoing, it was hoped that a positive outcome could be achieved. TT reported a potentially dead oak tree in the Lower Bellswood. Agreed he would report this to Landscape Services. **Action: TT**

AR also reported improvements made to walling at Scott Skinner Sq.

and the Social Work offices.

Continued issues with parents speeding near primary schools were also noted.

ED reported that the Snow Wardens scheme was now up and running, with training given and equipment issued. DM reported that he had applied, but had not heard back. ED will investigate. TT asked about insurance, and was assured that (provided the road was adopted by the Council) wardens would be covered by the Council insurance scheme.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER MINUTE AND MATTERS ARISING

VK proposed that the minute was approved, and this was seconded by LM. They were approved unanimously, and there were no matters arising.

CORRESPONDENCE

LM reported that there was no correspondence other than items already on the agenda.

YOUTH CONCERNS

As both youth members had not been able to attend, this was not discussed.

TREASURERS REPORT

LM reported that the CC Account now stood at £1,519. 51. This was after payment of £261 to BDI for adverts in Banchory Calendar. The Youth 2000 fund stood at £3,003.18, and the Treasurer's fund at £429.50

BANCHORY COMMUNITY FUND

LM reported that she had written to the Men's Shed, setting out the conditions of the grant, and they had confirmed they were content with the letter of intent.

She had also heard from Deeside Dance for Parkinsons, who hoped to confirm their ability to 'ring fence' the grant shortly.

ML reported interest in grant assistance from Banchory Tennis Club towards installing a defibrillator in Burnett Park. An application was expected for the next meeting.

COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

ML and HM had attended the Town Team meeting on 28th November, when the Council had enquired whether they could assist with the delivery of any of the outstanding projects. Funding for redecorating

the Town Hall was approved at the meeting, while parking, pedestrian crossings, and the taxi rank were also discussed.

In this context, the health of the Town Centre was also discussed, including the possibility of looking at a Masterplan for the area, involving a condition survey, and considering the possibility of re-branding.

This would involve bringing in a consultant, which would require funding. This topic, would be further explored when BCC met with the Business Association on 11th December.

ML noted that there had been no event to switch on the Xmas lights, which would have helped town centre footfall. This should also be discussed with BBA / BDI.

Progress on 'Busy Banchory' had been noted in the 'Banchory Fly' with the establishment of networks to progress various topics being trialled.

KEITH WHITE AWARD

JW and VK reported that they were starting to plan for next year's award, and hoped to finalise a Report for the January meeting. Planning would involve the youth representatives.

COAT OF ARMS

LM reported that the windfarm operators had confirmed that using windfarm grant money to celebrate the award of the CoA was entirely acceptable. ML

reported that she had been in touch with the Lord Lyon's office. He would attend a presentation ceremony, subject to an acceptable date. Although the award had not been fully confirmed yet, it appeared that a date in late May could be practical.

Members agreed that a series of events planned around the presentation of the CoA was highly desirable, as it could help generate footfall in the town centre. There was the possibility of an event associated with the Farmers' Market, and also possibly in Scott Skinner Sq.

It was agreed to form a sub-committee (ML, LM, VK, JW, and Duncan Hart) to take this project forward. The first meeting would be on Monday 17th December at ML house.

CC REPRESENTATIVES

Planning : HM reported that apart from an application by North Banchory Co. to vary the conditions of their existing planning consent for Lochside, most applications since the last BCC meeting, had been routine and no objection had been taken. ML noted that the application for Lochside had generated a great deal of interest, but most had commented on the principle of the development, rather than the

change sought to the planning conditions. As HM was associated with NBC, this application had been referred to G. Reid, and comments were awaited.

Post Meeting Note : G.Reid had subsequently recommended no objection by BCC, as the application related only to an adjustment of the timing on traffic lights at Dee Street and Raemoir Road junctions with the A93. Roads had confirmed to Planning that the adjustment was acceptable.

Police : DM reported that he had visited the Police station for an update. He advised that the Police were reticent to involve public in search for missing teenager L. Smith.

He also suggested that the annual Police 'Don't Drink and Drive' campaign should be highlighted on the BCC Facebook page. This was agreed.

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

Transport : VK reported that she had attended the recent Marr Area Bus Forum, but there was little to report. It was noted that the Police had established that the CCTV recording equipment on the Banchory bus was not working. This was seen as a typical reflection of the attitude of Bluebird, where any failure or inefficiency was justified on the basis of under-funding.

BDI : MI reported that BCC had not received an invite to the BDI AGM, and had written to enquire why not. TT noted that he had attended, and reported that he had difficulty in understanding the presentation of BDI finances. He did not recall that the annual accounts had been circulated. It was agreed that as BCC had provided funding towards No1, the Treasurer should ask for a copy of the annual accounts.

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

Town Team : Reported under BCAP above

AOCB

ML reported that the 'Banchory Fly' was up and running again, now also in paper format. It was now cross-funded by adverts. ML to consider article for next edition. Copies were distributed to members.

DM noted that the revised Shire Council Waste Strategy had been published, and recommended that all councillors should familiarise themselves with it. ED noted that it would be further discussed at the

Council meeting in January.

ML noted the success of the Banchory Trampoline club members at the recent World Championships in St Petersburg, and congratulated JW on his very significant contribution to the club over very many years. JW reported that of the five gymnasts asked to represent GB, three were from Banchory !!!

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

14th January 2019, Room 4, Banchory Academy. At 7.30pm.