

BANCHORY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2018 IN BANCHORY ACADEMY LIBRARY.

Present; M. Lennox(ML) Chair. J. Wills(JW) Assistant Secretary. V.Kerridge(VK) D. Conroy(DC) Vice Chair. H. McNab(HM) L.McNab(LM) T. Tulett(TT) A.Ross(AR) A. Murison(AM)

Apologies; D.Milner. L. Cameron, maternity leave.

Councillors; R. Bruce(Cllr RB) E. Durno(Cllr ED) A.Ross(Cllr A.R.)

- 1) ML welcomed everyone and noted the apologies.
- 2) Councillors Reports
 - Cllr E.D. spoke to the item regarding snow wardens, from the previous meeting. Aberdeenshire Council encouraged Community Councils to consider appointing snow wardens. E.D. is awaiting a response from the policy & resources committee to a suggestion that a pilot is run. She has spoken with a number of local people who are willing to get on board. She has agreed to lead on this and hopes to have it up and running next winter.
 - Parking charges were dealt with next, a working group will consider this item and report back to Infrastructure services; one comment was, parent & child spaces require to be wider. Cllr A.R. spoke about parking near schools, this is being monitored.
 - She also mentioned a Survey Monkey which is consulting with the wider community in Aberdeenshire about culture, sport & physical activity. It is called “the big listen”
 - Cllr A.R. also said the official sod cutting representing the start of work on Banchory Sports Village takes place on Friday 16th February at 10am.
 - Cllr R.B. intimated that the Bellfield toilets have been closed due to lack of someone to open/close them.
 - Speeding at Upper Lochton on Raemoir Road is being monitored by police.
 - Complaints have been made regarding mud left on the road by the contractors working on Banchory Sports Village.
 - Cllr E.D. spoke of drainage works being carried out at Silverbank Playing Fields.
 - She also informed the group of a youth representative she knows who could be interested in joining BCC.
 - Cllr A.R. reported on the half day she and various members of groups had with the Chief Executive Officer of Aberdeenshire Council, saying it was a worthwhile exchange of views, they walked around the High Street, and visited the Academy, meeting the deputy rector. M.L. had been invited with other Community council chairs to meet the Chief Executive in Number 1 to discuss issues of concern. She asked what was being done about the Academy, the process by which priority for new schools reached the Capital Plan and whether the planned improvements would r put Banchory further down the list of new Academies being built in the

'Shire. She also commented on the sometimes poor communication from the Council about matters of concern to the local community.

4) Approval of minutes & matters arising

- The minutes were proposed by V.K. and seconded by L.M.
- The over 70's outing was reported on. We are awaiting word back from Banchory & District Round Table, whereas, the Rotary Club have agreed in principle to support the venture.
- M.L. informed the meeting that BCC minutes are going missing from the file kept in the library and then reappearing. The library staff will now keep the file behind the counter. Community Resilience Plan - A representative from Ballater has asked for a copy of our plan. **Action: DC to ensure copy in Banchory Library**

5) Correspondence

- BCC have received a request from Banchory Business Association to have a joint meeting about the proposed Retail Park. It was agreed that this was not appropriate.
- Ward 16 Forum date is 16th March.
- Signage Project - the Council will begin painting ASAP. There is a delay in delivering the new benches as the feet had been stolen.
- Electric charging points will soon be fitted in the Bellfield car park.
- We received a letter from a student asking if anyone was interested in joining a focus group on land reform. **Action : ML to follow up**

6) Treasurer's report

- Accounts as last month.
- BCC insurance - several Authorities insurance used to be collated by Highland Council and paid to Zurich Insurance but this arrangement has stopped. It will now be up to BCC to arrange the insurance and the cost will come off next year's allocation of funds from Aberdeenshire Council.
- LM confirmed that a standing order is in place to pay for this year's Data Protection cover. She had also sent her contact details to replace those of the previous Treasurer to enable the data protection company to update its records

7) Banchory Community Fund

- BCC received £2,000 from Mid Hill Windfarm, a cheque was made out to BDI for this amount as agreed previously. There is a photo opportunity here.
- There is still £13,000 in the Windfarm fund.
- Comment was made again about the Mid Hill Windfarm application form on the Marr Area Website not being in Word format.

8) Notice board

Following on from last month's discussion on the use of the BCC noticeboard, LM proposed that in future, in addition to our own notices, only notices from community groups offering services to the community would be displayed. This was seconded by DC and unanimously carried.

It was noted that there were a number of other noticeboards in the town and access to most of these could be arranged through No 1 in Scott Skinner Square.

9) Community Action Plan

ML approached Community Learning and Development in connection with the adult learning action point. Two meetings have been held and the Senior CLD Officer has agreed to arrange a meeting to try to set up a Steering Group to take this forward. This will take place on Monday 12th March at 10am in Hill of Banchory Schools, Activity room 2.

- HM, DC & ML met with a representative of a group who have shown interest in helping to make the Community Action Plan work.
- AR met with Councillors & staff at the Academy and the CEO of Aberdeenshire Council to discuss the future of the Academy. Some £650,000 will be spent on the building to bring it to an acceptable standard. This will include new girls' toilets, roof repairs, filling in of the swimming pool and laying out a plaza style area for multi-use. However, the downside of this is that any possibility of a new Academy will drop down the list and could be 10-20 years away. Because of this it has been stated that the earmarked site for a new Academy may be released. It was highlighted that the staff do an amazing job at the Academy. Teacher shortage is a major problem. There is no extra funding from central government to help with this. A sub group including AR, TT, VK, DC, ML & HM was formed to consider ways to proceed with lobbying for improvements.

10) Keith White Award

VK spoke of an improved application form with guidance notes. The presentation of the award has been made at the River Festival in the past but it is not running this year, therefore alternative events were considered at which the award might be presented. Banchory Show is a strong contender, JW will communicate with the secretary of the Banchory Show. **Action: JW**

11) Coat of Arms

Nothing to report.

12) CC Representatives

- a) Planning. HM has been in touch with planning, indicating that BCC supports bike trails in principle. HM referred to prepared notes previously circulated to the local planning team. Proposed retail development near Tesco, HM reported that in this instance, a colleague (Graham Reid) will help due to a conflict of interest BCC agreed to co-opt him for this purpose.
- b) Banchory First Responders. Nothing to report.
- c) Police Liaison. Police intimated that there had been an increase in break-ins since Christmas, car thefts also. They have asked the community to be vigilant.
- d) Community Safety Forum. Nothing to report.
- e) Transport, inc' Marr Area Bus Forum. There is a bus into Aberdeen at 0630, another at 0800 has not been turning up, residents have been late for work and since

realising there is no 0800 have been taking the 0630 and been an hour and a half early for work. Cllr RB has said she will write to the bus company, Stagecoach.

Action: Cllr RB

f) Scheme of Establishment

A number of questions were discussed and it was decided that full membership of BCC should not include people from outside our community, that we would not limit the time members can hold office and that we would continue to have more than five meetings per year. HM moved to go to public consultation as soon as certain clarifications were answered. This consultation would require the proposed constitution to be displayed in Banchory Library alongside our current constitution. This was unanimously agreed and would take place after the draft has been approved by the Marr Area Manager. AR will also check one or two procedural matters with the Area Office. **Action: AR**

g) Banchory and District Initiative. Nothing to report.

h) Glendye Windfarm. DC reported that Glendye Wind Farm Liaison Group (GLG) is waiting for feedback and responses from Coriolis to discussions and questions raised during December 2017 meeting regarding potential community benefits and community investment in the Glendye Wind Farm Development.

13) AOB. Nil

14) Date of Next Meeting; Monday 12th March, Banchory Academy Library at 7.30pm