

BANCHORY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

Present: M.Lennox(ML) Chair. J. Wills(JW) Assistant Secretary. A. Ross(AR) D. Conroy(DC) Vice Chair. A. Murison(AM) T. Tulett(TT) D. Milner(DM)

In Attendance: Members of the public; D. McAvoy. A. Marshall.

Councillors: A. Ross(Cllr A.R.) R.Bruce (Cllr R.B.) E. Durno(Cllr E.D.)

1) Welcome & Apologies

ML welcomed everyone including members of the public.

Apologies were received from V. Kerridge(V.K.) H. McNab(H.M.) L. McNab(L.M.) L. Cameron(L.C.)

2) Councillors Reports

- E.D. is still pursuing the issue of snow wardens with Aberdeenshire Council. D.M. also inquired of the Council regarding this but has had no response. Cllr A.R. will follow this up.
- Cllr A.R. spoke of speeding being an issue. The other two councillors agreed. Cllr R.B. mentioned speeding at Upper Lochton in particular as the 30mph signs have been moved fairly recently and some drivers appear to be ignoring this. It was suggested that disused posts for road signs should be removed to avoid any confusion and that hedge cutting would also assist the line of vision for vehicles emerging from the side road. A discussion arose regarding the purchase of a portable 30mph LED sign to be placed near the junction. The police have one but it travels around the 'Shire on a rota basis. Cost and whether a community council could legally own such a camera were issues.
- Bad parking at Hill of Banchory School is causing safety and obstruction issues.
- Dog fouling is also a matter of concern in Banchory Primary school playing field.
- It has been reported that vandals are throwing nails into Bellfield home car park, with the intention of compromising car tyres.

3) Approval of February Minutes and Matters Arising

ML asked if there were any corrections required to the minutes. in the absence of any she asked for a proposer. A.R proposed acceptance, T.T seconded. The minutes were duly approved.

Matters Arising:

- a) Over 70s outing: this is an item we inherited from The Lion's Club and we hope to keep it going. H.M. is liaising with Banchory Rotary Club ,and will report on his return from holiday. J.W. has spoken to a member of Banchory and District Round Table who advised there were funds available to support this venture and that we should write to them. **Action: HM**
- b) Community Resilience Plan: D.C. will put a copy in Banchory library. The sub group will look at ways of attracting funds for minor pieces of ancillary equipment required in an emergency. **Action: DC**
- c) Bus Timings: Cllr R.B. had a reply from Stagecoach regarding the timings of buses, (see item 12e previous minutes). Stagecoach has stated that the busses are generally on time but the information at the bus stops required updating, V. K. who has been pursuing the same matter had received a similar reply. Cllr R.B. mentioned that the next Bus Forum Meeting takes place in Huntly on 18th April.

4) Correspondence

- a) Culture & Sports Strategy Consultation: The Closing date for this has been extended. ML had completed the survey on behalf of BCC,
- b) Local Development Plan: Area Committee Seminar for Marr will meet on 15/16th May; the main issues should be shared with us shortly.
- c) Consultation on Minor Injuries Unit(MIU) in Aboyne: A public consultation will take place in the Victory Hall in Aboyne on 19th March from 3pm to 7pm. ML encouraged members to attend as there was a fear this useful facility would be lost.
- d) Training for Community Councillors: Some Community Councils are looking for training opportunities, Aberdeenshire Council have offered to run sessions but the information is vague. Several BCC members expressed an interest.
- e) The Marr Area Ward Forum is on 15th March in Inchmarlo Hall.
- f) Fetteresso Windfarm: A planning application for an extension to the Mid Hill Windfarm is likely. New would be in the region of 140-200m high and there would be 12 of them added. There will be a visual impact for parts of Banchory. This could mean additional funding for the area. It was agreed to invite officials from Natural Power to next month's Community Council meeting. **Action: DC**
- g) M.L. has received a complaint regarding the state of playing fields in the Banchory area, this includes Tillybrake, Silverbank and one at Forestside. The complaint is that these fields become unusable during inclement weather due to flooding and that they are not properly maintained by the Council. There was some doubt as to the ownership of the Forestside pitch. Cllr ED to investigate. Cllr R.B. said a report on playing fields will go to the Communities Committee in the near future. **Action: Cllrs ED & RB**

5) Treasurers Report

There is no change from last month. An invoice for our insurance is due to be paid. It has not yet arrived.

6) Banchory Community Fund

Nothing to report. D.C asked if Landfill money was still available for our area.

T.T. asked about a financial statement from No.1 which was a part of our support to No.1. This has not been forthcoming so far. **Action: LM**

7) Banchory Community Plan (BCAP)

a) ML and D.C. had met with D.McAvoy and a few others to discuss how he and his group could be involved in progressing the action points in BCAP. The difficulty to disseminating information was discussed and the importance of social media in this context was considered. Using River Dee Radio could be a possibility. D McAvoy and his group are to get back to ML once they had had a chance to consider what they might be interested in taking forward.

b) A.R. reported that the sub group had met to discuss Banchory Academy in relation to the Local Development Plan (LDP). Concern was growing that Aberdeenshire Council's failure to commit to a new school would jeopardise the retention of the R3 site set aside in the current LDP. Commitment to delivery is key to the allocation of a site in the plan, and it was unlikely that R3 could be kept in the long term if there is no plan in place to build. It was agreed that the Community Council would write to the local councillors expressing concern about the retention of the R3 site and requesting their assistance in retaining it in the LDP. The Campaign Group would be putting together an online survey to gather opinions about the R3 site, and on general feelings regarding the replacement or upgrading of the current school. This would be shared on Facebook and with parent groups. The Group would also ask the public to contact their elected members if they wished the site to remain in the LDP for educational use. **Action: AR**

8) Keith White Award

J.W. gave a brief report. He had e-mailed the Secretary of the Banchory Show to ask if BCC could announce the winners of this award at their event. This was agreed. The cost of BCC having a stall at the event was also discussed; this is £20.00 per metre of frontage to the stall, say £60.00. It was agreed that BCC would take a stall and use it to publicise ourselves.

9) Amending the constitution

Following agreement of previous meeting, A.R. sent the draft of the constitution to the Area Office. It was approved and the draft will now be placed in Banchory Library and on Facebook to allow public comment. A notice to this effect will also be put in the BCC notice board. Comments will be requested by 6th April. A.R. commented that it is only required to be open to the public for two weeks. A.R. suggested we circulate all comments once received among members prior to meeting. M.L. asked to have an SGM on 23rd April at 7.30pm, and this was agreed. **Action: ML**

10) CC Representatives

a) Planning: nothing to report.

b) Police Liaison: D.M. spoke of a short term working group from various Councils to meet once a month. He asked if Councillors met with police, Cllr R.B. meets with Inspector Matt Smith. She said the police were very responsive to any requests. D.M. said self help could prevent burglaries etc, by ensuring doors are locked, car keys kept away from doors and such like. D.M. also reported that there had been two arrests for sheep worrying.

c) Community Safety Forum: D.M. reported that Aberdeenshire Council is going to start charging for use of meeting room for this group.

d) Transport, inc' Marr Area Bus Forum: Dealt with earlier in meeting

e) BDI: A.R. has not yet received a financial statement from them

f) Glendye Windfarm: D.C. had nothing to report.

11) AOCB

a) D.M. will keep a watching brief on 1st Responders.

b) A.R. said Gordon Casely had been in touch re: Banchory Coat of Arms.

c) M.L. attended the Town Partnership meeting, and reported that there was some money available. Suggestions to be considered by the Town Partnership included: an electronic notice board to highlight what's going on in Banchory; painting the Town Hall; stones embedded in the pavement on Dee St to point towards the River.

d) T.T. reported that of the four new Scots Pines planted in Bell's Wood two are in poor condition and will be replaced within three months

Date of Next Meeting: 9th April in Banchory Academy Library at 7.30pm. Vice Chair Dave Conroy will chair the meeting in ML's absence