

BANCHORY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Monday 12 December 2016

Banchory Academy Library

7.30pm

Present: Mary Lennox (Chair); Eileen Durno (Vice Chair); Rebecca Glansbeek (Treasurer); Louise Cameron (Secretary); David Milner; Harry McNab; Lynn McNab; John Wills; Sgt Willie Murdoch (Police Scotland)

Officials: Cllr Linda Clark; Cllr Jill Webster

Apologies: Cllr Karen Clark; David Conroy; Nicola Kenyon; Vivika Kerridge; Corinne Ogilvie

Members of the Public: Alison Ritchie (Community Learning and Development); Ann Ross; Sam Wylde; Marijke Ross

1. Welcome and Apologies

Mary Lennox opened the meeting and noted the apologies.

2. Police Report

Sgt Murdoch reported on a relatively quiet period since the last Community Council meeting but highlighted an incident of vandalism on a property at Forestside Gardens. Patrols around this area and Hill of Banchory have been increased.

Sgt Murdoch advised the meeting of a recently launched safety initiative in collaboration with Marr Area Community Safety Group that aims to deter illegal parking near schools. This includes banners positioned at the schools warning against illegal parking and an increase in police patrols on roads surrounding the schools at relevant times.

Sgt Murdoch commented on a recent winter safety initiative held at Tesco in Banchory. It was designed as a drop in event for members of the public to discuss anything police related and to provide vehicle checks/ advice in preparation for the winter conditions. The event was a success with 72 vehicle checks carried out.

A speed monitoring sign will shortly be available for temporary use in Banchory. Sgt Murdoch asked if the Community Council had a specific location they would wish to position the sign. After some discussion, Hill of Banchory West was suggested.

Rebecca Glansbeek reported to Sgt Murdoch on vandalism to the Youth 2000 Project huts in the Bellfield Park. It was agreed photographs of the damage will be emailed to Sgt Murdoch who will provide a crime reference number.

ACTION: REBECCA GLANSBEEK TO EMAIL PHOTOS OF VANDALISM TO SGT MURDOCH

3. Wind Farm Proposal on Glen Dye and Fasque Estate – Marijke Ross

Marijke Ross, a resident of Strachan, addressed the meeting on a proposed Wind Farm development on the Glen Dye and Fasque Estate. The developer, Coriolis, has recently held a community consultation with a planning application expected to be submitted in late spring / early summer 2017. Mrs Ross has a number of concerns about the development and intends to start a group for other residents opposed to the wind farm.

Mary Lennox noted that the Banchory Community Council would review and if necessary comment on the proposed development once a planning application was submitted.

4. Membership

Mary Lennox advised the meeting that she had written to absentee Community Councillor Rob Sadler and requested he respond by 5 December to advise her if he wished to continue as a member of Banchory Community Council. Sadly no response was received and therefore Mary Lennox declared a casual vacancy had arisen. It was agreed not to hold an election until May but any individuals interested in joining the Community Council before then could be co-opted.

5. Councillors' Report

5.1 BT Issues

Mary Lennox noted that on 11 December a response from BT covering a number of issues concerning Banchory had been received from Cllr Karen Clark. Unfortunately there had not been sufficient time before the meeting for the Community Councillors to read and digest the material.

Cllr Webster commented that until the project deadline, set at the end of 2017, it would not be possible to establish if BT had been successful in their objective to achieve 95% coverage. In the meantime, Banchory Community Council should consider if there are any specific issues to highlight to BT.

Cllr Webster added that she understood BT would be willing to send a representative to address Community Councils.

It was agreed that all Community Councillors would read the material sent via Cllr Karen Clark, then at the meeting in January discuss if further action should be taken. In the meantime Cllr Jill Webster agreed to obtain contact details should the Community Council wish a visit from a BT representative.

ACTION: ALL TO READ BT RESPONSE MATERIAL OF 11 DECEMBER 2016

CLLR JILL WEBSTER: TO OBTAIN CONTACT DETAILS FOR BT

5.2 Banchory Health Centre

Cllr Webster reported that minutes from the stakeholder meeting held in July 2016 had been received. It is hoped another stakeholder meeting will be held in the New Year.

Under the previous Local Development Plan the proposed site at Silverbank was rejected by the Reporter. Although the Local Development Plan 2016 has yet to be approved by the Reporter, only one objection to the Silverbank site had been submitted. Therefore plans for the Health Centre at Silverbank are continuing.

Cllr Webster noted the report from the Reporter on the Local Development Plan 2016 is due on 20 December 2016 and it will go to Marr Area Committee in the New Year.

5.3 Scheme of Establishment

Cllr Jill Webster advised the meeting that the consultation on the new Scheme of Establishment is to be resumed.

5.4 Speed Restrictions on Raemoir Road near Upper Lochton Junction

Cllr Jill Webster noted that the Roads Department are progressing with plans to reduce the speed limit on this stretch of road from 40mph to 30mph.

5.5 Hill of Banchory Neighbourhood Centre – Path Improvement

Rebecca Glansbeek advised the meeting of several complaints made to her about the recent path improvement near Hill of Banchory School. The path from Hill of Banchory West through to the School has been upgraded as far as the car park. The rest of the path, down to the bottom of the football pitch / playground, remains as before.

After some discussion it was agreed Harry McNab would establish what the original planning condition was for the path. A decision on how to proceed will then be made.

ACTION: HARRY MCNAB TO ESTABLISH PLANNING CONDITION FOR PATH IMPROVEMENT

5.6 Stagecoach Bus Transport

Cllr Linda Clark commented on a recent meeting held with several Councillors, including Cllr Webster and herself, and Stagecoach to discuss the poor bus service provided in Aberdeenshire. Complaints include poor quality buses, breakdowns, bus drivers not accepting bicycles and bus drivers speeding past those waiting at rural bus stops. Cllr Linda Clark noted it was a constructive meeting and Stagecoach asks that if passengers have an issue they should write and complain with details of the incident.

5.7 Other

Cllr Linda Clark advised the meeting that funding of £12,000 had been raised for work in the Rose Garden in the Bellfield, beside the Health Centre.

6. Guest Speaker: Alison Ritchie, Banchory Community Action Plan Community Profile

Alison Ritchie of Community Learning and Development addressed the meeting on the latest draft of the Banchory Community Profile which will preface the Banchory Community Action Plan. The Community Profile provides statistical information on the demographics of Banchory, based on the most recent census of 2011, as well as a summary narrative and details of local facilities, community groups and road networks.

Community Councillors were asked to review the document and send any comments, suggestions or alterations to Alison Ritchie.

ACTION: ALL REVIEW COMMUNITY PROFILE AND FEEDBACK AS REQUIRED

7. Motion to 'Amend Item 4 Councillors' Report as Previously Adopted in the Minutes of October 2016'

Louise Cameron proposed a motion to amend item 4 Councillors' Report as previously adopted in the minutes of October 2016' being:

Under item 4.5 Health and Social Care Integrated Joint Board, we the Banchory Community Council acknowledge that Cllr Linda Clark is erroneously stated as being Chair of the Integrated Joint Board. The correct statement should read 'Cllr Linda Clark informed the meeting of her appointment as member of the Integrated Joint Board, which deals with health and social care.'

The motion was carried unanimously.

8. Approval of November Meeting's Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes of 14 November 2016 were proposed by David Milner and seconded by Eileen Durno.

Matters Arising

8.1 River Dee Radio

Mary Lennox informed the meeting that River Dee Radio had agreed to a future Banchory Community Council slot. This will be considered in detail in the future once both the Community Council and River Dee Radio are ready. In the meantime, if there is any topic the Community Council wish to broadcast widely then we are to contact River Dee Radio with the details.

8.2 Education Governance Review

As a comprehensive response is to be prepared by the Parents Council of Banchory Academy, it was agreed a response from Banchory Community Council would not add anything further.

8.3 Banchory Signage Project

Mary Lennox advised the meeting complaints had been received about the signage improvement recommendations exhibited in the Banchory Library, namely that it was poorly

laid out and difficult to read. These comments had been passed to John Aggasild, Banchory Signage Project, who had subsequently changed the layout.

9. Correspondence

Aberdeenshire Sports Council Awards

It was agreed that as nomination requests for the Aberdeenshire Sports Council Awards were widely circulated throughout the community, no action from Banchory Community Council was required.

Banchory Signage: Information Panels on Bridge Street near River Dee

Louise Cameron asked the meeting to consider an email request from Lizzy Shepherd, Marr Area Office, regarding the replacement of information panels on Bridge Street near the River Dee. The Community Council and Banchory Path Association were involved in installing the original two panels, now weathered and faded, which the Banchory Signage Project wish to replace with one single panel. A second panel detailing information on Pearl Mussels is to be installed.

After some discussion it was agreed that the Community Council wish to retain the current information and not condense it to one panel. Alternatives to be suggested are a three sided board or a flip chart design (similar to ones used at Aviemore). It was also thought to be excessive to have one panel dedicated to one topic, i.e. Pearl Mussels.

ACTION: MARY LENNOX TO ADVISE LIZZY SHEPHERD OF BCC VIEWS

Path Obstruction on Inchmarlo Road

Louise Cameron reminded the meeting of an email from Aberdeenshire Council's Outdoor Access Planner regarding a way leave on Inchmarlo Road. The Community Council had been asked for comments on the use of a way leave between houses Lysham and Darac opposite the Tor na coille which had recently been blocked with locked gates.

After discussion it was agreed that the way leave had been relatively well used for a considerable amount of time.

ACTION: LOUISE CAMERON TO ADVISE ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL OF BCC VIEW

Aberdeenshire Budget Engagement

Louise Cameron reminded the meeting that Aberdeenshire Council are seeking feedback on proposals for the 2017-18 budget. The deadline for comments is 3 January 2017 and therefore it was agreed it would be difficult to collate a Community Council response. Louise Cameron agreed to establish if a Community Council response is required.

It was agreed to advertise the Budget Engagement on Facebook and Louise Cameron will try to obtain advertising material for the notice board.

ACTION: LOUISE CAMERON TO ASK FOR ADVERTISING MATERIAL AND ADD TO FACEBOOK

10. Overhanging Hedges

David Milner informed the meeting that he had been approached by a member of the public about overhanging hedges partially blocking pavements, particularly on the routes to school.

After some discussion it was agreed that the member of the public needed to establish more specific information such as an address and could then report it directly to Aberdeenshire Council through the 'report' option on the Aberdeenshire Council website.

ACTION: DAVID MILNER TO ADVISE MEMBER OF PUBLIC OF DIRECT REPORTING

11. Treasurer's Report

The treasurer reported a bank balance of £4,083.86.

This includes Mid Hill Wind Farm monies of £1,000 which are to be paid to Banchory Sports Village following their successful application.

The current bank balances for Youth 2000 accounts are £4,227.66 and £545.82.

12. Youth 2000 Project

Following the vandalism of the Youth 2000 project wooden huts in the Bellfield Park, Rebecca Glansbeek proposed a contractor is engaged to rectify the damage caused and the cost be met from monies in the Youth 2000 accounts.

All agreed and John Wills is to obtain quotes from two contractors, for both a repair of the damage and repaint of the whole structure. The option of anti graffiti paint is to be considered.

ACTION: JOHN WILLS TO OBTAIN CONTRACTOR QUOTES

13. Mid Hill Wind Farm

Changes proposed to the guidelines and application forms resulting from a recent review were agreed by the Community Council.

After discussion it was agreed the sub-committee undertaking the initial review of applications would be made up of Community Councillors only.

ACTION: LOUISE CAMERON TO UPDATE GUIDELINES FOR SUB COMMITTEE CHANGE

14. Notice Board

Harry McNab reported that planning consent for a new notice board should be granted before the end of December.

Rebecca Glansbeek advised the meeting of the three design quotes received from Loftus Signs, being a standard like for like replacement at a cost of £1218; an L-shaped design with

one full notice board and the second board comprising of 'snap frames' at a cost of £1,500 and an L-shaped notice board comprising of two full boards for £2,000.

After discussion the design chosen was L-shaped with two full boards at a cost of £2000 (including VAT).

**ACTION: HARRY MCNAB TO ADVISE REBECCA GLANSBEEK WHEN PLANNING CONSENT GRANTED
REBECCA GLANSBEEK TO ADVISE LOFTUS SIGNS OF DESIGN CHOICE**

15. Banchory Community Action Plan

Mary Lennox informed the meeting that the Steering Group is continuing to work with the Marr Area Partnership on the draft action plan. The next meeting is scheduled for 10 January 2017.

16. Community Council Representatives

16.1 Planning

Nothing to report

16.2 Community Learning and Development

Although unable to attend, Nicola Kenyon sent a report on ongoing projects.

- Living with Your Teenager sessions were run in Banchory during November. These were well attended and covered topics such as online safety, drugs and alcohol and parenting styles and strategies. This course will run again later in the year.
- The Banchory Job Club continues to be held in Banchory Library on Tuesdays between 10am and noon.
- English Speakers of Other Languages classes run on a Wednesday evening 7pm-9pm. New learners are welcome and should contact the Community Centre if they are interested in attending.
- Early literacy parenting sessions have begun in the past couple of weeks with the reintroduction of story sacks as a means of encouraging parents to read to their children.

16.3 B.D.I

There have been no meetings and no date given for the AGM that had been scheduled for December. Louise Cameron is to contact BDI for details of AGM date.

ACTION: LOUISE CAMERON TO CONTACT BDI FOR AGM DATE

16.4 Banchory Sports Village (BSV)

Rebecca Glansbeek noted that fund raising plans are ongoing with £670,000 raised so far.

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

16.5 Banchory First Responders (Defibrillators)

Rebecca Glansbeek reported that although not offering 24 hours per day coverage, there are now 4 first responders in Banchory with another 2 joining later this month.

16.6 Community Safety Forum

As mentioned in the police report, a recent Winter Safety initiative run by Police Scotland and supported by the Marr Area Community Safety Forum was a success.

16.7 Banchory Community Sports Centre Stakeholders' Meeting

Mary Lennox reported that the plans are progressing.

17. Date / Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Monday 9 January 2017 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