

BANCHORY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Monday 13th March 2017

Banchory Academy Library

7.30pm

Present: Mary Lennox (Chair); Eileen Durno (Vice Chair) David Conroy; Harry McNab; Lynn McNab; John Wills; Sgt. Gary Garrow;

Officials: Cllr Jill Webster.

Apologies: David Milner, Louise Cameron, Vivika Kerridge, Rebecca Glansbeek, Nicola Kenyon, Cllr. Karen Clark, Cllr. Linda Clark.

Members of the Public: Russell Crichton.

1. Welcome and Apologies

Mary Lennox opened the meeting noted the apologies and welcomed all.

She explained that due to other pressures, the secretary will find it difficult to fulfil the role of minute taker. John Wills offered to take the minutes for the meeting and he and Harry McNab will share the duty till further notice.

2. Police Report

Sgt. Garry Garrow introduced himself as the replacement for Sgt. Willie Murdoch. He was not aware of any significant problems in the area, he reported a slight increase in drugs activity, shoplifting and vandalism. He also advised the meeting of Operation Ruby & Magpie, where criminals from Aberdeen and other areas visit Banchory looking for opportunistic situations, ie discovering unlocked doors to residencies and unlocked cars. A question was raised with Sgt. Garrow regarding parking in the town centre, he explained that this would be difficult to devote manpower to but that he would monitor the situation as best he could, the chair said she would advise residents of this. Re; Glen o' Dee hospital site, the chair asked Sgt. Garrow to follow up a proposed meeting on site safety. A resident had raised the legality of taxis parking in the Silverbank Playing Field car park, Cllr. Webster said she would raise this with the appropriate Council official.

3. Councillors Report

Cllr. Webster said there was a Marr Area Committee meeting on 7th March, at which a presentation was given by Craig Clements, informing those attending that there is a recognition of lack of funding for Banchory schools, Cllr. Webster had asked about "Plazzas" (open spaces) in the Academy. Cllr. Karen Clark had highlighted the need for work to be done on the building. Cllr. Webster advised the meeting that a plan needs to be put in place, the

chair asked if there was representation which could be made by BCC, in particular, the lack of dining room space, assembly room etc.

A site meeting took place at Roscobie Park with regard to a Tree Preservation Order, residents were concerned that they would not be preserved and that there was a need to review the TPO.

Cllr. Webster spoke of consultation on extending the 30mph limit at Raemoir Road. She also mentioned an imminent meeting about replacing the surgery. Also, that the previous week's Council meeting was broadcast live. A sign for the Sports Village is making progress as is the signage project in the village. There had been a meeting earlier in the day regarding a coat of arms for Banchory, the conclusion was that BCC wishes to do what the community wishes in this matter, proposals should come to BCC or perhaps Banchory Heritage Society.

The Chair asked if Cllr. Webster knew any more about a service point in Banchory, as the Council office no longer deals with cash. The Scheme of Establishment was discussed; if passed by Aberdeenshire Council, BCC will be required to have a minimum of eight members.

4. Guest Speaker

Russ Crichton addressed the meeting at this point, introducing himself as a skateboarder of some experience, he wished to inform the Community Council of his desire to, initially improve the present skateboard ramp in Banchory but ultimately, to replace it with something of a much higher standard. It would require around £3,000 to improve the present one but in the region of £200-£250k to replace it with what skateboarders want in Banchory. Russ has applied for several grants so far and there was some enthusiasm from Council members to advise him of fundholders who might be receptive to his proposals.

5. Approval of February's Minutes and Matters Arising

Proposed; Eileen Durno, seconded, John Wills.

Matters Arising

Platties; The Chair contacted Gavin Penman, the site has been inspected, erosion noted and Landscape Services may take on the maintenance.

6. Correspondence

Parking in the High Street and the Marr Area Forum came up earlier in the meeting, therefore no correspondence to discuss at this time.

7. Treasurer's Report

BCC Account – 28th February Balance £4,578.86

Changes to the account:

Deposit of £1.530 from Mid Hill Windfarm to River Dee Radio;

£35 for annual payment for Data Protection

Year2000 - £4,228.19; £5545.82

8. Youth 2000

John Wills received two quotes for the repainting of the shelters in Bellfield Park, the meeting advised John to give the work to the lower of the two quotes, shelters to be repainted with anti-graffiti paint at a cost of £1,224.00.

9. Notice Board

The new Community notice board opposite the Bellfield Home has now been erected by Lofthus Signs (this will be removed from the agenda forthwith) The treasurer requested that she be given permission to pay Lofthus Signs invoice. This was agreed.

10. Banchory Community Fund (Midhill Windfarm Benefit Fund)

The treasurer organised a photo opportunity to receive a cheque from officials of the Windfarm. Eileen informed the group that a poster would be created advertising the fund.

11. Banchory Community Action Plan

On 23rd March at Banchory West Church there will be an opportunity for the public to come and see the Banchory Community Action plan, and discuss it with officials from both Aberdeenshire Council, community groups and members of Banchory Action Plan Steering Group.

12. Community Resilience Plan

This matter is in regard to having plans in place in case of an emergency (Storm Frank etc) David Conroy is heading up a sub-committee to produce the plan, they are searching for an adequate shelter for this purpose, perhaps the Academy would suffice. Colin Gray, Emergency Planning Officer advised that it would require 6 to 8 hours before services were on the ground, therefore local action is vital.

13. Keith White Award

This award was revived last year and BCC are keen to continue it, it is awarded to a young person under 25 years of age who volunteers in the community, it is in the name of a former chairman of BCC, Keith White, who was also a member of Banchory Lions Club, hence the joint award by the two organisations of £100 each. We will encourage local groups to nominate individuals, John Wills said he would take on this task.

14. CC Representatives

Planning; Harry reported that since last meeting there has only been minor matters. The chair had representation from residents in Burnett Road regarding a development, the outcome of which is that the applicant has been given the benefit of the doubt.

Community learning and Development A report was sent in Nicola's absence, this was noted.

BDI: Their Board will meet on 27th March in No 1.

Sports Village; A report was sent in by Rebecca due to ill health,

Banchory First Responders; Nothing to report.

Community Safety Forum; Eileen Durno had e-mailed Roddy Lees, Banchory Station Manager, asking him to attend a BCC meeting but he cannot manage, however, he forwarded the request to Colin Westwood, Marr Station Manager, who has agreed to attend the BCC meeting on 8th May, he is also happy to give us regular updates for our meetings.

15. Date/ place of next meeting

Monday 10th April 2017

Banchory Academy Library

7.30pm

Banchory Community Council will hold their AGM on May 8th at 7pm and carry on with ordinary business at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.