

Burghead and Cummingston Community Council



Minute of regular meeting held at Burghead Harbour Office on Thursday 5th November 2015

Present: Billy Davidson, Jim Patterson, Mollie Fraser, Gilbert Farquhar, Jennifer Walker, Les Taylor, Kelly Croudace, Joan Megson, Hilary Gloyer

In attendance: Councillor Dennis Slater

Apologies: Tim Betts Community Warden, Police Scotland, Councillor Chris Tuke, Councillor John Lowe, John Gordon

Adoption of minute of previous meeting

Proposed by: Mollie Fraser

Seconded by: Gilbert Farquhar

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.30 and congratulated Councillor Dennis Slater on his election and welcomed him to the meeting.

Community Warden Report

Attached. There was discussion about what could be done about dog-fouling and in particular about a wheelchair-bound resident who is unable to pick up after her dog. Councillor Slater will speak to the Community Warden.

Police Report

Between 1 October and 4 November, four crimes in the Burghead and Cummingston area were reported to Police. Presently, one of these crimes has been detected. Lines of enquiry are being pursued for the others.

Overnight Wednesday 7 into Thursday 8 October, a black and white 50cc motorcycle was stolen from McDonald Crescent where it was parked on the street. The motorcycle has been recovered, but was damaged.

A polytunnel located within a garden of a house in Cummingston was slashed overnight Saturday 10 into Sunday 11 October.

During the night of Thursday 22 into Friday 23 October, four work vans parked in various streets in Burghead were broken into. Power tools and other items were stolen. Residents are reminded to remove valuable items from vehicles.

Anyone with any information on the incident mentioned above and any crimes in the Lossiemouth Policing Area is asked to contact Police Scotland on 101, Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or call in person at the Lossiemouth Police Office.

Nightshift patrols in the Lossiemouth and Burghead areas continue and residents are encouraged to immediately report any suspicious persons or vehicles, particularly in rural locations.

Bus Stops

The Chair updated Councillor Slater about the Fraser Road bus stops. There followed discussion about the proposed changes to the Grant Street bus stops. There was a letter of objection from the owners of the Post Office, with which members had sympathy, and various options were put forward. Les Taylor suggested having a meeting on site with Moray Council Transport Manager, the Senior Roads Engineer and concerned residents to see if the matter could be resolved to everyone's satisfaction. The Chair will contact the people concerned and arrange this.

War Memorial

Les Taylor had found a War Memorials Trust site which had money and supported projects all over Scotland. The Chair to make contact with them with a view to the Community Council taking responsibility for the necessary repairs.

Moray Coast Tourist Leaflet

Hilary Gloyer gave the Treasurer a receipt for the £50 donation towards the leaflet and thanked the Council for the grant.

Any Other Competent Business

Les Taylor had heard that Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire and Moray Police were to become a separate entity within Police Scotland. Councillor Slater explained that they were unhappy with the "one size fits all" concept of Police Scotland and that they wanted to make a more localised force. Everyone agreed that it had been a waste of money to amalgamate the separate forces if they were now going to separate again.

He also felt that Community Councils should get together to report invasive non-native plant life.

He was also concerned about the moss and weeds on the streets and seafront wall and asked if that could be a project for the Community Service Order since Moray Council do not appear to be doing anything.

He also voiced concern about untidiness at the harbour with fishermen mending their nets and not clearing up after themselves. The Chair to speak to the Harbourmaster. Joan Megson had written a draft letter to Diageo to suggest that when they were moving their boundary to make more room for vehicles inside the complex, it would be a good opportunity to erect a nicer looking fence.

She reported on the Community Garden – a grant of £6,000 had been received from Diageo and members were meeting with the school and community groups to ask for their ideas and input.

With regard to the problem of dog fouling, it was suggested that ordinary green bins could be positioned in the Community Garden for depositing dog poo and these could be wheeled up for the Council collection on the appropriate days.

There followed discussion about replacing the recycling bins beside the car park on the seafront. Hilary Gloyer would write to Moray Council Cleansing Department about this possibility.

Hilary Gloyer showed the Council the photo book which the Headland Trust had put together about the Shetland Bus Memorial service, and which would be sent to all the main participants.

She also reported that the Harvest Reaper had been safely moved to her final berth on the back shore. She reported that some busybody had reported the Headland Trust to Historic Scotland for driving the steel stanchions into a Scheduled Ancient Monument site.

Billy Davidson was concerned about the litter of cigarette ends outside Broch House (the Commercial hotel) and about costs rising at the harbour.

Before closing the meeting at 9.15 the Chair led the Community Council in congratulating ATC Cadet Flight Sergeant Daniel Davidson on being awarded a Commandant's Certificate of Good Service.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 3rd December 2015 at 7.30pm.

To be held at the Harbour Office, Burghead