

Dyke Landward Community Council

Draft Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 1 March 2017 at 7.30pm in Dyke & District Community Hall

Present

Carol Shaw (Chair) (CAS), Alistair Sutherland (Vice-Chair) (AS), Steve Arkley (Treasurer) (SA), David Shaw (Secretary)(DS), Jane Foster (JF), John Bonsall (Youth Rep)(JB)

Apologies no apologies

In attendance

Cllr. Anne Skene (Cllr. AS), Debbie Heron of Forres Area Community Trust

2. Police Report

No police officer was available to attend the meeting.

The Community Safety Report for March was discussed. It was reported that in March a van had been keyed in Conicavel and that at an event in Dyke a youth had been found to be in possession of a small amount of a class B drug.

Overall the report highlighted break-ins to a number of properties in Moray. The police advise all public to be aware and to keep their homes and property secure.

2a. Forres Area Community Trust (FACT)

Debbie Heron gave a short presentation on the work of the Forres Area Community Trust, in this instance 'Forres area' being the catchment area of Forres Academy. Debbie described how FACT is a partnership trust run by local people and set up to make the area a better place to live, work and visit.

3. Public Session

No members of the public attended.

4. Minutes of Last Meeting

One amendment was requested by Cllr. Creswell who had noted that the time of 7:50pm should have been minuted as 19:50 rather than 17:50.

The minutes were then agreed to be a correct account of the meeting and were signed off by the Chair.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

CAS reported that she had received a written letter of resignation from Mr Arnold Boyle. Members of the CC were asked to try and think of someone who could be approached to replace him.

DS reported that he had tried to understand the Scottish Planning System Review and its associated feedback questionnaire. DS said that he found the whole difficult to interpret and that it did not seem to have a lot of relevance for DLCC. No response will be forthcoming from DLCC.

6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that the bank account now held £1,705.02.

7. Correspondence

The minutes of the latest JCC meeting had been previously circulated to members. There was little of direct interest to DLCC although it noted that a number of other CCs were disappointed in having no police presence at their meetings. Jane Martin has promised to speak to the Chief Inspector about this.

8. Scheme of Community Councils

DS presented a letter addressed to the Elections Office at TMC detailing the comments of the CC on the draft 2017 Scheme for Community Councils. This letter had previously been circulated to members and it was agreed that it was a satisfactory report on the opinion of the CC and that it could be sent out to TMC. *(An electronic copy of the letter was sent on the evening of 1 March with acknowledgement of receipt coming on the morning of 2 March.)*

9. Reports

Cllr. Anne Skene reported on the budget meeting of TMC. Now being allowed to raise Council Tax, TMC had agreed to raise this by the full 3% allowed across all tax bands. The Scottish Government had already raised the tax on bands E to H which would be in addition to the TMC 3%.

Cllr. AS has had meetings with John Swinney MSP regarding the schools situation in Moray. TMC are having difficulty in recruiting enough teachers and are currently 40 teachers short of requirement. In addition they are finding it very difficult to find suitable candidates to fill head teachers posts. In addition to the teacher shortage issues the overall poor condition of the school estate was discussed. Unfortunately TMC is not alone in having these issues and the MSP is hearing the same story from all authorities.

Cllr. AS advised that she is Chair of the Corporate Parenting Board which is committed to giving care to young people in care. An example was given in that all teenagers have problems as they grow up and that most can turn to parents for advice. Those in care require extra support to turn to and the Board aim to provide help.

Notice was given of the planned ending of the number 36 bus route from Elgin to Forres via Kinloss and Findhorn and serving the Health Centre. Whilst this does not directly affect DLCC it is of great concern to the Forres area in general.

The last meeting of this Moray Council will be at the end of March.

10. Planning Issues

Two planning applications have been received in the past month, one for a new house at Kintessack and the other for the relocation of a static caravan also in Kintessack.

10. AOCB

It was recognised that the Secretary was having difficulty in carrying out the role of Minutes Secretary whilst carrying out his duties as Secretary during meetings. Members were asked to consider anyone competent that they knew who might like to fill this position. A small remuneration might be available.

A small local business is promoting a scheme whereby they give a bunch of flowers each month to a local person who has been nominated as giving benefit to the community.

CAS advised that she had been in touch with Transport Scotland again regarding new signage at the road junction by Findhorn Bridge. She received no satisfactory reply and learned that the officer dealing with this was leaving at the end of the week. CAS is to continue pursuing this.

Following a query about the lack of 'countdown markers' leading to the Brodie 50mph zone Transport Scotland had replied that these were no longer a requirement. JF thought that the 50mph part of the Brodie sign might be more prominent than the new 50mph signs. This might be true, particularly after dark.

SA asked for information on sports grants available for training for a young person. Cllr. AS is to try and find out.

DS advised that following a request he had asked TMC to clear a flooding road gully in Dyke. All the gullies in the village were cleared a few days later.

DS advised that following a request he had asked TMC to clear a fallen tree from the road at Brodie. This had been done a few days later.

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting of DLCC

Wednesday, 5 April 2017 at 7:30pm, at Dyke & District Community Hall.