Strathisla Community Council

Minute of meeting held on 6 September 2017

Present: Keith Comrie (Chair), John Gelling (minutes), Priscilla Gordon-Duff,

James Mark, Karen Pryce-Iddon, Allison Marston.

In Attendance: Inspector Neil Campbell (part of meeting).

1 Welcome

Keith welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Apologies

Innes Macpherson, Jill Anderson.

3 Minute of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting were not available.

4 Police Matters

Inspector Campbell informed the meeting that there were currently no major concerns in the area.

5 Accounts

Bank balance currently stands at £2300.00. Karen has invoices outstanding. James has not received invoices for two items; John and Priscilla to will ensure that invoices for the roses and plaques are submitted as soon as possible.

6 Defibrillators

The meeting affirmed its intention to make a contribution towards providing a defibrillator for each of the Strathisla CC areas.

7 Broadband Update

It appears that super-fast broadband will not be coming to Mulben. Residents are now looking to link into the Orton community network.

The fibre link between Keith and Dufftown has recently been re-routed at Drummuir. Even though the link goes through the village, there is currently no possibility to access fast broadband in Drummuir.

Scot-Tel Gould have recently installed equipment to beam radio broadband to the Grange area. This will enable some residents of Grange to be connected to 20Mbps unlimited data (subject to reasonable use) broadband at a cost of £410 +vat per year. There is a one-off connection charge of £705.90 +vat.

Fast broadband is available in many areas through mobile phone networks. Connections using LTE routers (known as 4G) achieve download speeds from 15 to 75Mbps. Vodafone currently offer 50GB of data per month for £30. This would not be sufficient for many families particularly if they wanted to stream television or films.

8 Grange

Refurbishment of the toilets in King Memorial Hall has been completed at a cost of £27,447.14. Additional work to the exterior roof came to £2,211.60.

King Memorial Hall is one of the projects in the current Tesco Bags of Help scheme; customers can vote for which project receives funding using blue tokens when shopping.

A quiz night is being planned. Possibly for 28 October.

A Macmillan coffee morning will be held on 23 September.

There are plans to refurbish the floor and panelling in the front entrance of the hall.

Members of the Hall committee have been looking into the viability of getting a defibrillator for the community.

9 Rothiemay

The cycle event was a big success. The community provided food and drinks to participants and made £2500 profit. There was one incident of vandalism; a group of four young people set fire to a tarpaulin on the porch of The Lossat (a wooden community building). Fortunately the fire was extinguished before any serious damage was done. Police spoke to the young people involved.

9 Boharm

Mulben Hall will be getting a defibrillator.

Lock-block paving is being installed around the perimeter of the hall.

10 Botriphnie

The Drummuir Estate have identified possible sites to augment the cemetery. These sites need to be assessed for suitability by The Moray Council. James recently brought up the urgency of this issue with both Douglas Ross and Richard Lockhead.

The duck race was a success.

Priscilla will contact Donna Jamieson (Community Warden) to enquire about getting signs to request that people deal properly with dog fouling by their pets.

Footpaths, stiles, picnic tables, and signs installed by the wind farms need maintenance. Priscilla will investigate who is responsible for this.

The Community Counil would like to thank The Moray Council for repairing a hole in a footpath and for improving the road surface going past Drummuir Castle. There are still concerns regarding the state of the Gully Road.

11 Correspondence

Members are finding the quantity of emails overwhelming. There was a suggestion that Jill may be able to filter out messages that are not relevant. It was acknowledged that this would not be an easy task as everyone has different interests.

Edintore Wind Farm are to meet soon to review expenditure.

Innes will be coming off the Hill of Towie Community Benefit Fund committee. Keith will be replacing him.

12 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 1 November at 7.30pm. Jane Martin will attend.