

Burghead and Cummingston **Community Council**



**Minute of regular meeting held at Burghead Harbour Office
on Thursday, 7 December 2017**

Present: Billy Davidson (Chairman), Les Taylor, Jennifer Walker, Chris Tuke, Rosie Craig, Gilbert Farquhar, Kirsten Garstang, Abbey Main, Joan Megson, Jim Patterson.

Apologies: Moray Councillor James Allan

In Attendance: Moray Councillor John Cowe,
Moray Councillor Ryan Edwards,
Moray Councillor Amy Patience.

Adoption of minute of previous meeting:

Proposed by: Les Taylor

Seconded by: Gilbert Farquhar

Matters Arising

Defibs for Moray

Billy, Les & Chris were just finished meeting with Ken Glass from Defibs for Moray. They had toured the town suggesting suitable sites to locate the equipment. The housing needs a power supply to keep frost away and must not obstruct the roadway or pavement and is placed outdoors for 24-hour access.

Great thanks were expressed to the donors who had already offered some substantial sums allowing the first unit to be purchased within a month of the idea being made public. We received £500 from Grant & Evelyn Cormie from the Harbour Inn Charity Cycle Ride, £200 from Dan & Katie Ralph and £100 from Helen Ritchie at Burghead Beach Caravan Site raised at its Events Weekend. The donors of other very generous gifts requested anonymity on both their identities and the amounts given.

It is hoped to install several units across the Community Council Area.

There are already defibs in the Scotmid Store and the Surgery so sites were investigated away from these locations;

Harbour – Power available, separated from other units, useful in events offshore,

Harbour Inn – Pavement obstruction,

Post Office/Chemist – Too close to other units.

Church of Scotland – Side-mounting would cause obstruction and, it was considered that a large green and yellow box on the front would be inappropriate.

School – most likely target for vandalism,

Free Church Hall, wall to left of entrance door – deemed suitable,

Old Station Yard Community Garden – no power available,

Bowling Green Pavilion – too dark at nights and possible trip hazard with ditches,

Burghead Thistle – too remote at this time.

No suitable site could be identified in the White City/Sea School/Red Craig Area. If any householder would like to volunteer to host a box, it would be more than welcome. It may be possible to mount boxes on street light columns.

It was decided that the first unit would be sited at the Harbour and Chris Tuke would contact Duncan Brown, Moray Council Harbours Manager to request permission.

Abbey Main is to investigate the possibility of holding a Bag-Packing Event at Marks and Spencer to raise further funds.

We are around a half way to a second defib. Collection boxes are located in some of the shops & pubs. Donations can also be made directly at defibsformoray.com

Please annotate any donations to defibsformoray as 'Burghead' unless you wish otherwise.

Burghead Community Hall

Members of the Hall Committee were please with the fund-raising advice given at the previous meeting. Funds are now in place for the front face of the building to be pointed. Scaffolding is already in place and work is under way. Once all the external work is complete it will allow renovations to be started internally. A recent Tombola raised over £900.

Police Report/Community Safety Report

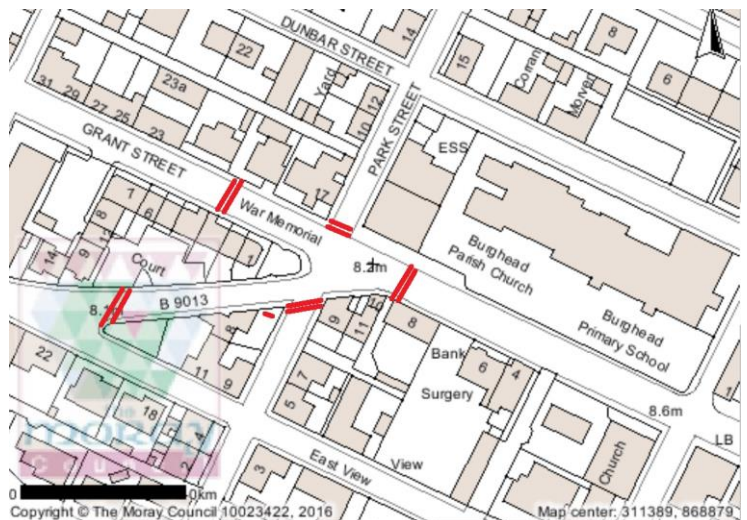
The Police Report has been replaced with a Community Safety Report. The 6-page, Moray-wide paper told that Burghead and Cummingston had 3 "issues that required a co-ordinated multi-agency approach" between April 2016 and March 2017 which was 0.79% of the 378 events across Moray. This was obviously statistically important to someone but gave no relevant information to the Community Council.

Cllr. Edwards confirmed that there would be no future Police presence at Community Council Meetings.

Remembrance Sunday

Comments had been received, by several members, that a number of motorists had driven through the crowd attending the annual wreath-laying ceremony even though alternative routes were available. Coincidentally, the Chairman had recently met with representatives of Moray Council Roads Department where he had raised the question of a temporary road closure.

All Members were in agreement that the Community Council should make an application for closure for next and subsequent years. The timing would be kept to an absolute minimum and would probably only be effective from 10:55am until 11:25am, or sooner should the ceremony finish before that time. Inbound traffic would be asked to turn left or right along Kinloss Street and then along Granary Street or Dunbar Street, respectively. Outbound traffic would follow the reverse route.



Cemetery Car Park

The 2 disabled parking bays have been marked adjacent to the pedestrian gate by the car park at the Cemetery. Thanks were expressed to Cllr. Cowe for arranging this. Cllr. Cowe also stated that the Criminal Justice Work Team would lay the path & Les Taylor was in discussion with a local builder who may be willing to donate slabs.

Tree at Grant Lane/Sellar Street

Billy Davidson informed the meeting that the Community Warden has made contact with the owner who has been instructed to trim it.

Harbour

It was noted that the Harbourmaster has retired. There is, currently, no replacement but the position is being advertised.

Future Plan

Since the previous meeting, Billy Davidson, Jim Patterson and Joan Megson had not had the opportunity to meet. They agreed to discuss matters before the next Meeting.

Antisocial Behaviour

There have been no further incidents near the Station Garage. However, youngsters had been seen climbing the scaffolding at the School and on one recent evening, the tractor tyres, used as play equipment in the yard, had been moved into the carriage way on Grant Street. Some comments, on Facebook suggested that this was “just kids having fun”. The Community Council took a different view and agreed that it was both dangerous and stupid. The Police were informed on both occasions and the Heras Fencing around the scaffolding had been made more secure.

Parking

Visitors to the Community Hall are reminded to park considerately. Please ensure that roads are not blocked and driveways are kept clear. There have been particular problems with drivers blocking access to the house opposite the side door in Sellar Street.

Traffic Safety

Cllr. Edwards had visited the lights down by the Roseisle Maltings Pumping Station as had Elaine Penny, Engineer (Traffic) at Moray Council. Neither thought that there would be any distraction to motorists and that road safety would not be affected. The Community Council agreed that no further action was required.

Clash Gour Wind Farm “Community Ownership”

Billy Davidson, Chris Tuke, Jim Patterson and Joan Megson attended a presentation, at Elgin College on 24 Nov 17, about opportunities for “Community Ownership” of wind turbines proposed to be erected South of Forres, at Clash Gour. Communities would be able to join together to raise funds to buy a partial share in the wind farm of up to 5% and to receive a similar portion of the profit. The event ran for around 4 hours with no definitive costs or rates of return given. The company’s preferred option would be for a single trust to be formed across the catchment area, which covers the whole of Moray and a smaller adjoining strip from Highland Local Authority area.

The next step in the process would be for community groups and/or individuals and, possibly, the Local Authority to sign a “Memorandum of Understanding”, (MOU). This document would, hopefully, provide more information. As there would be no risk or obligation, at this stage, it was agreed that no harm could be done by agreeing to become signatories to the MOU.

Joint Community Councils of Moray, (JCC)

Jim Patterson attended the recent JCC meeting where he was elected Vice-Chairman. Congratulation were expressed to Jim.

Harbour Shelter

No quotes have yet been received for the replacement window in the Harbour Shelter and it is now unlikely that any work will commence until the Spring.

Gilbert Farquhar informed the meeting that the Shelter-users had been successful in receiving a share of the Moray Marafun Fund organised by the Rotary Club. This would be used to replace the seat coverings. They now have their own bank account and are officially known as Burghead Harbour Shelter.

AOCB

Child/Youth Facilities

Jim Patterson referred to the previous item on anti-social behaviour and asked if there was a youth club or other facilities for young people in the area. It was said that there was a youth club, in the Community Hall, many years ago and that it is believed that the Council-run “Drop-in Centre”, at the Harbour Office is no longer operating. More recently, attempts were made, together with young people, to construct a skate park with several sites being investigated. Unfortunately, due to a combination of bureaucratic difficulties with the Council and the lack of adults to take the project forward, it was shelved. Also, table-tennis & badminton clubs had been started but both folded after around a year due to declining interest. Both churches host evening clubs but these are more tailored to younger children. There is also Boys Brigade and Brownies, (7-10 years old) in Burghead and older and younger Girl Guiding groups in Lossiemouth. Scout Troops meet in Hopeman and Kinloss, Sea Cadets in Elgin with Army Cadet Forces and Air Training Corps in both Elgin and Forres.

Water and Other Material Run-off at Cummingston

Jim Patterson stated that he had contacted SEPA regarding water, silt and other debris being carried down the Roseisle Road, (7 Towers Road), onto the B9040 through Cummingston, during heavy rains. He was also concerned that this run-off was now containing pig excrement. He was still awaiting an answer and would, hopefully visit their office, in person. Chris Tuke mentioned that SEPA’s attention, along with Moray Council’s Roads Department, should be brought to Section 99 of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984,

“The owner and the occupier of any land... shall prevent any flow of water or of filth, dirt or other offensive matter from, or any percolation of water through, the land onto the road.”

The Roads Authority has the power to serve notice on the land-owner to resolve the problem.

Unknown Invoice

The Secretary said that he had received an unrecognised invoice, for Burghead and Cummingston Community Council from Moray Council for the sum of £328.01. Kirsten Garstang, who works at Moray Council, said that she would investigate. It was agreed that no payment would be made until clarification had been obtained.

A Special Thanks

Kirsten Garstang asked if “the gentleman who picks up the litter” is given a Christmas Box. With the more stringent rules on Community Council spending, it was thought that this may be difficult. However, the Community Council united in offering a special thanks to Pdraig & Janet Glendinning and to any other responsible citizens who attempt to keep the place tidy despite the efforts of those less considerate.

Money for Moray

Cllr. Cowe noted that another, successful “participatory budgeting” event had been held where the general public vote on which projects receive funding from the public purse. Of local interest was Burghead Headland Trust which received £2,000 towards upgrading the lower level road along the Back Shore.

Station Yard Community Garden

Joan Megson said that the bonfire at the Station Yard had raised around £1,000 with some costs still to be deducted. Blessed with good weather and with many positive comments, it is highly likely that Burghead Amenities Association, (BAA), will organise a similar event next year. Thanks were expressed to BAA for an excellent evening.

Community Council Notice Board at Post Office

Chris Tuke said that during his first attempt to post the Community Council Minutes, on the notice board, the door had fallen off, the glass dropped out and the magnetic holders had scattered in the wind. It was noted that the board had been in an unsatisfactory state for some time and Billy Davidson agreed to contact a local joiner to arrange a more substantial replacement.

Containers at Harbour

Billy Davidson said that he had received a complaint from a resident that had applied to site a shipping container at the harbour and was disappointed that Moray Council Estates Department replied that “they were too busy”. Cllr. Cowe was to investigate.

Salt Bins

Questions were asked regarding salt bins. A specific request had been received for one on McKenzie Place. Cllr. Cowe asked that he be e-mail requirements.

In closing the meeting, the Chairman expressed his thanks to Les Taylor & Chris Tuke for their work on the defibrillator and to the members of Burghead Christmas Lights for another splendid display. He also wished everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Being no further business, the meeting was closed.

Date of next meeting Thursday 1st FEBRUARY 2018 at 7.30pm.

Chris Tuke
Minutes Secretary.

Copies of previous minutes and information regarding Burghead available on-line at:
The Moray Council Website www.moray.org > Community > Community Councils > Burghead and Cummington
http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_110610.html

Please use the Grampian Police number to report all non emergency issues.

0845 600 5 700

Community Warden - Tim Betts- 07800 670665

Tim.Betts@moray.gov.uk

If the police are not informed of problems they cannot act and if crimes are not reported then there are implications with regard to police staffing levels.