
Minute of Meeting of Dufftown & District Community Council

Date: Tuesday 12th February 2019

Time: 7pm

Venue: Royal British Legion Dufftown

Chair: Jim Nicol

Attendees: Joan Nicol, Sarah Anderson, Angus Anderson, Anne Hodge, Cllr Louise Laing, Cllr Derek Ross

Visitors: Andy Harrold, Francis Cassie (part time), Barry Hodge (part time).

Apologies- none

1. **Police Update** - There is an abandoned car in Tinniver Street which has been reported to the police and the DVLA. Cllr Laing will contact Moray Council to get it removed.

Further to our request, police are indeed patrolling Tinniver Street and the park when they can. Jim has removed the reported glass and debris in the park.

The recent community safety report gives details on prevention of Vishing and Cyber Scams which would be of use to share on the DDCC Facebook page.

2. **Minutes of last meeting** – The minutes were accepted as a true representation of the meeting. Proposed Joan, Second Angus.

3. **Matters Arising** -

Cllr Wilson- We have as yet not received any acknowledgement of our letter to the Chief Executive of Moray Council. There has however been some mention that Cllr Wilson may be coming back to a more active role. If this is to be the case then the DDCC would be happy to welcome him along to meetings and for him to participate in the role to which he was elected. Sarah will send Cllr Wilson an email stating we would very much like to see him attend. We will wait to see if any involvement occurs and then review action if necessary.

Clock tower Plaque- Sarah informed organisers of our wish to see the unveiling in May. They have asked if we any thoughts on the ceremony itself.

The DDCC all thought a recital of Mary Symons poetry a good idea with a suitable local resident, school children or even a celebrity undertaking this. Sarah will get in touch with the organisers to relay this.

DDCC laptop - We now have the new laptop and Angus has spent time making sure it has everything we may need for DDCC use. The question of what to do with the old one was discussed. Sarah will contact Speyside Youth to see if they could put it to any use and if not, we will try and find a suitable charity to donate it to.

DDCC Logo - Jim has been liaising with a graphic designer and had the finished logo to present. This will be put up in the noticeboard and will be put into the next issue of the Speirins. It was discussed and agreed that the prize be a £20 token.

Cycle Routes- As discussed previously, the DDCA requires help with a cycle route leaflet. This help would take the form of the DDCC joining OSMA. To do this, we need to read and accept some lengthy documents. It was discussed that Sarah would do this when she is able rather than all community councillors doing so.

Speed Activated Cameras- The DDCA wishes to collaborate with local businesses to fund a speed activated sign in Dufftown to combat speeding. We have been asked to put pressure on Moray Council regarding this. The councillors present stated that if erected, they would most certainly be removed by Moray Council. This has happened in Rothies. This would be due to the fact that they have not been seen to be effective if they are permanent fixtures. It was then discussed that the one in Craigellachie does come and go. The one in Aberlour is permanent but is owned by Bear Scotland as the road is not managed by Moray Council. The Councillors did say they doubted if Moray Council would budge on this issue. Sarah will email Elaine Penny at Moray Council to clarify things and pass onto DDCA.

Parkmore Brae - There has been a reported accident in the recent bad weather resulting in somebody going over the side. This could potentially give weight to the argument that something still needs to be done here. The previous campaign was declined on the grounds it was not deemed dangerous so no measures needed to be taken. As has been previously discussed, we feel this is not the case as since the trees have been removed the chances of an incident occurring with even the most sensible driving have greatly increased. Angus will see if he can find out more about the recent accident and potentially get a letter of support. Sarah will then contact Ken Major and let him know the details.

Bin Calendars – Jim has been in touch with Moray Council to get bin calendars printed for the notice board. There are apparently three different collection routes in Dufftown and you need to print these out using post codes. We will need to find out a post code for each route and print them for the collection days in question. There is also the question of getting Moray Council's permission to get the public bins cleaned. Cllr Laing will help with both these issues.

Finally it was mentioned that recently bins collections have changed with different trucks collecting different bins at different times of the day. It is therefore important for bins to be left out all day to ensure they are emptied. We will pass this information on to residents.

Corsemaul Drive Rubbish - Although some rubbish has been removed, a substantial amount of rubbish still remains. The barrier that had been erected is being moved and people have been heard at night inside the part built empty property. The noises coming from the property indicate that its contents are being stripped. During recent high winds debris has also fallen off the building. The residents are not happy that this issue has still not been sorted after a year of trying.

Previously Cllr Laing had got this on the agenda to sort out an enforcement notice but as the area clean-up had started and the rubbish level deemed reasonable, this was not issued. The residents are still not happy with the so called "temporary" shipping container still being there after 7 years. They feel if it had been in Elgin then it would have been sorted sooner.

Cllr Laing asked what they would like her to do now on the issue. They would like something in writing from the planning officer stating why what is left is reasonable along with any legislation these decisions are made under. If possible, a meeting with a council official to explain things too. Cllr Laing will try and sort this if she can.

Angus also pointed out that it may not be in Moray Council's power to get anything sorted i.e. if the legislation is controlled by either the Scottish Parliament or Westminster and not the local authority.

Finally it was noted that residents must report any criminal activity immediately to the police.

Lighting – Various street lights are out in Dufftown Square, Church Street and near the Stuart Arms. There is a Christmas light still coming on outside the old Post Office and the light at the Council depot on the A920 is permanently on. Jim will advise Cllr Ross of the numbers of the lights out and Cllr Ross will report all these issues to the council.

Flag- The Clock tower flag is now very worn and needs to be replaced again. We are aware that Dufftown 2000 has a flag so we just need to find out when it can be put up. The DDCA has access to the tower so Sarah will contact them about this. Andy Harrold mentioned you can get flags with tails at the ends to secure them and help prevent excessive wear occurring.

Potholes - There are numerous potholes around the area. It is important that these are reported to Moray Council to get them filled asap. It was mentioned that they could be marked with cones to warn motorists however, this would not work as they would get knocked over or blown away. There is apparently a very large pothole on the Craigellachie-Dufftown road that has been reported but not filled as yet. Cllr Ross will chase this up.

Proposed Cuts- Specifically cuts to library and public toilets in Dufftown were discussed. Jim was in possession of the latest information from Moray Council Chief Executive. In short it states that the library will not close but will have reduced hours. Cllr Laing did state that it does look like the toilets will close. Obviously there are options for these to be taken over. Cllr Laing will find out what cost are involved.

Parking Problems in Louise Street - Parking opposite a disabled place in Louise St is causing problems. It means traffic is having to reverse up the road. We will have a look at the road layout and Cllr Ross will look into this.

Tinninver Park Hut. – A cage has been put up around the hut in Tinninver park. It is not known who put this up or why and if it is permanent. There has been talk of the hut being removed due to the rubbish and the young people who meet there. It was discussed that the hut should stay as it is thought problems will move elsewhere. There has already been vandalism at the Cabin.

4. Correspondence –

Cllr Ross had forwarded email correspondence from a visitor to Dufftown. It is in regard to Isla Way signage. It is unclear who is responsible for this and it appears that different information appears on different websites. Sarah will reply to the original correspondent.

Posters from Outfit Moray and Speyside Youth have been received for inclusion onto the noticeboard and the DDCC Facebook page. These were agreed by all.

The Citizens Advice Bureau in Elgin is asking for a short 4 question survey to gain support for its community asset transfer request. We will put this on the Facebook page.

5. Treasurer's Report- Current account balance stands at £951.57.

6. Community Feedback – Andy Harrold enquired about the cycle repair station he thought was going to be placed in the area around the Clocktower. Sarah stated that this had previously been mentioned in correspondence from DDCA. Cllr Laing is happy to find out about this if she receives some information. Sarah will pass on what we have.

7. Reports

Local Councillors- Both Cllr Laing and Cllr Ross discussed the budget. Cllr Laing discussed a recent litter picking event with the organiser making plans for developing this further.

8. Planning Issues – None. Angus pointed out that there have been some posts recently on Facebook about housing developments in Dufftown which

have received unfavourable comments. Cllr Laing stated that this was to do with the Moray local development housing plan with models of potential sites for houses not actual planned builds. No plans are in place or permission given at present.

- 9. The Joint Community Councils of Moray** - The JCC meet is this Thursday and unfortunately no members are able to attend. Sarah will send apologies. We hope to be able to find a representative available for the May meeting on the 9th.

- 10. AOCB-** Nothing further has been received from our correspondence with both Moray Council regarding the Low Rd signage or Stagecoach regarding bus service updates.

The DDCC organised last year's Dufftown Spring clean-up although traditionally this had done by the CA. The DDCA will be arranging this year's which will probably be in April and details will follow once things are arranged. DDCC will be happy to help.

Forthcoming meeting dates for the 2019 DDCC were agreed and Sarah will send to Jane Martin.

- 11. Date, time and venue of next meeting** - Tuesday 5th March 7pm at the Legion.