

Dyke Landward Community Council
Draft Minutes of Meeting
Wednesday 5 June 2019 at 7.30pm
in Dyke & District Village Hall

Present: Steve Arkley (Chair & Treasurer) (SA), Maeve Lewis (Secretary) (ML), Jane Foster (JF), Jackie Davidson (JD), Tom Lewis (TL)

Apologies: Carl Wright, Cllr Feaver

In attendance: Cllr Alexander

1. **Welcome:** SA welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Police Update/Report/Community Safety Report**
No police officer attended. The Community Safety Report for April and May had been received. SA mentioned the Community Asset Register, operated by the Fire Service, which is highlighted in the report and is worth a look. TL mentioned the spate of burglaries at several farms in the north east of Scotland where agricultural chemicals, feed and tools were stolen, as reported in the press.
3. **Public Session**
No public attended.
4. **Minutes of Last Meeting**
The Minutes of the meeting on 1 May 2019 were approved. They were proposed by JF and seconded by JD.
5. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**
 - (a) Open Day – TL reported that the Open Day went well and Jane Martin had provided some leaflets outlining the role of the community council.
 - (b) Defibrillator – Ken Glass, from Defibs for Moray, gave an excellent talk and demonstration about the defibrillator. Thanks were extended to JD for getting the plaque and TL for putting it up.
 - (c) Forres Police - SA had met Inspector McPhail who was very amenable and another formal meeting will be held in due course. She had also been sent a copy of the Resilience Plan.
 - (d) Car parking – JF said she had put a note on the church website and Facebook page asking church goers to park considerately and use the car park.
6. **Treasurer's Report**
Bank balance - £1,977.36 made up of £935.36 in administration account and £1,042 in the reserve account.
7. **Correspondence**
All relevant emails had been circulated. SA had recently received a letter about VE Day celebrations from 8-20 May 2020. To be discussed at the next meeting.
SA had not been able to attend the Meet your MP event held by Douglas Ross but forwarded the summary of the event to all.
Carol Shaw had contacted DLCC about a campaign to ban the release of balloons and sky lanterns. Cllr Alexander said that it had been discussed at the Moray Council and he expects something to be announced at a meeting soon.
8. **Reports –**
 - (a) Local Councillors - Cllr Alexander gave an update on TMC's policy on grass cutting. TMC are still cutting big parks and amenity areas in council housing developments. TL said

that Moray derives a lot of its income from tourism. ML agreed and said that seeing unkept grass on driving into Forres, for example, was not a good advertisement. SA said it was a shame that money from windfarms could not be used. Cllr Alexander said that TMC would like local groups to take over the running of things like cutting the grass, taking it away from the Council, and then those groups could apply for grants.

- (b) JCC Meeting – TL had attended and one of the main discussions had also been about grass cutting, trying to see what options were possible, such as volunteers accessing machinery for instance, but no conclusions were reached.
- (c) Meeting about wildfires – SA and JD attended a public meeting organised by Richard Lochhead which had been very well attended. It was felt that the impact of climate change and the management of moorland were all contributory factors to the fires. One issue raised was that some fire hydrants had not worked in Dallas.

9. Planning Issues – Nothing to report.

10. AOCB

- JF mentioned that road surface dressing would be taking place in Dyke in the coming weeks.
- ML said that the NTS were responsible for the pond at Brodie Castle. It is covered with weed at the moment and thankfully all wildlife appear to be coping. Water tests are ongoing but there are no issues with water quality at the minute. In the short term a boat will be bought to clear it and in the future it may be dredged.
- ML also mentioned concerns about the speed of traffic passing the pond where pedestrians crossed the road. Cllr Alexander suggested contacting TMC transport department to see if temporary speed signs could be put up.
- At the open day TL was told that there was giant hogweed growing on the Birnie Path. On visiting the area he also discovered that there was a lot growing on the land where the logging business was. He has been in contact with various agencies to see who can deal with it.
- While investigating the hogweed TL noted that the Birnie Path also needed repaired to make it more accessible and wondered if DLCC could apply for a grant to improve it. The burn itself is also very overgrown and may well cause a problem in the future.
- The area where the logging business was still has a container and some other bits on it. SA will advise Cllr Feaver that the owner has not returned the site to its existing state as stipulated.
- SA will bring DLCC's income and expenditure to the next meeting further to a query TL had about how the grant is spent.

11. Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting

Wednesday 7 August 2019 at 7.30pm in Dyke Village Hall.