



## **Minute of Meeting of Cullen & Deskford Community Council**

**Date:** Tuesday, 20 August 2019

**Time:** 7.00 pm

**Venue:** Cullen Residential and Resource Centre

**Members in attendance:**

Stewart Back (Chair)

Colin Burch

Steve Horrocks (Secretary)

Phil Lovegrove (Treasurer)

Stan Slater

Lizabeth Williamson

**Councillors:** Theresa Coull, Donald Gatt

**Attendees:** Bruce Edelston, Ally Muir, Dennis Paterson

### **1 Opening of meeting:**

Stewart opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

### **2 Apologies**

There were apologies from Ron Shepherd and Police Scotland.

### **3 Outside Agencies Presentations**

None.

### **4. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted having been proposed by Liz and seconded by Steve.

### **5. Matters Arising**

#### **Viaduct**

Theresa said that she was not aware of the report having been received by Moray Council (MC).

#### **Flowers on Grass Verges**

Bruce had previously circulated information about sowing wild flowers on grass verges. He said that the Cullen Community Allotment Association (CCAA) were going to experiment in Spring 2020 by sowing seeds on the verge of the Cullen to Lintmill road between the Grand Entry and the entrance to the allotments.

#### **Cullen/Portsoy Pathway**

A meeting of CDCC, Portsoy CC, Sandend Hall Association, Fordyce CC and Sandend CC will be held at 1930 on Tuesday 3 September at the Station Hotel, Portsoy.



#### **Lifebelts at Cullen Beach**

One of the lifebelts had recently been damaged by fire and when this had been reported to MC, they said it was not their responsibility because it was not a MC lifebelt. Stan said that it would have been a Grampian Council lifebelt and that when MC was formed, they took over responsibility for the functions and assets of Grampian Council. Theresa would speak to MC about this again. **Action:-TC**

#### **6. Councillors Reports**

Theresa said that discussions were ongoing to find savings of £10million for next year's budget. Donald had been involved in meetings about celebrations for VE and VJ days and meetings relating to closer scrutiny of MC actions and procedures with a view to identifying areas for improvement.

#### **7. Treasurer's Report**

In his report Phil said that there was £2671.61 in the Fundraising Account and £135.44 in the Admin Account. A Direct Debit payment of £35 to the Information Control Officer in respect of General Data Protection Regulations had been taken twice. Steve was dealing with that matter. **Action:-SH**

#### **8. Correspondence**

##### **Brexit**

An email had been received enquiring about the officer at MC with Brexit preparations in their remit. Stewart had found out that MC had established a Task Force to look at this issue and had replied to the email.

##### **Food Growing Strategy**

Bruce said that MC had circulated a draft document about a Food Growing Strategy for the area. MC wants to encourage individuals to grow food for their own consumption. Theresa said the strategy was in the initial stages and MC was trying to identify areas where this could be done.

##### **Long Term Forest Plan**

On 2 August, Seafeld Estates had advised that they are in the process of preparing a Long Term Forest Plan (LTFP) for the woodlands within their ownership. Part of the process is the identification and analysis of constraints and opportunities and how these may be developed allowing the adaptation of appropriate management proposals. Stewart was in contact with them.

##### **Unacceptable Behaviour Policy**

A document detailing procedures to be followed by Community Councils in the event of unacceptable behaviour had been received from Jane Martin of MC. Its contents had been noted and retained on the CDCC computer.



#### **Heritage Group**

On 18 August, the Heritage Group emailed. They have now signed a long term lease for the lower part of the Town Hall and intend to apply for funding for such features as display areas and an environmentally controlled storeroom for artefacts. They asked if CDCC could provide letters of support in their efforts to obtain funding and Museum Accreditation. It was agreed that CDCC should visit the premises so that we are fully aware of their plans.

#### **Offshore Windfarm**

Roger McMichael of Moray West Offshore Wind Farm had notified CDCC by email that the results of this summer's Contracts for Difference auction would be known by mid-September. Stewart suggested that Roger could attend our November meeting which would hopefully be held in Deskford.

### **9. AOCB**

#### **School Crossing**

Stewart said that we were waiting to hear from MC regarding suitable locations for a zebra or pelican crossing of Seafield Street. Theresa would progress this. Ally Muir said that now there was no School Crossing Patrol, there was real concern regarding the danger to school children crossing Seafield Street. Stewart suggested that a public meeting might be helpful once we knew the possible locations. He would discuss the matter with the Head Teacher. **Action:- TC & SB**

#### **Logie Playpark**

Stewart spoke about the poor condition of some of the equipment and asked about the annual survey. The expected result would be that some of the equipment would be condemned and removed. Theresa suggested contacting Michelle Good of MC Third Sector Initiative who would advise on funding avenues. Stewart would progress this. **Action:- SB**

#### **Grass Cutting at Logie Park**

Dorothy Shepherd has offered to help to organise a coffee morning to raise funds for CDCC who were having to pay MC to cut the grass at Logie Park which belongs to MC. Stewart and Stan would liaise regarding possible dates. **Action:- SB & SS**

#### **Swimming at Cullen Beach**

Liz said that beach users seemed to be unaware of the dangers of the currents particularly at the Portknockie end of the beach. A sign would be helpful. Stan said he would organise this. **Action:-SS**

#### **Litter/Rubbish Bins**

Liz said that Bins at the harbour and beach were again overflowing. Donald said he would progress this. **Action:- DG**



### **Grass Cutting**

Colin wished to record the appreciation of CDCC for those residents who were cutting grass verges in front of their houses.

### **Toilets**

Colin said that the Toilet Group had employed a new cleaner.

### **Town Centre Initiatives**

Colin advised that this matter was still being deliberated on by MC

### **Cullen Square**

Dennis spoke of continuing problems caused by youths in Cullen Square. He said that there was still a video camera in the Town Hall and it might be that the new owner would be prepared to allow this to be utilised.

### **Planters and Tubs**

Bruce said that better planning was required for the purchase of plants for next year. It was explained that the company who supplied the plans worked to a planned delivery date rather than offering a discount for early ordering. Comments from Bruce about better planning on a planting out date were taken on board but there was an acceptance that both delivery and planting out were weather dependent.

### **Millennium Wood**

Bruce then spoke about this area at the rear of the school and the possibility of transferring ownership as a community asset to The Three Kings Association. He would also consult with the CCAA to see if they would be prepared to help in its upkeep. Bruce asked Dennis Paterson if the Volunteer Group would be prepared to help. Dennis said that he was no longer in the Volunteer Group and referred Bruce to Stan who was now the Chairperson. Stan said that the Group had worked there previously and could do so again.

### **Street Furniture**

Stan spoke about the practice of some shops displaying wares and having tables and chairs for snacks etc. on the pavement. He said this could be a hazard, particularly to blind people. Dennis said that 4 years ago MC had warned businesses about this and the practice had stopped. It was suggested that having seats etc., on pavements was an attraction for tourists.

### **Disabled Ramp**

Stan said that progress was being made with MC.

## **10. Date, time and location of next meeting**

The next meeting would be on Tuesday 17 September at 1900.