

# Burghead and Cummington Community Council



**DRAFT Minutes of regular meeting held in Burghead Community Hall  
on Thursday 2 March 2023**

**Present:** Jim Patterson (JP) (Chairman), Abbey Main (AM), Liz McKnockiter (LM),  
Hannah Morris

**In Attendance:** Councillors: Bridget Mustard (BM), Neil Cameron (NC)

**Apologies:** Danielle Slater (DS), James Allan (JA), Joan Megson (JM)

**1. Police Update:** no representatives from Police Scotland were available to attend the meeting

**2. Minutes of Last Meeting:** The minutes were approved and adopted as a correct record of the meeting.

### **3. Matters Arising from minutes**

#### ***i. Closure of doctors' surgery:***

Mr Main reported on the continuing activity with respect to the future of the Burghead and Hopeman branch surgeries of the Moray Coast Medical Practice, reminding the meeting that the MIJB had amended the original recommendation to permanently shut both surgeries, instead approving their closure for the foreseeable future with a review planned to take place in six months. Efforts were being made to involve the local MP and MSP in the Save our Surgeries group and to lend their support to the campaign to keep both surgeries open.

The next step would be to organise public meetings to consult with the local communities on how to progress the campaign and maintain pressure on the MJIB. These were planned for 9 March in Burghead and 10 March in Hopeman and, dependent on the outcomes of these meetings, a march to protest the planned closure of the surgeries would be considered for 13 May. Mr Main would lead on the organisation of this, including liaison with the Police as required, and organising First Aid facilities and a pipe band. Local press, radio and television would be invited to attend, as would local councillors and MP/MSPs to maximise the publicity value of the event.

#### ***ii. Path and steps at Headland:***

A work order had been requested some time ago to get a survey done as part of the quote for any repairs deemed necessary to make safe the access for the public at all times. There was no update to report

#### ***iii Caravan parked to the North of Maltings***

The caravan had been removed, and the rubbish which had been left behind had now been cleared. The meeting discussed how to prevent any recurrence of the nuisance created by this incident, but it was agreed that as this was private land there were only limited options available. It was noted that purchase of the land, should the owner be amenable, could be considered as a use for the Amenities Fund at some point in the future.

## **5. Correspondence Received**

- (i) Notification of the Spring Clean Scotland 2023 initiative had been received. The Chair proposed that the beach at Burghead would be a good location for the local community to participate in this, and advised that Ms Megson had offered to organise this event. It was noted it would be important to do a risk assessment before this was carried out and to make available appropriate PPE equipment in light of the ongoing outbreak of avian flu affecting the local sea bird population.
- (ii) Burghead Harbour meeting: the Chair reminded the councillors that all coastal ward councillors are de facto members of their respective Harbour Advisory Committee which in this instance was the combined Burghead and Hopeman Committee. Meetings are held quarterly, and councillors would be advised of the forthcoming dates. Mr Main asked if the next meeting could consider when a dredger would be made available for the Burghead Harbour. It was also proposed that the subject of the ramp and promenade should also be raised at the next meeting.
- (iii) Community Learning and Development Team: an update had been provided to the Chair on the Team's activities. These including working with local youth clubs.
- (iv) 50 years of the Moray Community Councils: an initiative was underway to celebrate this milestone ( it was noted that the Burghead Community Council had been in existence for slightly less than this), including sourcing stories from the community about the early days of the Councils to help promote their work and to gather support for their current activities. It was not clear at this stage whether there would be a virtual exhibition or if this might be in one of the local libraries.

## **6. Treasurers Report**

Due to ongoing delays with the Bank of Scotland, the changeover in the mandate to the new Treasurer had not yet been completed but efforts were underway to get this finalised as soon as possible.

## **6.Reports**

Councillor Cameron advised that the Moray Council would be making available £15,000 for each ward (in this case, Hebden) for applications for funding community projects, and that he would provide more detail on the application process to the Chair.

## **7. Planning Issues**

The meeting discussed the planning application currently lodged with the Moray Council in relation to the Millie Bothy. It was noted that following some unauthorised ground works in the area around the Bothy, including clearing a sizeable area of vegetation, an enforcement order had been issued by the Council to cease all work. It was noted that the Bothy was located in the Roseisle Forest which was an important environmental and recreational resource for the local community, that any attempts to create an access route through the Forest to the Bothy would inevitably have a detrimental effect on the viability of these resources.

## **10. Community Council Sub Group(s)**

### **i. The Joint Community Council (JCC) of Moray**

## ***Speeding in the Communities***

Following the last Joint Community Council (JCC) meeting it was agreed that it would be useful if the speeding in the communities Sub Group could be re-established as this is a problem in most areas of Moray and beyond, but this was yet to happen.

### **11. AOCB**

- (i) The Chair reminded the meeting that after careful consideration, he had decided to step down from the Chair position, but would continue as a Community Council member until the next election. Mr Main proposed that Ms McKnockiter be elected as Chair with immediate effect and this was seconded by Ms Morris. A vote followed, and Ms McKnockiter was elected unanimously. Ms McKnockiter accepted the position but notified the Committee that in the first instance she would agree to serve until September 2023, having a large number of other commitments within the Burghead community. It was noted that there are currently four vacant positions on the Council ( three from Burghead and one from Cummingston).
- (ii) Coronation Day: no events had yet been organised by the Council, and it was considered that the timescale to the actual Coronation Day was likely too short to be able to organise one now. It was thought that the Youth Club were planning a tea to celebrate the event.
- (iii) Parking in the entrance to the Community Gardens: there were now routinely a number of vehicles parked overnight in the entrance to the Community Gardens, and the Moray Council would be approached to see if a sign could be supplied to be erected in this location making it clear that this was not permitted.
- (iv) Facebook page: it was noted that the information on the Council page was now out of date, as was the information displayed in the Post Office, and this would be renewed.
- (v) Potholes: there were a large number of potholes on the road coming into Burghead which required attention. Councillor Cameron advised that an additional £300,000 have been committed to the Roads budget for the year within Moray, and that he would look into this matter.
- (vi) Recycling point: the Moray Council had been approached regarding the possibility of reinstating the Recycling Point. Response had been that with the kerb side recycling system in place, it was not envisaged that this would be reinstated at this time.

There being no other business, the Chair declared the meeting to be closed.

**Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting: 6 April 2023 7.30pm – 9.30pm in Burghead Community Hall.**

Secretary  
Rhona Sim

Copies of previous minutes and information regarding Burghead available on-line at:

The Moray Council Website [www.moray.gov.uk](http://www.moray.gov.uk) > Community > Community Councils > Burghead and Cummingston  
[http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray\\_standard/page\\_60801.html](http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_60801.html)

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

**101**

**Crimestoppers - 0800 555 111**

**Antisocial Behaviour - 01343 563134**  
**antisocialbehaviour@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.

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