

# **Strathisla Community Council**

## **Minutes of Meeting of Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2009**

**Present:** Rhona Patterson, Cllr Shepherd, Jenny Anderson, James Mark, Ian Ross, Wilma Robertson.

**Apologies:** David Mc William, Sgt Black, Constable Fraser, Alex Gordon-Duff, Cllr Coull, June Simpson, Cllr Murdoch, Cllr Cree, Cllr Paul, Keith Alderson.

**Welcome:** Rhona Patterson, Chairperson, welcomed those present but advised that in respect of districts and members there was not a quorum present. It was agreed that business would be discussed and that both the Minutes of 7<sup>th</sup> January and 4<sup>th</sup> March 2009 would require to be approved at the March meeting.

**Tribute:** The Chair advised Members of the death of ex Cllr Margaret Davidson who passed away on Saturday. The Chair paid tribute to the many activities and council work carried out by Mrs Davidson throughout her years at Rothiemay. The Chair is to send a sympathy card to Rev Alasdair Davidson on behalf of Strathisla Community Council.

**Minutes:** To be approved at the March Meeting. The Chair advised that it had been requested by the Moray Council that the attendance of Margaret Robson as a Den Community Representative at Strathisla Community Council Meetings should be recorded as 'in attendance'.

### **Standing Agenda Item**

The Chair advised that at the last meeting of the Joint Community Council a request was made to have Terrorism as an Agenda item at all Community Council Meetings.

### **1 - Police**

Sgt Black and Constable Fraser had submitted their apologies and had requested that any police matters raised should be forwarded for their attention.

**Telephone Costs:** Ian Ross raised the cost of phoning the police 0845 number. The inconsistency of costs was also discussed ranging from free BT calls, local call rate of 0845 numbers and mobile costs. The Chair is to ask at the forthcoming JCC Meeting if there is further clarification on standardised tariffs.

### **2 - Rothiemay**

#### **Land adjacent to Rothiemay War Memorial**

It had been reported at the previous meeting that the land had been put up for sale with planning. The Chair had offered to contact the Estates Department for clarification on the matter. The Chair advised that the Estates Department had confirmed that the ground was surplus to requirement but it had not yet been put on the market. The Chair further

advised that appropriate planning would be required and that there would be opportunity to object at that stage if the plans were not considered to be appropriate.

#### **Waterside Road**

Cllr Shepherd reported that he had visited the Waterside Road site at Rothiemay but has to confer with Cllr Cree on the matter.

**Action:** Cllr Shepherd to confer with Cllr Cree.

#### **Trees in Rothiemay Village**

Clarification was requested on the situation regarding the felling of tree that had been considered a danger to the public by a Rothiemay resident. The Chair confirmed that only one tree had been identified for felling by the Lands and Parks Department of the Moray Council.

#### **3 - The Den**

There was no representative present.

#### **Den Crescent**

Cllr Shepherd confirmed that the gardens identified as requiring attention in Den Crescent had been cleared satisfactorily.

#### **Caravan Site**

Cllr Shepherd confirmed that Cllr Cree had again approached the owner of the Caravan Site to tidy the grass verge and pavement and it is now hoped that this will be attended to in the near future.

#### **Travellers in Lorry Park**

It was confirmed that the travellers had now left the lorry park. The Chair advised Members that the Travellers Awareness Session is to be held on the morning of 24<sup>th</sup> April. Details to be advised at a later date.

#### **4 – Grange**

There was no representative present. The Chair again raised the issue of 20mph signs for schools. A proposal by Cllr MacDonald for 20mph signs for areas in Portknockie and Findochty and the approved 20mph area in Findhorn was discussed. The Chair strongly pointed out that the issue of 20mph signs for schools had been flagged up for years and that schools should be given priority over whole areas of villages. Cllr Shepherd advised that there are six schools, including Newmill and Crossroads, still to receive 20mph signs and gave an assurance that this would be carried out. Cllr Shepherd advised that a report is to be presented shortly that will clarify the situation of what has still to be done.

#### **5 – Boharm**

There was no representative present.

#### **Holl Croft Crash Barrier**

The Chair reported that she had spoken to Cllr Paul who had advised that even though the Councillors were asking questions on specific issues the answers were not getting back to the relevant Councillor. Cllr Paul had advised that a site meeting should be requested.

**Action: Letter to Chief Executive to request a site meeting.**

### **Popin Brae**

**Action: The Chair to contact Ron Wilson, Roads Design Manager, and Ralph Newlands, Bear, regarding dates of proposed road repair work.**

### **Rosarie - Access Road to Drummuir Wind Farm**

The Chair raised the issue of statutory right to be consulted on planning matters. Cllr Shepherd is to investigate the current situation and request detail on planning conditions attached.

**Action: Cllr Shepherd to investigate.**

### **6 – Botriphnie**

#### **Davieburn Road**

It was reported that there are holes in the Davieburn Road at Mossend Farm

**Action: Letter to Chief Executive.**

#### **Towie Bridge Crash Barrier**

Cllr Murdoch and Cllr Paul have advised of funding being approved to enable the work to be completed.

### **7 - Rural Keith and Newmill**

#### **Newmill Recycling Point**

The Chair asked the question why the bins were not emptied before Christmas. The Chair to contact Deborah Hockney to make her aware of the difficulties experienced due to the bins being full prior to Christmas. The notification of a change of service provider for textile recycling was also questioned where a Social Care Provider is being replaced by a Commercial Provider. Questions were asked why the Salvation Army was being replaced by Northern Textiles in March 2009, especially when the Salvation Army gives more to social care each year than the government. Lack of information available from the Moray Council on what percentage they are to receive from Northern Textiles was registered as a concern.

**Action: Chair to contact Council Department**

### **Correspondence**

#### **Homecoming Events**

Members were advised of Leader Funding that could be applied for to support suitable Homecoming Projects. Contact Pierre Masson, the Moray Council.

### **ACSS Meeting - 21<sup>st</sup> March 2009**

All parties Highland MSPs answer your questions. Approximate numbers by mid February requested.

**Action: Members to be emailed for response.**

### **Community Justice**

Members were reminded that projects can be assisted by the efforts of Community Justice Teams. Contact should be made with Mike McRitchie of the Community Justice Department.

### **Scottish Gas Central Heating Programme**

Funding can be applied for from a programme funded by the Scottish Government in conjunction with Scottish Gas. Alternative funding can be investigated through Scarf.

### **Grampian Police**

Tricia Maclean, Community Engagement Co-ordinator, has advised that the Community News pages can be accessed at [www.grampian.police.uk](http://www.grampian.police.uk). Comments should be emailed to [communityengagement@grampian.pnn.police.uk](mailto:communityengagement@grampian.pnn.police.uk) and any information regarding an incident can be reported on 0845 600 5700, text 07739 93 444, email [servicecentre@grampian.pnn.police.uk](mailto:servicecentre@grampian.pnn.police.uk) or anonymously contact the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

### **Forestry Commission Scotland**

Notification of possible sale of part of the National Forest Estate.

The Forestry Commission Scotland has advised of the possible sale of 'surplus land' and will further advise if the land is to become available for sale. The land is to be notified to other departments in the first place and if departments require the land it will be transferred to that department. The Community Council will have 28 days to advise if it is interested in the purchase of the land, then the land will be offered for sale on the open market. Plantations include Mannoeh, Hassiehillock, Bog Wood, Burnfield, Bartlach.

### **National Planning Framework**

The Chair had written to all MSPs on the Local Government and Communities Committee regarding the consultation process on the National Planning Framework but has received a response from the Snr Assistant Clerk to advise that it was too late to stop the process.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

**The next meeting of Strathisla Community Council is to be held on Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2009 at 7.30pm.**