

Strathisla Community Council

Minutes of Meeting of Wednesday, 3rd June, 2009

Present: Rhona Patterson, Cllr Murdoch, Cllr Cree, David McWilliam, June Simpson, Duncan Morrison, Ian Ross, Alex Gordon Duff, Keith Alderson, Jenny Anderson, Alastair Kennedy, Chair Joint Community Council.

In Attendance: Fiona Wallace, Wilma Robertson.

Apologies: Jane Macpherson, Innes Macpherson, James Mark, Margaret Robson, Cllr Coull, Cllr Shepherd, Cllr Paul, Sgt John Black.

Welcome: Rhona Patterson, Chairperson, welcomed all present and introduced Donna Jamieson, Community Warden, who was representing Sgt Black.

Minutes: The Minutes of Meeting of 6th May, 2009, having been circulated previous to the meeting, were approved by Alex Gordon Duff and seconded by Duncan Morrison.

Guest Speaker: Alan Campbell, Planning Forester, Moray and Aberdeenshire Forest District, was unable to attend but is to be contacted regarding attending the next meeting.

1 – Police

Caravan at Den Crescent

It was reported that a caravan has been parked at Den Crescent for a period of 4-5 weeks. A caravan that had previously been parked in the Den had been issued with a ticket to remove it by Laurie King, Moray Council Estate Manager. Cllr Cree agreed to discuss with Mr King.

Action: Cllr Cree to contact Laurie King, Moray Council Estate Manager

Old Den Road

It was reported that garden waste and concrete had been dumped half across the Old Den Road. Donna Jamieson advised that unless people were willing to go to court there was little that could be done by the police. A Fly Tipping Campaign by Moray Council advises the public of fixed penalties for fly tipping of £40 but offenders require to be caught in the act. It was proposed that the possibility of placing mobile covert cameras on the Old Den Road should be discussed with Andy Jamieson. Cllr Cree and Donna Jamieson agreed to speak to Andy Jamieson.

Action: Cllr Cree and Donna Jamieson, Community Warden to speak to Andy Jamieson

Quad Bikes at Newmill

It was reported that a Big Bear Quad Bike had been speeding up and down the lanes in Newmill. Donna Jamieson asked if anybody had phoned the police to report it. The police require to be advised when illegal activity is taking place so that they can take appropriate action. The issue of paying for calls made to the police was raised again but Cllr Cree advised that the public have always paid for calls to the police. Cllr Cree further advised that people should not be charged with an inclusive package.

2 – Terrorism Issues

The Chair reminded Members to report any perceived unusual activities to the police.

3 - Youth Issues

To be left until the new school term begins.

4 – Planning

Keith Caravan Site

It was reported that a Planning Application for Residential Caravans at the Keith Caravan Site was not registered. It was noted that it may be a departure from the Local Plan and if it is found to be a departure the Planning Application will have to be advertised. It was advised that if an application is now made then this would suspend any enforcement action until any dispute is resolved. The Chair is to liaise with Jane Martin, Chair of Keith Community Council, in regard to the Keith Local Plan.

Action: The Chair to contact Chair of Keith Community Council

Planning Application – Caravan Site, Glen of Newmill

The Chair advised that Outline Planning was in place for this site. Cllr Coull had advised that planning consent for the original property at this site had gone through in the same time. It was further advised that there was proof in the form of receipt of postage, that the neighbour notification had been posted and that the Post Office had attempted to deliver it. Cllr Cree confirmed that there would be opportunity to comment at the full planning stage.

Weekly Planning Application Lists

The Chair advised that the weekly lists that are circulated by email to Community Councillors comprise the full list of Registered Planning Applications.

The Delegated List is compiled once the decision is taken, if taken under delegated powers. This is also emailed weekly to Community Councillors.

5 – Botriphnie

Affordable Housing

Alex Gordon Duff advised of a Public Meeting to be held in the Drummuir Hall on Monday, 15th June, 2009 at 7.30pm. An invitation is extended to local people to ‘Come along and have your say’ and be advised on the proposed joint development by Langstane Housing Association and Drummuir Estate.

Mid Third Brae and Daveyburn Road

David McWilliam reported that both roads are in need of repair.

Access Road to Botriphnie Church

No progress to date. Alex Gordon Duff to contact interested parties to arrange meeting.

6 - Rural Keith and Newmill

Recycling Newmill

The Chair reported that the matter of placing large dome bins at Newmill was included in a programme of priorities. It was also reported that the cardboard bins were not emptied last Wednesday.

Clothing Recycling, Newmill

A further cheque for £27 had been received by the Newmill Community Association.

Hanging Baskets Newmill

The Chair advised that there had been no update from Grant Speed, Moray Council but he had previously advised that the council would not be able to provide any additional baskets than those historically provided. More and more communities were asking for assistance and the provision would require to be reviewed.

Action: The Chair to seek clarification from Grant Speed on future provision

Road Repairs Newmill

Cllr Coull had forwarded information that the work to repair the Quarrybrae had been completed on 8th December, 2009. Representatives from Newmill questioned whether the Quarrybrae had in fact been repaired or if there had been confusion with work carried out on the B9116 Crooksmill to Newmill Road. It was confirmed that the B9116 is due to be surfaced dressed in the next few weeks and Church Brae has been rescheduled for resurface in July. David McWilliam reiterated the importance of including a map when requesting repair work to be carried out.

Action: Chair and Ian Ross to clarify what work has been completed

21 – 37 Footway Newmill

It was advised that footway slurry sealing work is required at 21 – 37 Newmill and also at the Bus Stop in the Square.

Action: Cllr Cree to action

7 – Rothiemay

Waterside Road

Cllr Cree advised that he understood that Cllr Shepherd had visited Waterside Road but he will liaise with Keith Alderson in regard to a site visit.

Action: Cllr Cree to meet on site with Keith Alderson

8 - The Den

Tree – 72/74 Den Crescent

It was reported that a branch fell off a tree at 72/74 Den Crescent in the last storm and that the leaves make the path of a pensioner slippery. Cllr Cree agreed to inspect the situation and to get in touch with Grant Speed.

Action: Cllr Cree to inspect

9 – Grange

Signage at Crossroads School

Fiona Wallace advised of a meeting held on 26th May. Concerns had been expressed about children walking across the road from the Grammar School bus and the 60mph speed limit. A report had recommended 40mph for the road but fears were expressed that drivers do not recognise that they are driving past a school. Cllr Cree advised that he agreed with appropriate signage of high visibility that reminds the person who is driving of the presence of a school but also considered that the education of passengers to be of great importance. It was also advised that fund raising activities are currently taking place to raise funds for hardcore for the car park.

School Kitchen, Crossroads

Fiona Wallace reported that the school kitchen is to close on Tuesday, 23rd June, 2009. It was considered that consultation with the member of staff had not been acceptable and that the response date of 21st June, 2009 from the Complaints Manager left little time for negotiation. The kitchen is used when fund raising and at events and the School Council are to fight to retain the kitchen equipment.

Clothing Recycling Crossroads

It was reported that there is now a clothing recycling bin at Crossroads School.

Clothing Recycling Grange Hall

No money has been received to date but the information has been passed on to the Grange Hall Committee.

Grange Hall

Work is being carried out at the hall in order to improve exit visibility.

10 – Boharm

Holl Croft

No progress to date. No update available.

Popin Brae

Work on first stage now completed.

Ditch at Mulben

Ivan Augustus, Complaints Officer, has advised that he has exhausted the complaints procedure in respect of the complaint raised by Mr Bob Cowley. Mr Cowley has the option to contact the Public Service Ombudsman or the Council Insurers, Zurich Municipal.

Correspondence

Revoking of Community Councils

The Chair asked members to advise if they were aware of anybody who would be interested in becoming a Community Councillor.

Consultation on Staffing

The Members agreed with Option 1 where equal amounts of funding would be made available to all Community Councils. It was considered that far more information was required to carry out a meaningful consultation.

AOCB

Regeneration

The Chair gave a brief update on the Catching up with Keith Event. A bid has been submitted by Moray Council to the Town Centre Regeneration Fund (Scottish Gov) and Leader Funding has been applied for by KTAG through the Moray Towns Partnership to reprint the Keith Brochure and to produce Visitor Information Guides.

Attendance of Councillors

Cllr Murdoch raised the subject of attendance of Councillors and advised that she attended where possible but tried to spend considerable time with less organised groups. It was agreed that attendance from one Councillor from Speyside would be satisfactory.

Date of next Meeting

The next meeting of Strathisla Community Council is to be held on Wednesday, 1st July, 2009 at 7.30pm