

## PORTKNOCKIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF MEETING ON 9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2009

Present: Alan Beresford, Pearl Murray, Gladys McKenzie, Lil Urquhart, Helen Sammon, Angela Mair, Cllr. Ron Shepherd, Cllr. Gary Coull & Cllr. Stuart Cree.

#### **1. Apologies**

Karen Campbell and Cathleen Harper.

#### **2. Minutes**

Were proposed by Pearl and seconded by Gladys.

#### **3. Matters arising**

Alan thanked everyone who was able to attend at the War Memorial on Sunday.

The meeting that was to be arranged with Linda Adam, Community Support Worker from the Moray Council and 2 members of the Community Council has not been held as no suitable dates were available when both Alan and Karen could attend.

The Fisherman's Memorial restoration work has now been completed and the account settled.

The McBoyle Hall 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party has been organised for Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> November and everything is in hand with the organisation.

Vacant Council Houses – It was brought to the Councillors attention that the tenants of 15 Craigview Road have now swapped houses with someone. Cllr. Shepherd is to check that the Council are aware of this. The tenants of 4 Samson Place are now away abroad until Spring. The Council are checking on this but little can be done if the rent is being paid.

Christmas Tree – The Christmas tree will be lit on Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30 pm. Pearl has spoken to the parents of the youngest child, who is Tilly Osbourne. The Community Association will help with the refreshments.

Constitution – The new Constitution was proposed by Pearl and seconded by Lil and then duly signed by Alan, Pearl and Gladys.

#### **4. Police Matters**

No one has been caught yet for the vandalism at the Cemetery. The Moray Council are arranging to have the gravestones replaced. Alan will advise the Police about the parking on Admiralty Street again as the horse box has returned to the top of Admiralty Street. There is also an issue at the junction with Falconer Terrace.

**5. School Development**

Donald Duncan and Donnie McDonald of Moray Council are meeting up with the Parent Council on 12<sup>th</sup> November regarding the head teacher position. The Community Council are in favour of a shared head teacher with Findochty as it is very unlikely for both schools to get a Head Teacher. Cllr Gary Coull outlined the SNP group's opposition to shared headships and outlined various possible downsides, especially with regard to if you have a bad head teacher they'll drag down not one but two schools, that class sizes would rise and could make schools more vulnerable to closure merger. Alan added that we have to be very aware of shared headships being a trojan horse for closure of the school and the library, although we'd basically take any proposals as they come. Pearl reiterated that a shared head is better than a shared school

**6. Matters for Elected Members**

Alan thanked the Councillors for their help with regards to the vandalism at the Cemetery.

The Council budget was discussed and it was agreed that Pearl and Alan will go through the Budget Consultation in detail and return to the Council by the December, 16<sup>th</sup> deadline with the Community Council's comments. Cllr. Shepherd advised that all comments would be listened to.

**7. Correspondence**

Correspondence was discussed.

**8. Treasurer's Report**

Community Council - £583.80  
Knocker - £946.77

Pearl requested £100 from the Knocker to meet the cost of the Disco for the McBoyle Hall's 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party.

**9. AOCB**

We are to monitor the situation with the lady who breeds dogs who has moved into High Street. She has been seen out walking with 14 dogs at a time on a few occasions with none of them on leads.

Tesco – Alan is to look into what is happening regarding the £5,000 which Tesco promised to provide to each community if they received the go-ahead for the new Tesco in Buckie.

The Knocker – Bob has passed to Alan a memo with details of a lady who has expressed interest in taking over the Knocker. The lady is a Simone Balmbra who works in the IT Department of Moray Council. The final Knocker is due out in December and we will wait and discuss things with Bob once he returns from Italy. It was agreed that Bob, Harry and Margaret should each receive a gift for all the hard work they have put into

the Knocker over the years and it was agreed that they will each be given a copy of the 'I love Banffshire' book by Claire Russell. Karen will arrange to invite all 3 of them to the January Community Council meeting.

**10.** Alan closed the meeting at 8.10 pm.

The next meeting will be at 7.00 pm on 14<sup>th</sup> December in the library.