

Burghead and Cummington Community Council

Minute of regular meeting held at Burghead Harbour Office on 4th February 2010

Present: John Gordon (Chair), Molly Fraser, Alistair Mackenzie J Patterson, J Main, J McCourt, W Davidson

In Attendance: Councillors Alan Wright and David Stewart, Constable Roy Thompson

Apologies: Chris Tuke, Jennifer Walker

John Gordon opened the meeting at 7.30 pm and welcomed all those in attendance. In the absence of any volunteers to take a minute of the meeting, it was agreed that John Main would take the chair and that John Gordon would take the minute.

Adoption of minute previous meeting

Proposed by: M Fraser **Seconded by:** J Patterson

Police Report

Current Crime figures

Constable Thompson advised that there had been a marked decrease in the instances of reported crimes within the community over the previous two months and that the crime rate remained very low.

Terrorism

Constable Thompson asked the community to be aware that a high risk of terrorism existed within the region and asked that members of the public be vigilant and to report any suspicious circumstances to the police.

Custody visitor scheme

Constable Thompson confirmed that there were vacancies for volunteers from members of the public to carry out unannounced visits to places of custody to speak to detainees in order to ascertain that they were being treated fairly. He said that any such volunteers would be escorted by a member of the custodial staff at all times and that their personal safety would not be compromised at any time. A poster giving contact details for anyone wishing to participate in this scheme is displayed on the Library window notice board.

He also advised that the new custody suite at Elgin Police Station was up and running and the modern facilities it provided for the staff and inmates were a welcome improvement to the dilapidated and draconian facility it replaced.

Clavie

Constable Thompson advised that the lack of insurance covering this event was a concern. He said that although the police force continued to allocate officers to the event, their role was to control the spectators and the traffic on the streets, and that they were reviewing their sanctioning of the event which they considered had a high element of risk of injury to members of the public.

William Davidson was asked, as a current member of the Clavie Crew, to ask that the Clavie Crew give this matter their careful consideration prior to next year's event.

Matters Arising From Previous Meeting

Planning application to erect a wind turbine at Rowanlea, Cummington

It was the view of the members that having objected to the original application that there was insufficient change to the new application to warrant their support of the new application.

Harbour improvements

Kenneth Ross had forwarded a copy of a letter he had received from Diageo which confirmed that they had no intention of using Burghead Harbour for the import or export of their raw materials or products.

This subject is now closed.

Proposed Conservation Area for Burghead

The meeting noted that the proposed area for conservation had been greatly reduced to cover the Headland and the Harbour only.

Councillor Wright asked if the Community Council would be happy to support the revised proposal.

Alistair Mackenzie reminded the meeting that he had organised a meeting of past members during the dissolution of the Community Council at which those present had agreed to offer a reduced area of conservation for the consideration of those attending the consultation day held at the Community Hall.

John Gordon reminded the members that he had submitted the view, on the instruction of the members of the Community Council, that there was no requirement for any Conservation Area in Burghead and proposed that, that position remain unchanged. William Davidson seconded the proposal and being no further proposal the motion was carried without further discussion.

Licensing Laws

Information had been received that indicated that the proposals to introduce the requirement for licenses to hold local events such as bring your own bottle functions, fetes etc had been dropped.

Cemetery Brae

John Gordon confirmed that he had met with John Tulloch, Junior, who had assured him that the path would re-open for use by the public in 2-3 months following the completion of the house build on the site at the top of the path.

Missing Chevrons

Councillor Wright advised the meeting that he had been advised by the Roads Department of Moray Council that as the section of the road where the chevrons had been located was now the subject of a 40 mph speed limit, that as such, the chevrons were deemed to be no longer necessary.

AOCB

Burghead Coat of Arms

A letter had been received from The Lord Lyon in which he proposed that any Coat of Arms being applied for by The Community Council should incorporate reference to Cummingston and rather than show the bull as depicted on the original design that bull should be the "Burghead Bull" as shown on the Pictish stones.

The meeting agreed unanimously that The Lord Lyon be informed that its wish was that the Coat of Arms be an exact replica of the Coat of Arms of the former Burghead Town Council.

Constitution of Community Council

The Members discussed the draft copy of the revised Constitution of the Community Council as required by Moray Council.

The members agreed after some minor amendments that it should be sent for ratification by the Moray Council, after which it could be made available for inspection by members of the public if so required.

Election of Vice Chairman

John Main, the sole nominee, was elected to fill the vacant position of Vice Chairman of the Community Council

Re-location of Library to Burghead Primary School

The meeting noted that the alterations at the school had commenced.

Snow clearing on Burghead Streets

John Gordon expressed his admiration for the diligence shown by Moray Council in keeping the pavements clear of snow and ice, particularly at his town end, during the last few months.

Being no further business the meeting was closed

Date of next meeting: Thurs 4th March 2010 at 7.30 pm