

Dyke Landward Community Council

Draft Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 5 August 2015 at 7.30pm in Dyke & District Community Hall

1. Present

Carol Shaw (Chair) (CAS), Alistair Sutherland (Vice-Chair) (AS), Arnold Boyle (AB), Jane Foster (JF), David Shaw (DS)

In attendance

Christine MacLeod (Secretary) (CM), Cllr Lorna Creswell (The Moray Council) (Cllr LC), Cllr Anne Skene (The Moray Council) (Cllr AS)

Apologies

Steve Arkley (Treasurer), John Bonsall

2 Police Report

Nobody from Police Scotland attended. PC Angela McCarthy had emailed a report: 2 minor crimes in DLCC area in past 2 months. AB expressed concern that Police Scotland was not aware of impending road closures; CllrAS said Police Scotland worked closely with TMC.

3 Minutes of Last Meeting

AS proposed, DS seconded, that the minutes be accepted as a correct record of the last meeting (6/6/15); agreed, and signed off by the Chair.

4 Matters Arising from the Minutes

(i) A96 at Brodie. CAS expressed continuing dissatisfaction with Transport Scotland's very limited response to DLCC's concerns. She had received a letter (14/7/15) from Richard Lochhead, MSP: he has communicated DLCC's concerns to the CEO of Transport Scotland and will report his response. There had been an accident this morning at the Brodie level-crossing junction, which had closed the A96, attended by police and ambulance services. AS: unlike this one, most incidents on A96 were not reported to the police. CAS: TMC needs to be alerted to problem of bin lorries reversing across A96; to trees at Brodie Countryfare car park still to be felled, as agreed in BC's planning permission. We need to press TS on the need for street lighting at Brodie. CllrAS suggested finding and citing comparable examples of villages with street lighting along trunk roads A96 e.g. Alves, and A95, e.g. Marypark and Inver.

Action: CAS will write to TMC and TS as above.

(ii) Police patrols. Angela McCarthy confirmed police patrols drove daily through Dyke and Kintessack.

(iii) Conicavel verge. AB had received a report (4/8/15) from Mr Bill Ross (Roads Maintenance Manager, TMC) which he considered unsatisfactory; he has replied to TMC that the verge is in a much worse condition than Mr Ross reports and he has a photo to demonstrate it.

Action: AB will email photo to TMC and continue to monitor the situation.

(iv) World Orienteering Championship. CAS: DLCC welcomed the benefits to Moray from the WOC; its only concern was the lack of information about road closures. CllrAS: the kudos of holding such a major event outweighed the inconvenience of a few hours' road closures; it was hard to notify residents of road closures in advance because of the nature of the event, which required competition routes being kept secret. CAS: had been astonished when driving through Forres on 4 August that competitors were running through the traffic with no road closures or warnings, and also darting across pavements without looking where they were going, a hazard to everyone.

(v) Speed monitoring in Dyke. CAS: a flashing speed sign has been erected on the road entering the village from the south, where it is poorly sited; none on the north side. It is operating during school holidays, when traffic is light, not during school term as requested. There was discussion of the desirability also of a 20MPH limit throughout the village and of 'no pavements' signs.

Action: CAS will write to TMC.

5 Treasurer's Report

SA emailed: the balance in DLCC's account is £1,419.70.

CAS: DLCC was happy for keyholders to claim expenses for printing out notices and posters for their noticeboards. She encouraged councillors and the secretary to claim their expenses.

6 Public footpaths, roadside verges, giant hogweed, and fly tipping

CAS: As a result of DLCC alerting TMC to problems with overgrown footpaths and giant hogweed on private land that might be endangering Dyke primary school's playing fields, TMC had cleared the footpaths and inspected the playing fields, and the landowner had cleared the hogweed from his land behind the school playing fields. DS and CllrAS: Concerned there might still be hogweed seedlings beside the playing field. CllrAS: footpath and verge cutting reduced since 2013 to save money; giant hogweed control was primarily the responsibility of private landowners, some of whom did not take it seriously enough. She agreed that cutting verges to improve visibility at junctions should be more of a priority. AS: hogweed can be eradicated by persistent spraying, ideally when plants are still small.

DS: Had contacted SEPA after a resident had reported a serious fly tipping problem beside the lane to the sewerage works. SEPA had required the landowner to remove the dumped rubble and plastic and this has now taken place.

Action: **DS** will monitor/deal with hogweed at playing fields. **CllrAS** will ask TMC to cut verges at road junctions more often.

7 Correspondence

The following items had been received by the secretary and circulated to DLC councillors:

tsiMoray bulletins (24/06, 08/07, 15/07)

Health and Social Care Integration – *Alastair Kennedy email 9 July*

Creating a Fairer Scotland, letter from Alex Neil MSP

Gambling Act 2005 – Statement of Licensing Policy Review

Moray Local Development Plan, letter 29/06

Moray Alcohol & Drug Partnership, consultation extended, 29/06

DTA Scotland, AGM

Scottish Rural Parliament newsletter (08/06)

Superfast broadband

Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland, 5th reviews

It was agreed that none had particular relevance to DLCC, except the announcement of superfast broadband. **CM:** superfast broadband is now available in this area, subject to additional payment to internet provider.

8 Community Feedback

None.

9 Reports (a) Local Councillors

CllrLC: is chair of the TMC committee responsible for the integration of NHS and TMC social care, to be ready by 31/3/16; to save money while improving health care.

CllrAS: a by-election for TMC in October might lead to a mid-term change of administration, which would be very disruptive and result in both herself and CllrLC ceasing to chair the Education and Health committees respectively. On 19 Aug, Education committee will consider a new policy on sustainable schools in Moray; if agreed, it will be applied to Forres ASG. Dyke Primary School should not be concerned.

10 Planning Issues

DS: the application to build 6 houses at Dyke Nursery has been withdrawn.

11 Joint Community Council of Moray (JCC)

CAS: Nobody from DLCC will be available to attend the next meeting on 13 Aug. DLCC would like to meet informally with Forres and Findhorn/Kinloss CCs on a regular basis. **CIrLC:** will sound out the other two CCs when she attends their meetings at the end of August.

Action: **CAS** and **CM** will produce a brief report of DLCC's activities since May to submit to JCC.

12 AOCB

JF: the boulders are still on the verge at the north entrance to Dyke.

Action: **CM** to retrieve previous correspondence with TMC and follow up.

13 Date and Time of Next Meeting of DLCC

Wednesday, 2 September 2015, at 7:30pm, at Dyke & District Community Hall.