

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CULLEN AND DESKFORD
COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 30TH JUNE, 2015**

PRESENT: Iain Rennie, Carol Wood, Steven Mill, Kevin Aitken, Tam McLellan, Councillor Ron Shepherd, Pauline Aitken, Police Inspector Alan Armit, Community Warden Andrew Mackie, Stephen McKay. Sophia McDonald.

1. **Welcome and Apologies:** Councillors Cree and Coull, Tracey Rae

2. **Police Report -**

Inspector Armit gave a concise report.

In the last month, there have been 40 recorded crimes in the area 14 of which have been detected with one closed as undetected and 25 still under investigation only one in the Cullen and Deskford area that being the theft of bulbs and reflectors from a parked van.

It has been mentioned that the bus shelter in the Square in Cullen is the most vandalised in the area but such actions are not generally reported to the Police but they will keep an eye on this.

The vandalism to the Community Centre garden has been closed as undetected but will be re-opened should any information come to light.

The four men in the green Volkswagen reported by Sergeant Clark at the last Meeting were not from the Moray area.

The Inspector reiterated that locals should be ever vigilant and Iain Rennie asked if Police Patrols were in residence locally.

3. **Community Warden -**

Andrew stated that nothing has been brought to his attention and asked if anyone had anything to report.

Sophia McDonald stated that she had spoken to Andrew about dog poo bags etc. that are left lying about especially on the beach and playing field where the grass is too high and has taken photos. She had also made a poster, which she showed to the meeting. The poster was

welcomed by the Council. It was agreed that copies will be made and laminated and sent to Andrew, as well as being posted on Facebook. It was also thought spray paint and stencils which the Community Warden has could be used in areas where there have been regular incidents of dog fouling.

She also advised the meeting of the rubbish and other debris in the Big Cave and suggested that a positive campaign for both dog fouling and litter might be a good summer campaign. She will provide details and these can be put on our Facebook page.

It was agreed that any "campaign" should be positive and proactive and could include leaflets, something in the newsletter and the local press.

4. Cullen Post Office -

Stephen McKay reported that the Post Office Network Transformation is proposing changes to the way Post Office Services are provided in small communities like Cullen and Deskford. This includes a significant loss of earnings for the Post Office. He advised the meeting that if he declines to move forward with their proposal, Post Office Network Transformation will contact local stores asking if they would incorporate the facilities. He has visited each store and at this time no-one wishes to undertake Post Office services. Any service provided must be within 1/2 - 1 mile from the current service. Cullen Post Office has been given three months notice, which he was clear is not long enough to reach an agreement. If an agreement is not reached, then the Post Office Network Transformation team may directly offer the services to retailers in the area. The proposal currently does not affect the area, but things may change and he will keep the Community Council informed. It was the unanimous feeling of the meeting that the Council supported the local Post Office and acknowledged its importance to the local community.

It was suggested that information should be shared with the community, but it was agreed to wait until Steven received word back.

The community council was advised that any change would be subject to a statutory consultation period.

5. Environment Sub Group - This will be discussed at next Meeting.

Kevin Aitken asked about the drains in Seatown. Concern was raised about debris and plants growing in the drains. Ron Shepherd said he would raise the matter with Moray Council.

Kevin said the barrels would be arriving this week.

He also advised that the hanging baskets were put up lower than usual and that they would be easier to water.

6. Community Issues -

Issues regarding litter and dog fouling were raised under Community Warden.

7. Ward Councillors - Ron Shepherd updated the Meeting regarding the new bridge over the burn. It will be built in December and will be 5 metres up from the present one.

Sophia McDonald asked if the Moray Council will be dredging the burn regularly and was told that this would happen as and when required.

The Square has now been sprayed with weedkiller and will be done again before the end of the summer.

The 'Lest We Forget' flag is jammed and needs a new rope - Kevin to sort out.

8. Minute Accuracy -

The Bowling Club will be available on Friday 14th of August not the 16th as originally stated.

9. Minute Approval -

Approved by Tam McLellan and seconded by Kevin Aitken. It was agreed that the Minutes should not be e-mailed to anyone other than Community Council Members until they have been approved.

10. Matters Arising -

Carol has not been able to write to Nick Brown. She will be writing to him before the next meeting.

Minutes for May need to be renumbered.

11. Election to the Council -

A letter has been received from Alison Davidson stating that Election has been registered. An e-mail from Tracey Rae advising where the nominations should be sent, either to Iain Rennie or Carol Wood. Date for receipt of nominations is 21 July.

Ron Shepherd will contact Tracey re forms.

Iain Rennie, Carol Wood and Tam McLellan will be given the choice to go through again but they are all okay.

There should be three community councillors for Cullen and three for Deskford.

12. Election to the Council Framework -

Carol will find out about Press Release.

13. Newsletter -

It was decided to leave this till new Council is formed.

14. Correspondence -

Letter from Margaret McDonald: Carol read out the response from Moray Council. There was some discussion about the issues raised and it was agreed that Carol should advise Tracey on behalf of the Community Council that Moray Council should respond to the letter as the person concerned is a Council employee and any response should come from Moray Council.

Beverley Smith - Local Plan Development available on line.

Moray Carers Chair

Seafields Review

Larghill Windfarm Proposal

Community Council Training - Thursday at 7.00 p.m.

Letters of thanks from Cullen Youth Club (with a present of biscuits) and Cullen Football Club

14. Planning and Licensing -

Two decisions - Change of use from Hotel to domestic premises and extension at Lintmill -

15. Fundraising and Funding Applications -

Application from Lintmill Play Park Action Group for £1,000 to resurface etc. and it was decided to leave this till next Meeting. Carol to contact them to get further details and report back to the next meeting.

There was an application from the Girl Guides which was accepted and they received £250.00. The application was the last one for this quarter.

Gala Dance -

Kevin stated that the Gala Dance would be a joint venture with the Christmas Lights Committee. Any funds raised will be shared equally.

The cost of Tickets for the Dance is still to be decided and there will be Stovies and Macaroni Cheese(for vegetarians). Kevin will arrange a Meeting to discuss this and will find out the cost of hiring the hall.

The cost (£250) of hiring Andy Leyton James will be met by the Community Council.

Bowser - This is now in place at Tom's gate.

No funds have been allocated for this month.

16. Treasurer's Report -

1. Opening Balance £930.69.00
2. Moray Council Grant - £318.40
3. Money from Fundraising Account to cover cheques written from wrong cheque book £1,669.
4. Outgoings - Minute Taker £30: Hire of Hall for Coffee Morning £60.75: Beverley Baxter Plants £164.78: Cullen Youth Club £500: Bob Moon Plants £234.22: Cullen Football Club £570.00:
5. Closing Balance - £1,328.34

17. **AOCB** -

Tam McLellan had a meeting with Willie Duncan, Senior Housing Projects Officer, Moray Council, who gave his permission for the Viaduct Project to go ahead.

Tam is negotiating prices for benches.

There will be new boarding above Seafield Road. Clearing and sorting out the paths will cost £1500 minimum. Tom has found an organisation which specialises in funding this project and is making an Application for a grant to them.

Kevin asked that write and thank David Smith for helping with the baskets and Carol will do this.

New brackets are needed for the baskets.

18. **Date of Next Meeting - Tuesday 25th August.**

