

Burghead and Cummington Community Council



Minute of regular meeting held at Burghead Harbour Office on Thursday 2nd June 2016

Present: Billy Davidson, Jim Patterson, Hilary Gloyer, Molly Fraser, Joan Megson,
Gilbert Farquhar, Kelly Croudace and Jennifer Walker

In attendance: Councillors Dennis Slater, Chris Tuke and Sergeant Jamieson, Police Scotland

Apologies: Community Warden Tim Betts.

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.30

The Chair welcomed Sergeant Jamieson to the meeting and invited him to present the following police report.

Standing orders were suspended until the report was delivered.

Police Report

1. LOCAL INTEREST INFORMATION

This report covers the period from 7 April to 2 June 2016. This has been yet another period of low recorded crime levels for the area with incidents of assault, possession of drugs, domestic incidents and speeding motorists being reported.

In the early hours of Sunday 24 April, a male was assaulted at the door of his home in St Aethan's after being struck with a metal object by a male known to him. The victim sustained minor injury.

A 28 year old male has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal for possession of cannabis resin following the execution of a drug search warrant at an address in Fraser Road on the afternoon of Thursday 28 April.

Anyone with any information on incidents and unusual activity in the Lossiemouth Policing Area is asked to contact Police Scotland on 101, Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or call in person at the Lossiemouth Police Office.

Residents are encouraged to immediately report any suspicious persons or vehicles, particularly in rural locations.

2. FEEDBACK ON POLICE ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO MATTERS RAISED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Local Policing Team and Roads Policing Unit officers continue to conduct speed checks on various roads in the area.

3. DETAILS OF ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO LOCAL PRIORITIES

We have listened to your concerns and are working hard to make improvements in the Heldon and Laich area.

1. ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

You told us that rowdy, drunken and disorderly behaviour was occurring within your community.

We have carried out frequent visits to licensed premises in your communities to deter drink-fuelled violent or anti-social behaviour. Where you have told us you are concerned about noise and criminality linked to licensed premises at closing time, we have worked jointly with the RAF Police at Lossiemouth and other partner agencies to ensure a high profile deterrent presence. We regularly carry out high visibility patrols in areas known to be hot spots for criminal behaviour in order to deter offending and provide community reassurance.

2. ROAD SAFETY

You told us speeding motorists and other forms of antisocial driving were causing you concern.

We have responded to your concerns by targeting areas identified to us for action by local officers assisted by our colleagues from Roads Policing. We have acted against inconsiderate and antisocial drivers, issuing warnings under the relevant antisocial behaviour legislation and seizing vehicles where appropriate.

3. DISHONESTY

You told us of your concerns about housebreakings and other forms of theft, including theft from motor vehicles.

We have participated in national and local initiatives to detect offenders linked with this type of criminality. We continue to provide a high visibility patrol presence on the streets and engage with local partners to identify and deal with this problem.

4. DRUG MISUSE

You told us that drug misuse and drug dealing was of concern.

Acting on relevant intelligence we have executed a number of search warrants in your area. Assisted by colleagues from specialist departments within Police Scotland, we have used all lawful means to deter and disrupt activity. We have used our powers under stop and search legislation to detect and deter this type of criminal activity.

4. ONGOING LOCAL / FORCEWIDE ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

KEEP SAFE FROM DOORSTEP CRIME AND BOGUS CALLERS

What is doorstep crime?

From bogus callers to rogue traders, doorstep criminals are cunning, creative, and often very convincing.

Anyone can be fooled as these people are professional con artists. However, the over 60s are often specifically targeted.

What types of doorstep criminals are there?

There are two main types:

Bogus callers try to get into your home or obtain personal details by pretending to be someone they're not, including council staff, charity collectors, meter readers and police officers. In reality, they are criminals trying to steal money and valuables.

Rogue traders usually cold-call, claiming to be workers offering to sell services, make repairs or carry out work on your house, garden or driveway. In reality they charge inflated prices for shoddy or unnecessary work.

We **DO NOT** recommend dealing with cold-callers for property maintenance and home repairs.

How can I spot a Rogue Trader?

- They may tell you the work is urgent and needs to be carried out immediately.
- They will normally ask for payment there and then and may offer to come to the bank with you if you don't have the cash at hand.

How can I protect myself from doorstep crime?

- Be on guard if someone turns up unexpectedly.
- Keep front and back doors locked.
- Use the door viewer or nearby window when answering the door.
- Fit a door chain or bar – use it and keep it on when talking to callers at the door.
- If you're not sure, don't answer the door.
- Don't feel embarrassed - genuine callers expect you to be careful.
- Only let callers in if they have an appointment and you have confirmed they are genuine.
- Always ask for identification badges of anyone you answer the door to, but don't rely on them. Identity cards can be faked – phone the company to verify their identity.
- Some companies offer a password system. Ask your utility providers if this can be used and if you have a password with a company make sure the caller uses it.
- Never let people try to persuade you to let them into your home even if they are asking for help – they may not be genuine. If someone is persistent, ask them to call at another time and arrange for a friend or family member to be with you.
- Never agree to pay for goods or give money to strangers who arrive at your door.
- Don't keep large amounts of money in your home.
- Remember, it's your home. There's no reason why anyone should ever enter your home against your wishes.

For more information about how to secure your home and the property within it, see our advice on how to [Keep Your Home Safe](#) on our website www.scotland.police.uk

What else can I do to stop being defrauded by a Rogue Trader?

Trading Standards advice is:

- Don't feel pressurised into agreeing to immediate work or buying a product or service.
- Don't agree to buy from the first person who calls.
- Don't pay cash up front or offer to go and get money.
- Shop around if you decide you need work done.
- Ask what your cancellation rights are.
- Report them.

What action should I take if someone visits me and I think they're a doorstep criminal?

- Keep the caller out of your house, ask them to leave and call the police immediately by dialing 101.
- You might also want to try to alert a family member or attract a neighbour's attention but you should always contact the police first by dialing 101. The police would much rather attend a false alarm than have someone fall victim to a doorstep criminal.
- If the person refuses to leave your door, or you feel threatened or scared - Call 999 and ask for the police.
- Note down their description and the description of any vehicle they're using, including make, model, colour and registration number.

How can I protect my family, friend and neighbours?

Discuss the advice on this page with family, friends or neighbours who are older or vulnerable. There are also other things you can do to help protect them against bogus callers – everyone has a part to play to keep the community safe.

- Keep an eye out for strange vans in your neighbour's driveway.
- Make sure your relatives are not regularly taking large amounts of cash out of the bank.
- Make arrangements to ensure your relative's house looks well maintained and, for example, that it is not immediately obvious that an older person lives there alone.
- Doorstep criminals will often target the same victim more than once, so be particularly alert if someone has previously been a victim.
- Police Scotland has a 'Nominated Neighbour Scheme' which can assist those who prefer not to answer the door to those they don't know. Read our [Nominated Neighbour leaflet](#).
- Look out for your community and report any suspicious activity immediately to Police Scotland on 101 or your local authority Trading Standards.
- For more information on doorstep crime or assistance regarding home security contact your local Community Policing Team on 101.

BURGHEAD AND CUMMINGSTON MICRO BEAT OFFICERS:

Inspector David Hoyle
Sergeant Stephen Carmichael
Constable Ian Fraser
Constable Chris Morrison
Constable Andy Kerr
Constable Donald Matheson
Constable David Bell
Constable Roy Cook

Your team is based at Lossiemouth Police Office

Contact us: In a non-emergency – **101**

Once an incident has been recorded a decision will then be made, dependent on the circumstances, as to which officer is best placed to address the problem.

Community Policing issues can also be highlighted to your local micro beat officers using the E-mail address: HeldonLaichCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk

POLICE SCOTLAND

Police Scotland are keen to highlight their use of social media and advise the public that our latest news can be found at www.scotland.police.uk and using the Twitter feeds @policescotland and @NorthEPolice or on Facebook at <http://www.twitter.com/policescotland>

CRIMESTOPPERS

If anyone has any information relating to controlled drugs or drug dealing, please call Police Scotland on 101. Alternatively, contact can be made with Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. Crimestoppers allow information to be passed in relation to any crime or criminal activity anonymously. They can also be contacted via the website at www.crimestoppers-uk.org

PARENTLINE SCOTLAND

ParentLine Scotland is a free helpline (08000 28 22 33) and email service parentlinescotland@children1st.org.uk for anyone with concern about a child. www.parentlinescotland.org.uk

A short but informative question and answer session took place before Sergeant Jamieson left the meeting.

Community Warden Report

The following report had been received and was considered by the meeting.

Abandoned vehicles:

- Two vehicles were reported abandoned in this period; the registered keeper has been contacted and has agreed to remove them.

Anti-social behaviour:

- Anti social behaviour and its causes are continuing to be targeted along with Police Scotland and other partners.
- A complaint was received in regards to youth annoyance; patrols of the village have been undertaken to deter further incidents.

Dog fouling:

- One complaint was received in this period; targeted patrols have been undertaken and posters installed at the caravan park slipway reminding people it is not a dog waste bin and signposting the nearest bins.
- We continue to urge people who witness dog fouling to report it on 07800 670 665; information provided by members of the public is invaluable when it comes to identifying and dealing with dog foulers.

Litter:

- On Thursday 9th June pupils from Burghead Primary school will be conducting a beach clean to raise awareness of littering issues and help cleanse the beach.

Seagulls:

- One complaint regarding the feeding of seagulls was received in this period; advice was given to those involved.
- We continue to advise people not to feed seagulls as the noise, mess and swooping behaviour of the gulls can cause distress and nuisance to neighbours.

Ongoing Moray wide engagement / activities

Operation Typhoon:

In response to numerous concerns raised about dog fouling an awareness and enforcement initiative, Operation Typhoon, has been started. During the week commencing 9th May Community Wardens conducted early morning plain clothes patrols at hot spot areas throughout Moray including in the vicinity of the following areas; Salmon Green, backshore, Grant Street and Fraser Road to name a few. A number of dog walkers were spoken to throughout the county and 1 FPN issued. Operation Typhoon patrols will continue and feedback on hot spot areas will be gratefully received; please contact Community Warden Tim Betts on 07800 670665 or tim.betts@moray.gov.uk

Facebook:

To help keep people up to date with community initiatives and activities we have set up a Facebook page; search Community Safety Moray.

Reporting community issues:

Anti-Social Behaviour can be reported to the Anti Social Behaviour Team on 0800 58 77 197, directly to the Community Warden on 07800 670665 or tim.betts@moray.gov.uk, and via the online Antisocial Behaviour Reporting Form accessed through The Moray Council website; www.moray.gov.uk

Standing Orders were resumed

Adoption of minute of previous meeting:

Proposed by: Molly Fraser

Seconded by: Jennifer Walker

Apology

The Chair apologised for the late call off of the May meeting due to its date's clash with the election for the Scottish Parliament.

Matters arising from previous minutes

Maltings Fencing

The meeting noted that work was still ongoing in this area and the makeup of the fencing on the north elevation along the backshore was still unclear.

Spotlight on Burghead

Hilary and Joan confirmed that the day had been well attended and could be considered a success.

The Chair commended the hard work and initiative of all those who had contributed to its success.

Community Garden

A letter of complaint had been received from a neighbouring house owner regarding the dumping of materials in close proximity to her garden. The Secretary confirmed that he had replied promptly to the complaint and that he had since received a further letter which required he referred to the meeting.

The meeting agreed that the best way forward was for Hilary and Joan to visit the lady in an effort to find an amicable solution to the perceived problem.

Bins Problems

The Secretary confirmed that he had spoken to the alleged culprit who had taken positive steps to rectify the situation which was seen to be working.

Further complaints had been received about bins being left out in Dunbar Lane for several days following their emptying by the bin men. These bins were obstructing the progress of pedestrians and vehicles. Kelly agreed, as a resident of that area, to have a word with the offender.

ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

Marchhead Cottage Cummington

The meeting considered an application to demolish the existing cottage and to build two semidetached houses on the site.

The meeting agreed that this was an inappropriate development and that the Secretary lodge objections to the application with the Moray Council Planning department.

Consultation

Councillor Tuke advised the meeting that The Moray Council was to embark on another round of Public consultations about cuts to services required under the current austerity measures being imposed by the Westminster government and subsequently passed on to the Scottish government.

The meeting questioned the validity of such consultations and the cost they incurred given the record of how councillors voted against the wishes of their electorate during the last round of consultations when they voted to close local libraries.

Being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9pm

Date of next meeting: Thursday 4th August 2016 at 7.30pm

To be held at the Harbour Office, Burghead