



Minute of Meeting of Cullen & Deskford Community Council

Date: Tuesday, 21 May 2019

Time: 7.00 pm

Venue: Cullen Residential and Community Centre

Members in attendance:

Colin Burch (Chair)

Steve Horrocks (Secretary)

Phil Lovegrove (Treasurer)

Stan Slater

Lizabeth Williamson

Councillors: None

Attendees: Bob Harper, Peter Reidford

1 Opening of meeting:

Colin opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

2 Apologies

There were apologies from Stewart Black, Councillors Theresa Coull, Donald Gatt and Ron Shepherd.

3 Outside Agencies Presentations

Sergeant Robert Williams said there had been 3 incidents in the Cullen area since the last meeting. On 10 May, a van in Queens Drive had been forced open although nothing was stolen. A window of a house in Albert Terrace had been smashed on 16 May. There had also been a road accident on the A98 between Cullen and Buckie caused by excessive speed.

The complaint regarding speeding traffic on the A98 entering Cullen from the Portsoy direction had been monitored. Some drivers were going over the speed limit but not to the extent that they would be reported.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

There was an amendment to the minutes of the April meeting. Councillor Ron Shepherd had apologised for his absence. Subject to this change, the minutes of the previous meeting were accepted, having been proposed by Phil and seconded by Liz.

5. Matters Arising

Viaduct

Theresa had advised by email that she had been in contact with Moray Council (MC) regarding the problems with drainage from the viaduct. Liz said that she had recently spoken to staff of The Concrete & Corrosion Consultancy Practice Ltd who were examining the viaduct having been engaged by MC to assess and report on the work needed on all the viaducts.



Hi-vis jackets

Phil advised that the hi-vis jackets and the road signs had been purchased.

Litter pick

The hi-vis jackets had been used at the litter pick. There was a low number of volunteers but only 3 bags of litter were found which was considerably less than the 20 bags filled at the previous pick. Thanks to all those who helped.

CDCC Facebook Page

Thanks to the technical assistance of Shaun Moat from Forres Community Council, CDCC were about to have a new Facebook page. This would allow members of the Community Council to post items in the name of CDCC rather than having to use their own name. The Secretary would be responsible for the updating and maintenance of the page. When the new page was ready, Steve would put a hyperlink on the former page which would allow the members, approximately 180, to click on that link and be redirected to the new page. Many thanks to Shaun Moat for his help and time. **Action:-SH**

6. Councillors Reports

Although there were no Councillors present, Theresa had advised by email that the proposed pelican/zebra crossing was being progressed by MC. She confirmed that the proposed disabled ramp to the beach was also being investigated by MC as were the road markings at the Harbour.

7. Treasurer's Report

Phil advised that there was still £2723.59 in the Fundraising Account and the Admin. Account contained £261.62.

8. Correspondence

A newsletter from Moray Early Learning Centre had been posted on social media as had information about funding opportunities from Scottish and Southern Electricity Network.

An email about Scottish Government funding for town centre regeneration received on 29 April had been distributed on social media, as had the follow-up email containing a timetable of presentations which had been sent on 15 May by MC, despite the fact that the first three presentations had been on 13, 14 and 15 May and the one for Cullen being on 16 May. It was agreed that in addition to displaying a high level of incompetence on the part of MC, it also showed a lack of respect for the communities in Moray. Money was available on a matched funding basis, i.e. if a project cost £50,000, half of that was available from the Scottish Government and the rest would have to be provided by the applicant. The closing date is 21 June.



Posters from MC about a food growing strategy had been distributed.

An invitation to Community Councils to meet with Douglas Ross MP had been received. Liz would attend.

9. **AOCB**

Community Councils Emergency Plan

Stan had recently completed a draft of an emergency plan for the area. It was agreed that all members would read it and make comments at the next meeting.

Pet Cemetery

All members were aware of the problems being experienced by Stevie Findlay who operates the Cullen Pet Cemetery as a charitable cause however he had been advised by the Scottish Government that he was required to pay a fee for operating a business. It was apparent that he is receiving some assistance in the matter but Colin confirmed that CDCC would be willing to provide any help if needed.

Information Boards for Town Centres

Colin advised that information boards with electronic displays were available fully funded by MC. The boards could contain information such as maps, places of interest etc., and were similar to one which had recently been installed in the St. Giles Centre in Elgin. MC would install them and had confirmed that planning permission was not needed. Stan said that one could certainly be used at Cullen Residential and Community Centre and it was suggested that another two could be positioned on either side of Cullen Square. The closing date for applications was 21 June. It was agreed that Liz would progress this matter. **Action:-LW**

Flowers for Planters

Thanks and appreciation were due to the Allotments Association for bringing on the plants which were ready to be planted. Colin will contact Dennis Paterson to see if more materials such as compost were needed. Peter said that MC have supplied compost in the past. He will check with them and advise. **Action:-PR**

Bob said that we should be ordering these plants in September or October to get a better price than we did in January. Steve would include this as an agenda item for September.

Common Good Fund Properties in Reidhaven Street

There was no further information about this. Bob said that he would visit one of the interested parties to try and obtain an update. **Action:- BH**



Cullen Playpark

Stewart had previously advised that the equipment at the park was shabby. Steve would contact MC regarding this. **Action:- SH**

Data Protection

Emails had been received which said that CDCC should be registered with the Information Commissioner's Office. There was a charge of £40 for registration which would be renewed annually. A reduced fee of £35 was payable if a direct debit was set up. Steve said that he was not happy about this. He had discovered that Elected Representatives were exempt but MC had advised that although the individual members of CDCC were exempt, the Community Council as an entity was not. It was agreed that he would progress the matter. **Action:-SH**

Grass Cutting

The grass area where the fairground is sited is getting long. It was agreed that there should be a co-ordinated response to find out which areas MC and Seafield Estates are/are not cutting and decide what action to take to offset this. Stewart was the appropriate person for this. **Action:- SB**

Cycle Track

Stan said that Portsoy CC were still interested in progressing this matter but would not be able to until after the Boat Festival.

Performing Rights Society

Colin advised that a licence may be needed by individuals, businesses or organisations that play recorded music to customers. He asked for this to be made known by way of social media. **Action:- SH**

Harbour

Stan said that there was still a temporary barrier at the small beach. Bob said this matter had been raised at the two previous Harbour Committee meetings. An update on harbour repairs was needed.

Councillor Shepherd

Concerns were expressed about the continued absence from CDCC meetings of Councillor Ron Shepherd. It was known that he had been ill but that he had been attending MC meetings. It was confirmed that the last CDCC meeting he had attended was September 2018.

10. Date, time and location of next meeting

The next meeting would be on Tuesday 18 June at 1900, at a location to be confirmed.