

Burghead and Cummingston **Community Council**



Minute of regular meeting held at Burghead Harbour Office on Thursday, 3 October 2019

Present: Billy Davidson (Chairman), Jim Patterson, Jennifer Walker (Treasurer), Chris Tuke (Minutes Secretary), Abbey Main, Gilbert Farquhar, Joan Megson, Liz McKnockiter, Rosie Craig

Apologies: Les Taylor (Secretary),
Moray Councillors James Allan, John Cowe & Amy Taylor

In Attendance: Moray Councillor Ryan Edwards.

Adoption of minute of previous meeting:

The Chairman thanked Jim Patterson for chairing the September Meeting, in his absence.

It was noted that Cllr. Cowe was recorded as “In attendance” and “Apologies”. Cllr. Cowe was, indeed, not present at the previous meeting and, following this correction, the minute of the meeting was accepted as a true and accurate record.

Proposed by: Abbey Main

Seconded by: Jim Patterson

It was also noted that the Community Council had been remiss in failing to note its good wishes to Cllr. Cowe. Several Members had spoken to him, over past weeks, and all joined together to wish him a speedy recovery to full health.

Police Report

No representatives of Police Scotland were present. However, the new Community Inspector, Kerry Rigg, had been in contact and was hoping to visit all the Community Councils on her patch, in the near future.

Matters Arising

“Rural Wisdom”

Following the attendance, at the previous meeting, by Fi Thomson of Rural Wisdom, information had been exchanged and Jim Patterson and Joan Megson are to meet and liaise with Fi in order to arrange a public event particularly geared towards fuel poverty.

Burghead Cemetery

Abbey Main met with Cllrs. Cowe & Edwards and Ken Kennedy, Lands and Parks Manager at the Burghead Cemetery. Much of the required work had been reported previously but assurances were received, as follows;

- i) The Main Gate and Side Gate would be repainted and rehung,
- ii) Fallen headstones would be re-erected,
- iii) Winter maintenance will start in October, (edging etc.),
- iv) Sunken graves only to be repaired if dangerous **and** permission is obtained.

Abbey will also be planting roses, in suitable positions around the Cemetery, and has already had some bushes donated. Also under consideration is a Facebook Page – “Friends of Burghead Cemetery” or something similar.

Defibrillator Training, Cummington

8 residents of Cummington attended Duffus Village Hall. Gratitude was expressed to Scott Sharman for delivering the training.

Coastal Erosion at Cummington

The situation has been reported to Moray Council who will keep it under observation.

Town Twinning

Following further reflection, it was thought that Héron, an inland town in Belgium, was less suitable as a twin town for Burghead than other possibilities and that the offer would be declined. Preferable options were thought to be coastal settlements in either the Baltic, due to their fishing connections or a Norwegian Link, as being worked on by Burghead Headland Trust. Telavåg, in Norway, is the home to the North Sea Traffic Museum (Shetland Bus) and the village suffered extreme retribution for its involvement.

Harbour Shelter Maintenance Fund

The Treasurer had received an invoice for ground rent on the Harbour Shelter Site. This was for a total of over £500 back-dated over 6 years. On questioning the bill, she was informed that the Council was not authorised to reclaim monies due over the whole period as the error was theirs. It was subsequently agreed to pay £425 equivalent to 5 years at £85 per annum. There are still discrepancies on this account because it is believed that the Community Council was exempted from paying this charge. Further investigations may have to be made. The annual rent is currently £175.”

Wind Farm Community Ownership

Joan Megson confirmed that the “Memorandum of Understanding” had been sign on behalf of the Community Council. There is no commitment, whatsoever, at this stage.

AOCB

Reduction in Library Opening Hours

Starting week commencing 4 October 2019 the Library will lose its Friday Afternoon Session. The revised hours will be;

Tuesday 2:00pm - 5:00pm

Thursday 5:00pm - 8:00pm

Saturday 10:00am -12:00noon

Harbour Charges

It appears that the Burghead Harbour Swim is due to be charged a £100 “Admin Fee” by Moray Council. Cllrs. Taylor & Edwards are to bring a motion to Council on 27 Nov 19 to have this fee waived, for charities. This will be too late to affect this year’s event. The Burghead Boxing Day Swim Committee is taking a strong stance on this issue and is fully backed by the Community Council.

Note: Since the meeting the Committee, initially, cancelled this year’s event. This decision has been, subsequently, reversed and the Swim is planned to go ahead but the “unjustifiable” fee will not be paid.

Burghead Amenities Association (BAA) AGM

BAA will hold its AGM on Tuesday, 15 Oct 19 at 7:00pm in the Church of Scotland Church Hall. Unfortunately, this year’s Bonfire had been cancelled due to the BAA Chairman working overseas and the lack of help during the planning stage.

Surgery Appointments

It is becoming more apparent that a greater number of appointments, particularly for certain procedures, are being offered in Lossiemouth. This can be inconvenient for some patients as there is no suitable scheduled bus service. Patients are reminded that Moray Council run a Dial-a-Bus Service which is available to everyone without a direct bus connection. Journeys must be booked at least 24 hours in advance and passengers must have pre-registered for the service – for more details call 0300 123 4565.

Lossiemouth High School

Lossiemouth High School was reported to be 3 weeks ahead of schedule with parts wins a water-tight.

Parking Around Burghead

Burghead was not designed around the motor car and regular complaint about parking are received. Residents are requested to park carefully, considerately and sensibly. The only other options are to request double yellow lines at junctions etc or to invite the Police in to issue tickets. Neither of these are palatable solutions so please think of others when leaving the car.

If vehicles are blocking access, disabled parking bays or are parked dangerously, they can be reported to the Police on 101. The vehicles will then be issued a fixed penalty notice and/or removed.

FREE Fire Safely Home Visits

Reminders were received that residents can request free home visits by contacting the Fire Service;

- Phone 0800 0731 999
- Text "FIRE" to 80800 from your mobile phone

- Complete our **online form** at <https://firescotland.gov.uk/your-safety/hfsv-form.aspx>
- Call your **local fire station** – Lossie – 01224 696666, Elgin – 01343 549060

Local Public Finance

Liz McKnockiter asked Cllr. Edwards how the funds from the Moray Growth Deal and Srown Estate Scotland would be allocated. The Crown Estate allocation is still being finalised and there is no firm decision on the Growth Deal but it is thought that the majority of the latter funding will be spent either in Elgin or by providing mains gas to the highly profitable distilling companies down Speyside. This is particularly disappointing as our residents still go without a fixed gas supply.

Damage to Church of Scotland

Gilbert Farquhar raised the subject of further damage to the Church Roof caused by balls and climbing new guttering on the School side has already been damaged and several slates dislodged. Parents are requested to ensure that their children are aware of the damage and expense that can be caused, often unintentionally, by kicking balls onto the roof.

Being no further business, the meeting was closed.

Date of next meeting Thursday, 7 November 2019 at 7.30pm in Burghead Harbour Office.

Chris Tuke
Minutes Secretary.

Copies of previous minutes and information regarding Burghead available on-line at:
The Moray Council Website www.moray.org > Community > Community Councils > Burghead and Cummington
http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_60801.html

**Please use the Grampian Police number to report
all non-emergency issues.**

101

Crimestoppers - 0800 555 111

Antisocial Behaviour - 01343 563134
antisocialbehaviour@moray.gov.uk

If the police are not informed of problems they cannot act and if crimes are not reported then there are implications with regard to police staffing levels.