



Minutes of Meeting of Cullen & Deskford Community Council

15 February 2022

Via Zoom

Present

Colin Burch (Chair)
Stewart Black (Vice Chair)
Phil Lovegrove (Treasurer)
Bruce Edelsten (Secretary)
Ernest Kopp (Planning)
Tony Jannetta (Minutes)

Councillor Theresa Coull
Councillor Donald Gatt
Councillor Laura Powell

Simon Tucker (Scottish Fire & Rescue Service)
Roger McMichael (Moray West Offshore Wind Farm)
Keith Davidson (Caseworker for Karen Adam MSP)
Adam El-Naggar (Mobile Watersports Activity School)
Tracy Colyer (Potential Moray Councillor candidate for Ward 2, Keith & Cullen)

1. Welcome

Colin Burch opened the meeting at 19.01

2. Apologies

None

3. Outside Agencies Reports

Simon Tucker: with Covid-19 numbers starting to drop the F&RS is starting to engage again with the community, targeting where possible high-risk groups to offer home fire safety visit, and extends the offer of visits to the rest of the community – see Facebook pages and Twitter feed. Mention of the approaching dry grass and wildfire season = asked the public to inform the Fire and Rescue Service of incidents. During the year there will be events to mark Cullen fire station 50th anniversary (actually last year) including an

Easter egg hunt and a treasure hunt using the [what3words](#) app. The Fire and Rescue Service is recruiting at the Cullen fire station – there will be banners and a PR exercise. Potential recruits can visit [myjobscotland.gov.uk](#) or visit the Cullen fire station any Monday evening from 7pm to 9.30pm. F&RS hopes to restart public defibrator training.

Roger McMichael gave a presentation on the upcoming Moray West Wind Farm - Permission for up to 85 wind turbines (though there will be fewer, larger, turbines), the landfall for the cables is between the east end of Sandend beach and Redhythe Point with a cable corridor running to just near Whitehillock off the A96 then onwards to Blackhillock Substation (now the largest in UK) with work commencing this year and hopeful completion in 2025. Contractors Nexans and Siemens have been appointed and they should be the first point of contact for any on-site issues. A newsletter will be released to properties within a 2km corridor of the cable route in March. Also, engaging with the Cullen Sea School and their summer gala.

[Interactive mapping of cable corridor](#)

Discussion on proposal to reroute existing Sustrans cycle route between Portsoy and Cullen using part of the old railway line (topic to be added to future agenda) and, for Portsoy, support of the core path network from Portsoy to Sandend round Redhythe point.

Simon Tucker asked about operational site visits to assess fire service risks. Bruce Edelsten to pass on contact details.

Adam El-Naggar introduced himself as an experienced surf and paddleboard instructor who has worked locally and abroad and outlined his plans to open a mobile surf school business at Cullen. The business will require access through the height barrier, and this will be granted once all relevant permissions are in place and parties informed. Seafield Estates and Cullen Sea School have commented favourably to this new venture. Colin offered a tie in with the Community residential centre and mention in the CullenConnected Newsletter.

4. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2022 were proposed as a true record of the meeting by Phil Lovegrove and seconded by Ernest Kopp.

5. Chair's Report

Nothing outstanding not covered in the rest of the agenda.

6. Treasurer's Report

Phil Lovegrove reported the admin account having £495.72. CDCC received the Moray Council admin grant on 8th February. The fundraising account has £3725.66. The only expenditure during the month was for the AED signs.

7. Secretary's report

Scotland's Census 2022 – information about recruitment opportunities for Enumerators posted on Facebook.

8. Councillors' reports

The three councillors reported that Moray Council HQ are having a phased return to office, initially 3% of staff. Health and Social Care have a shortage of carers. The main activity is budget discussions. Covid-19 cases are still high, particularly between 18–19-year-olds.

Cullen Recycling Centre - From Mike Neary, Moray Council:

1) We can't have one skip on site for paper and card combined. Where possible, we aim to keep cardboard and paper segregated as we process the 2 materials separately. There are financial benefits to the Council in doing so as cardboard has a higher value than paper. We don't have the option to do this from kerbside collections, but all of our bring sites are operated this way. Therefore, we'll need to retain both skips to keep the materials separate.

2) Wherever a skip is sited, we need to allow space up to 3 times the length of the skip for servicing arrangements. The space required for vehicle access is larger than it would initially be perceived. We also need to leave enough space between the skips for opening and closing the doors. So, in essence for a 40 cubic yard skip, we need twice the width and three times the length. There are some cases where we can reduce this but they're few and far between. I have attached a photo as an example which I hope to be useful.

3) We're also limited as to what skips we provide on this site and others similar because they're unlicensed facilities and are for the purposes of providing an outlet for additional household recycling materials only. The items that have been fly-tipped on site recently are unpermitted as they'd be classified as waste. Therefore, although a reasonable suggestion, we couldn't have skips on site for a wider range of items."

From Colin Bell, Moray Council, 'We don't have a large budget, but we are arranging for the damaged surfacing [at the recycling centre] to be repaired and made safe and a camera on a pole to be installed. In the pursuit of best value this work will be carried out at the same time as the RTIF works for the campervans. The works will be completed in Springtime 2022 and Will Burnish's team will be in touch regarding the RTIF works when he is in a position to do so.

The RTIF works include the installation of an automatic number plate recognition system. Although the cameras won't focus on the HWRC site, the signage may well act as a deterrent for the HWRC site."

b. Cullen-Portnockie cycle path

From Will Burnish, Moray Council, "On 8/11/21 a meeting was held on site with all the key stakeholders inc. Seafield estate and the golf club to look at the final design option and agree the proposed access. Since the meeting the Golf club have confirmed that they are happy with the proposed realignment and the broad access arrangements.

The project has been delayed as a design rework was required due to the location of the badger sets. The current plan is that the works are being done in the autumn to meet both conditions due to badger issues as well as missing all the key Golf club events. I have yet to have a final confirmation on this but when I know this, I will share it. We are continuing to work with and support the project where we are able to and within the council remit."

c. Children's panel

Laura Powell forwarded details of Children's Hearings Scotland which is currently promoting their national recruitment campaign for new volunteer Children's Panel members, and this information was posted on the CDDD Facebook page.

9. Resilience planning

CDCC has received an offer from Jim Patterson (Burghead and Cummington Community Council) to visit Cullen to discuss development of Cullen's resilience plan. Date to be arranged. Note: SSE grant funding closes in April 2022. Note: Deskford Community Association will be invited to be included in the planning.

10. Planning Officer's Report

21/01861/LBC - Installation of new door and roof windows including recovering of existing flat roof at Aldersyde, 22 The Square, Cullen, Buckie Moray AB56 4RL.

Brief discussion on the derelict property corner of Seafield St / Campbell Place the condition of which is monitored by Moray Council and the Fire & Rescue Service.

11. Current Business

a) Harbour Toilets

No progress reported.

b) Harbour Users' Committee

Heather Cameron has offered to attend meetings and report back on behalf of CDCC. The next meeting of the Cullen Harbour Advisory Committee is scheduled for Thursday 10 March 2022 at 7pm.

c) Defibrillators

The three defibrillators that we have responsibility for are now unlocked. Colin Burch has covered the keypad on the two that have keypads. Julie-Ann Drake has been on a defib course and is happy to look at the routine maintenance schedule that we have and look at checking the one at the Square into the future. Thanks to Phil, we now have signs for putting close to them, so will get that organised in due course. Another point to raise and would like to ratify at the next CDCC meet is the defibrillator boxes. There are two (the Square & Deskford) that the keypads are playing up on. Colin Burch has covered them with tape now that the locks are disabled, however given the recent confusion with which ones were registered, it may be relevant to consider changing the one at the square sooner for an obviously unlocked box. It was proposed to replace the defib box in the square. The pads and the complete device will need replacing in due course. It was agreed Colin Burch will investigate options and costs for replacing the square defibrillator

d) Certificates of Recognition

Awaiting delivery of 'quality' paper

e) Motor home / camper van facilities at Port Long

See recycling centre above for comments about completion date.

f) Speed Survey – A98 outside community centre.

A request for a road traffic survey was logged with Moray Council Roads Dept. No acknowledgement or response has been received.

g) Millennium Wood

This is the hands of Seafield Estates' solicitors.

h) Logie Park play area

E-mail from Laura Cameron (Moray Council) on 3 February 2022:

"Thank you all for the efforts expended so far, it is much appreciated.

From the results of the community consultation, due to the restricted timeline and increase in costs for raw materials it is advisable that we condense the items we wish to install in the park and only tackle the age 5–12-year-old section just now.

For project 1, the scope of service needs to be published by end of March 2022.

Evaluations and voting on the available options will follow in May with awarding a contract in June. Installation will then join the installers queue and be carried out as soon as they can manage.

From the community consultation I recommend that we can combine some of the requests into a central multi-unit – Climbing wall/slide/monkey bars/musical panels/net climbers.

The other priorities looked to be a zipline, obstacle course and variety of swings. The additional equipment that can be added to the Scope under the provision that the additional £10000-15000 required is met is the Sunken Inclusive Roundabout. There was no overwhelming desire for a theme however we can include that some of the items should have a seaside theme.

Any of the other desires (equipment for different age ranges or additional equipment/fencing/seating areas that cannot be afforded at this time but may become possible with additional funds at a later date as part of a secondary project) can be included in the scope by stating that space must be left for them.”

There is a bid into the Money for Moray fund to top up the funds available.

- i) Cullen Town Flowers
The prices for flowers have increased since last year. Flowers will be ordered by the end of February.
- j) E-bus shelter
Yvonne Joss (Moray Council) hope to get this project restarted during the coming month.
- k) Storage facilities for small traders / businesses
Request for expressions of interest was posted on Facebook. There has been one response to which Phil Lovegrove added the one expression of interest he had received. Adam El-Naggar also expressed interest.
- l) Erosion of sea defences at beach
Remove from agenda.
- m) Mercat Cross
Survey report received. Historic Environment Scotland to be contacted about grant schemes etc. A lot still to sort out including ownership.
- n) Derelict Building Seafield St / Campbell Place
Stewart Black responded to a query with a summary of the information currently available.
- o) ‘Twinning’ with Fauldhouse Community Council
Remove from agenda
- p) Arrangements for local government elections 5 May 2022
Potential candidate awareness session via Teams on 1 March 2022 6pm-8pm.
Nominations open: 15 March 2022, close: 30 March 2022 4pm.
Hustings event to be arranged.
- q) Office 365 for non-profit organisations
Agreed to investigate using Office 365 for the community council

12. AOCB

- a) Stewart Black reported SEPA have no remit to monitor old landfill sites directly e.g., the old Portnockie dump, though they will monitor burns as part of their normal duties. Stewart will investigate cost of sampling the water to identify if there is an issue with the burn from the old Portnockie dump through the golf course, though, first, it needs to be ascertained whether the burn is within the CDCC boundary.

- b) Colin Burch was enthusiastic to return to in person meetings but primarily this is dependent on the Covid situation and whether a hybrid set up can be used also needs to be figured out.

13. Date of next meeting

15 March 2022

14. Dates for the calendar

Buckie Area Forum 24 February

CullenConnected 7 March

Harbour Advisory Committee 10 March

Meeting closed at 20.30

Distribution

First draft is circulated for comment to community councillors, as are revised drafts until no more comments are received

The final draft will be presented for approval at the next prescribed meeting of the Community Council then, within 14 days of approval, circulated to other appropriate parties (Moray Council councillors), the Moray Council Community Council Liaison Officer, and posted on Facebook.