



Minutes of Meeting of Cullen & Deskford Community Council

15 March 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)
Rachael Barclay (Police Scotland)
Katie MacLean

1. Welcome

Colin Burch opened the meeting at 19.03
During the day of the meeting, the CDCC became aware of the police report of a body being found on an Orkney beach and, although formal identification was still to take place, it was thought to be of a local person and condolences were expressed to friends and family.

2. Apologies

Heather Cameron

3. Outside Agencies Reports

Katie MacLean, manager for refugee settlement with Aberdeenshire Council, was present in a personal capacity and talked the meeting through the options available for the community:

- Contributing to the Disaster Emergency Committee fund being the fastest and most efficient way of getting urgent aid to people who need it.

- The Homes for Ukraine scheme had just been launched, and has had a large response though, at the time of the meeting, not much written information was available.
- While it might be possible for the community to host, individuals or families, individuals registering to host would be more immediate.
- The Scottish Government was trying to coordinate activities as this can coordinate security checks and checking hosts' premises.
- The correct support for refugees needs to be in place – and this could be augmented by the Cullen community – activities at the community centre, making use of local skills, etc.

Cullen Community & Residential Centre would be available to provide short term shelter. Questions were asked about working with intermediary agencies. However, their processes can take months to complete, and a new model will need to evolve. Unlike other refugees who would be looking to make a new life, Ukrainians are likely to want to only remain temporarily and be ready to return whenever possible. The Polish community is very actively involved, has a shared culture and understanding, and can provide natural connections.

And thank you to Katie for agreeing to check the Lintmill defibrillator.

Rachael Barclay (Police Scotland) outlined a quiet spell of calls from the Cullen area but still issues with speeding in certain areas, especially North Castle St.

Simon Tucker (Scottish Fire & Rescue Service) discussed fire safety visits in the community; wildfire prevention including working with local estates where wild camping may be coming an issue; a request that the public pass information about wildfires, such as at the Crannoch woods, to the Fire & Rescue Service or the police; Easter egg hunt, and an upcoming science lesson on venturi principle and atmospheric pressure at work with P7 at Cullen Primary. The crews should be out and about locally with messages for camper vans and caravans.

4. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2022 were proposed as a true record of the meeting by Phil Lovegrove and seconded by Bruce Edelsten

5. Chair's Report

Nothing outstanding not covered in the rest of the agenda.

6. Treasurer's Report

Phil Lovegrove reported admin account had £495.72 and fundraising account had £3725.66. There was no expenditure during the month

7. Secretary's report

The following public announcements have been placed on the CDCC Facebook page:

- Guide to Scotland's Census 2022
- Health & Social Care Moray – invitation to apply for a post.
- Moray West Wind Farm – interactive mapping tool showing cable route from Redhythe Point inland.
- Royal Voluntary Service - Community Transport – invitation to benefit or volunteer
- Back On Your Feet – invitation to those aged 5 – 25 to apply for funding for a project

- Scottish Land Commission's next virtual public meeting on Wednesday 16 March. (I have signed up to attend)
- Money Matters announcement of session in Forres and Keith, with an invitation to express interest in one being held in Cullen
- Aultmore Wind Farm public exhibition at the community centre on Wednesday 23 March

8. Councillors' reports

Donald Gatt spoke about lack of council staff in the legal department to resolve ownership of the Mercat cross.

Theresa Coull spoke about a special full council referring to a report by the accounts commission from Audit Scotland; a Keith visit by Princess Anne; Learning Estates meeting at Cullen Library, a Harbour advisory meeting, and an SSEN storm response workshop.

Laura Powell spoke about resilience planning and the SSEN funds available.

9. Resilience planning

No progress

10. Planning Officer's Report

Two items of note

- 22/00275/LBC - Proposed installation of permanent light fittings to the ground immediately adjacent to the viaduct piers for illumination of the viaduct structure at Railway Viaduct Castle Terrace Cullen Moray

22/00276/APP - Installation of permanent light fittings to the ground immediately adjacent to the viaduct piers at Railway Viaduct Castle Terrace Cullen Moray

- Modify Condition 1 of planning permission (17/01198/EIA / PPA-300-2052) granting permission for "a period of 30 years from the date when electricity is first exported from any wind turbine within the development to the electricity network (First Export Date)" to granting a permission for a period of 35 years and the Lurg Hill windfarm generation license extension to 35 years.

11. Current Business

a) Harbour Toilets

No progress, but Theresa Coull is hopeful of resolution soon. General dismay at Moray Council not honouring their written commitment to provide at least one public toilet in Cullen.

b) Harbour Users' Committee

The subject of the harbour toilets was raised at the harbour users' committee meeting which Heather Cameron attended on behalf of CDCC. There, Nicola Moss did not provide details on how issues with the lease were being resolved as the issue is "in hand and between landlord and tenant" but did say there is access to water by subscribed harbour users.

Other matters raised at the harbour users' meeting included:

- There are about to be some small jobs undertaken around the harbour e.g. replacing some mooring rings, signage, filling in holes in the pier

- Questions were asked about the yellow hatching in front of the harbour toilets needing to be repainted to reserve access for emergency vehicles – Colin Burch to see if it can be added to the other areas that need doing, such as lines in the square, Theresa Coull to check whether this was an action point from the Harbour User's Committee meeting
- Parking on Seatown, where Nicola Moss stated unofficial or unsafe parking was a highway code issue, i.e. police, and not one for Moray Council
- A likely return to face-to-face meetings given that the current restrictions are being lifted on 21 March 2022

c) Defibrillators

All defibrillators have now got a checking schedule in place: Cullen Square - Friends of Cullen; Lintmill - Katie MacLean; Deskford - Tony. Thank you to all of them. Sandra from Kieran's legacy is happy to attend a CDCC meet to discuss partner working in the future. Suggested a May meeting for that. If agreeable, can contact her to mark in her diary.

d) Certificates of Recognition

Stewart Black hopes to get them printed professionally

e) Motor home / camper van facilities at Port Long

No new activity

f) Speed Survey – A98 outside community centre.

A survey has been programmed for this summer.

g) Millennium Wood

The e-mail trail was forwarded to Brenda Gifford, Chair 3KA, who said the matter would be raised at the next 3KA directors meeting.

h) Logie play park

There is an application into the Money for Moray fund, and this has been shortlisted to give a presentation. Moray Council Community Support Unit are working with the primary school. Primary school pupils have been enquiring about progress and it is hoped it is possible to make a presentation at the school.

i) Cullen Town Flowers

These have not yet been ordered – the cost of ready to plant flowers will be compared the cost of plugs and growing them on.

j) E-bus shelter

Yvonne Joss (Moray Council) has responded and hopes to move the project forward.

k) Storage facilities for small traders / businesses

There have been two responses. No further action required at this time - remove from agenda.

l) Mercat Cross

As above

m) Refugees

As above

n) Tourist Forum

Letter from Karen Adams MPS inviting attendance at the first meeting of the tourism forum, which will occur via Teams at 7pm on Tuesday 22nd of March.

- o) Arrangements for local government elections: 5 May 2022
Hustings to be organised for Wednesday 20th April at 1900hrs
- p) Office 365 for non-profit organisations
As CDCC is, in effect, a statutory extension of local government, free licences are not available to CDCC. However, it would be available to 3KA, and the details have been passed on. It may be possible for Cullen voluntary groups to have a generic E-mail domain name (such as ***@cullen.org) for their organisation. This would help into the future with transitioning between group administrations with information being held centrally in the cloud.

12. AOCB

- a) The 'Aberdeenshire Coastal Pathway Corridor' project is on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/coastaberdeenshire/> and is 'a workspace and network, promoting and developing our Coastal pathways, their environment and culture'. Alison Simpson, project officer, recently posted in the Fordyce, Sandend and Area Community Group Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1124858210930719/permalink/4839684569448046/...>
'The Portsoy to Cullen Coastal path was identified as a top priority with the community, along with links inland to Fordyce and options for cycling. As Project Officer since September I have been progressing meetings and discussions with representatives of Portsoy Community Council, Sandend Amenities Council, Seafield estates, Moray West Wind Farm and other interested parties to explore the most viable options.... There is a forum of Aberdeenshire-based stakeholders which includes the Cullen Volunteer Group (not in Aberdeenshire but generous with advice and experience)...'.

Alison Simpson has been asked to keep CDCC informed.

- b) Scotland's Beach Awards
<https://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/community-and-place/scotlands-beach-awards/criteria/>

To gain an award, beaches must meet standards across three areas of Scotland's Beach Awards. These are: Access, Facilities & Safety, Local Environmental Quality, and Communities & Heritage.

Individual criteria points are categorised as 'major', 'minor' or 'best practice'. To gain and maintain an award, beaches must:

- Fulfil the requirements of all Major criteria
- Have no more than three counts of non-compliance to minor criteria
- Demonstrate ongoing commitment to improving best practice

Apart from water sampling, none of this looks insurmountable. However, it costs £300 to apply. Stewart Black to raise the matter at the next 3KA meeting.

- c. Moray Transport Forum
Relaunch at Fishermen's Hall, Saturday 19 March – Registration closed on 10 March
Noted

d. Active Travel Strategy

There are two virtual consultation events taking place on Monday 28th March at 10am - 11.30am and 7pm - 8.30pm. These will be held via Microsoft Teams, where you will have the opportunity to ask any questions or provide feedback [to the consultation that opened on 10 January 2022]. The comments and responses received during this period will be taken into consideration when finalising the strategy. Should anyone in your organisation wish to join, please email ActiveTravel@moray.gov.uk for the link.

Noted

e. Moray Rural Centre of excellence in digital health meeting to be attended on 23 March 2022

f. Seepage at Bauds burn being investigated.

g. Pitiness barrier fence posts damaged during recent storms.

13. Date of next meeting

19 April 2022

14. Dates for the calendar

Mon 28 March - Karen Adam visit to Cullen Community Centre

15-18 April - Easter weekend

Wed 20 April- Local Authority election hustings event

Sat 23 April – Money for Moray presentation event at Lhanbryde Community Centre. Online voting commences Mon 25 April

Wed 30 April - PB learning event via Zoom (need to register @ www.pbscotland.scot)

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.