



Minutes of Meeting of Cullen & Deskford Community Council

20 September 2022

At Deskford Jubilee Hall

Present

Colin Burch (Chair)

Bruce Edelsten (Secretary)

Ernest Kopp (Planning)

Councillor Donald Gatt

Councillor Tracy Colyer

1. Welcome

Colin Burch opened the meeting at 19.00

The meeting recorded its condolences to the royal family on their bereavement of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth.

2. Apologies

Stewart Black (Vice Chair), Phil Lovegrove (Treasurer), Councillor Theresa Coull, Simon Tucker (Fire and Rescue Services)

3. Outside Agencies Reports

- a) Police – There was no police presence though their report had been received via E-mail

4. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 August 2022 were proposed as a true record of the meeting by Colin Burch and seconded by Ernest Kopp.

5. Chair's Report

Flowers have been laid at a war memorial in Belgium on behalf of the people of Cullen. Stewart Black has contacted the individual concerned to offer financial assistance if required.

Flag Poles

CDCC does not have direct, independent, access to any of the prominent flagpoles in the CDCC area. The Cullen one is on top of the old town hall, now part of the Seaford Arms Hotel. The Deskford one is in the driveway of the ex-church and is private property, and the Castle Hill one is managed by the volunteer group. Siting new flagpoles, perhaps at both community centres, would

require the agreement of the appropriate bodies, costing, funding, and planning permission. Colin Burch to pursue.

The Deskford War Memorial is also at the ex-church and will need to be accessed for Remembrance Day. Colin Burch to pursue

Remembrance wreaths - Treasurer to order them for Remembrance Day

It was noted that Cullen and Deskford Community Council is understaffed and will need to consider what commitments it can make. The CDCC duties are undertaken on a purely voluntary basis. Due to being understaffed, the amount of work that can be undertaken requires to be considered and prioritised. New members, or volunteer offers could assist the CDCC in taking on 'optional' responsibilities - such as the town flowers. People can be involved with CDCC on a voluntary basis, or via membership options of being an associate or full member.

6. Treasurer's Report

Admin has £724.93 with only expenditure on hiring of community centre for last month's meeting. Fundraising has £29838.73 having received them £20000 grant from SSE resilience fund.

Phil attended (virtually) the treasurer's training/discussion, held by Debra Duke, on 30th August. A few points that came out of that is, not that anything has been done wrongly, but a few things could be done differently to add an extra level of accountability into the way payments are handled. Basically, we should minute at our meetings decisions made on payments that need to be made so that on the accounts any particular payment can be referenced.

As the presentation that Debra gave was sent to CDCC if there's any more points that you think are relevant then let me know.

Phil has arranged for the accounts to be independently examined by Sarah Addison, who has done Findochty accounts in the past and works for one of the accountancy companies in Buckie. Hopefully, Phil will get them to her, and she'll have them examined by the next meeting where they can be approved.

It was agreed to set a limit of £50 on how much an individual can commit without reference to the rest of the CDCC. This will require a change to the constitution which would need to be agreed at an AGM or EGM.

7. Secretary's report

Posted on Facebook

- Notice about restricted access to Cullen harbour's west pier
- Notice about Book of Condolences in old Town Hall building. Around 70 people attended to append their condolences. A thank you to the Seafield hotel for hosting the book.

8. Councillors' reports

Donald Gatt and Tracy Colyer reported

Attending: development days from Moray Council officers; licencing (short-term letting procedures); community planning (different partnerships that have input to communities); Integrated Joint Board (catchup meeting); Grampian Development meeting; housing committee, personal security briefing (from Police Scotland); Cullen and Portnockie Harbours Advisory Committee; Cost of Living Working Group; Head of Direct Service recruitment board; Police, Fire and Rescue Services Committee; other community councils; visited Moray Leisure Centre (to see how they are making themselves more self-financing), and constituency work.

9. Resilience planning

The SSE Resilient Communities grant funds have now been received. The applications have been awarded £20 000 against two applications for circa £38K. Consequently, there needs to be some trimming of requirements, and resilient partners from Moray Council & JCC have arranged a meet on Wednesday 21 September, 1130Hrs to work on moving this forward and identify what partners in the community to involve at different stages of planning. Stan Slater (who put together the current draft) will be involved with that meeting. Other CDCC members are welcome to be involved.

10. Planning Officer's Report

Ref. No: 22/01240/APP Alter and extend dwellinghouse at 5 Findlater Circle Cullen Buckie Moray AB56 4RY

Ref. No: 22/01253/LBC Alter and extend dwellinghouse at 223 Seatown Cullen Buckie Moray AB56 4SL

Ref. No: 22/01194/APP Replace existing windows with timber sash and case type and replace door with window at 24 Grant Street Cullen Buckie Moray AB56 4RS

Ref. No: 22/01318/APP Alter and extend dwellinghouse at 223 Seatown Cullen Buckie Moray AB56 4SL

Ref. No: 22/01324/APP Section 42 Application to modify Condition 1 of planning permission 19/00908/APP to amend the expiration period from 30 September 2022 to 30 September 2025 Lurg Hill, Deskford, Moray

None of the above raised any particular concerns to CDCC members present.

11. CDCC proposed reaction to looming cost of living & energy crisis - Information event & warm hub lunches

Colin reported on investigations on providing warm lunches two days a week to people in need. To evaluate need it was suggested the first contact should be Social Services – which may highlight other requirements such as training in the use of information technology.

Colin and Ernest will be attending the Buckie Area Forum (BAF) virtual EGM on 21 September. This EGM has been called to enable BAF to rent premises in Buckie as a response to the looming cost of living crisis over the winter months.

12. Current Business

- a) Defibrillators / Kieran's Legacy
Pads / whole device in the square needs replacing. Awaiting Kieran's Legacy to obtain stock to replace. The pads are now out-of-date, though are expensive to replace, particularly with imminent defibrillator replacement due. Colin has been told that, in the meantime, the pads will continue to work.
- b) Logie Park play area
Works due to start sometime during the Autumn, though no date at this time. PROLUDIC are the approved installer.
- c) Motor home / camper van facilities at Port Long

There has been confusion and concerns raised regards the allocated funding and how far the funds can now go due to inflationary costs.

Notice banning overnight parking put in place by Seafeld Estates.

This notice is an interim measure until formal campervan facilities are available. The other option was to gate off the area totally denying access.

- d) Cullen Town Flowers
Before any purchases are made, and this would need to be done before the end of the year, it needs to be established who, or what group, is doing what. The Allotment Association has, in the past, potted out, brought on, and watered the plant plugs to be ready to be planted out, and is probably willing to do this again, but their responsibility ends there, and other groups need to be willing to be further involved to make this successful.
- e) Millennium Wood
No news
- f) E-bus shelter
No further information, nor correspondence from Yvonne Joss.
- g) Tourist Forum – no further information
- h) 20mph speed limit / speeding subgroup – no further information
- i) CullenConnected
Next edition due during October (possibly toward the end of month). We may be able to include a summarised AGM report. Other community groups will be encouraged to submit an article.
- j) Harbour Gala & CullenConnected – Survey – agreed to distribute and publicise the survey results. (The collated response was attached to the published August minutes.)
- k) Moray Food Plus / Tesco Community Grant / Foodbank
Moray Food Plus did not want their referral form distributed with CullenConnected but are willing to accept referrals from CDCC or others.
A food bank project application has been accepted by the Tesco Community Grants Scheme. This will operate between October 2022 January 2023. Encouragement to people to use their blue tokens to support the project, and for volunteers to work on the project.
- l) Cullen Harbour Advisory Meeting
Attended by Heather Cameron and Colin Burch. Discussed: restricted access to west pier, 24-hour access for berth holders to the toilets and water, various signs needing renewed, toe rails need replacing, Selkie visiting end of October / beginning November, reminder for individuals to wear lifejackets when on their boats, navigation procedures when entering and leaving the harbour.

13. AOCB

None

14. Date of next scheduled meeting

AGM on 18 October 2022 at Cullen Community Centre

Dates for the diary

26 September 12.00 Buckie Community Lunch - to explore how they operate and fund the project.

26 September 19.00 Three Kings Association AGM

28 September 14.00 Visit Moray Speyside Tourism Network at Seafeld Arms Hotel

Meeting closed at 20.22

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, Cullen Library, and posted on Facebook.