



## Minutes of Meeting of Cullen & Deskford Community Council

21 March 2023

At Cullen Community and Residential Centre

### Present

Colin Burch (Chair)

Bruce Edelsten (Secretary)

Phil Lovegrove (Treasurer)

Ernest Kopp (Planning)

Councillor Theresa Coull

Simon Tucker - Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Joanne Larsen – Licencing Standard Office, Moray Council

Emily Clark - Community Development Officer, Cullen Community and Residential Centre

Three members of the public

### 1. Welcome and apologies

Colin Burch opened the meeting at 19.00 and welcomed those attending.

Apologies

Councillor Tracy Colyer, Councillor Donald Gatt

### 2. Presentation by Joanne Larsen, Licencing Standards Officer

Joanne Larsen talked the meeting through the complexities of licencing for civic events, public and private, the range of licences which may be required for any particular event, and the additional requirements, such as third-party liability or food hygiene certificates, which a proposed event may require.

While established festivals and events will have a process and experience of the licencing requirements, possibly only needing a few months to get the licences organised, a new event may require a lot longer, perhaps eighteen months.

[http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray\\_standard/page\\_40047.html](http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_40047.html)

[http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray\\_section/section\\_103026.html](http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_section/section_103026.html)

Road closure orders are managed by the roads department.  
[http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray\\_standard/page\\_57699.html](http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_57699.html)

### **3. Outside Agencies Reports**

Police – There was no police presence though their report was received via e-mail. There was nothing of specific concern to CDCC.

Simon Tucker, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service reported:

Successful car wash held on Saturday 19th March - raised £750.65 The split is as follows: £383 for Firefighters Charity and £367.65 for Keirans Legacy. Event was supported by five members of the Gordonstoun School Volunteer Fire Unit and their leader.

Cullen Fire Station will be attending and supporting Seaford Estate Information and Education Day on Friday 24th March. Cullen and Fordyce Primary schools will be guests at the event. Number of stands including different operational sectors of the estate, Police Scotland and SFRS including our Wildfire Response Unit from Elgin. (subject to operational availability). Another recruit is away to their initial course on 3rd April for two weeks. We have a candidate who has their Point of Entry tests at the end of the month and a further candidate has expressed an interest in applying to Cullen as an On Call Firefighter.

Easter Egg hunt using an orienteering format similar to last year will be held over the Easter weekend. Further details to be released on our social media over the next few weeks.

Cullen On Call firefighters will be delivering some CPR workshops over the next few months starting with a free session at Cullen Sea School. Other groups in the community can approach us to take up the same offer.

### **4. Minutes of meeting held on 21 February 2023**

Approved by Phil Lovegrove, seconded by Ernest Kopp

### **5. Chair's Report**

Colin Burch expressed concern that, as one of the community council's members was moving out of the area, he would no longer be able to be a full member but intends staying on as an associate member for the remainder of the session. Other matters are covered below.

### **6. Treasurer's Report**

Phil Lovegrove reported admin account has £355.58. Only expenditure was £30 for last month's use of community centre for meeting.

The fundraising account has £18680.67. Expenditure has been £300 for French visitors and accompanying lunch at Sidings Café in Dufftown, £594.43 for paper from Avansas for the CullenConnected newsletter. They refunded £35.70 for a ream of A5 that they didn't have in stock. Unfortunately, this leaves an outstanding amount of £8.92 which we should be due, but they can't see how we're still due that amount. This leaves £1443.07 in Tsi funds. Colin bought food prep items and was reimbursed £253.93 for them. There was a donation of £50 for help towards memorial bench fitting. Ring fenced are £9916.61 for the SSE resilience fund, £1500 for the e-bus shelter and £4000 for Logie Playpark.

### **7. Secretary's Report**

Correspondence:

- Moray West – weekly notice of operations now received by CDCC
- Results of feedback on pavement parking sent to Moray Council
- Responded to query about ban on overnight parking at east end of Port Long Road.

Posted on Facebook:

- Request for articles for CullenConnected
- Request for feedback on pavement parking
- Retrospective planning application for installation of dinosaur head
- Calling notice of this meeting
- Added note about presentation about licencing requirements (for public events)

## 8. Councillor's Reports

Councillor Donald Gatt submitted a written report:

Some Recent Events

23rd Feb 2023 - Citizens Award Ceremony (stood in for Civic Leader)

1st Mar 2023 - Moray Council (Budget Day).

- Managed to keep Council Tax increase to 5% while inflation was at 10.1% and Scottish Government cut Council funding by 2.2% (See your Council Tax Information Leaflet)
- Council Tax and Budget Information 2023 (moray.gov.uk)
- Extra £300,000 in revenue budget for Roads Maintenance (Potholes) in 2023/24.
- No cuts to Libraries, Swimming Pools and Public Toilet provision.
- £283,000 Capital spend on harbours. Plus, additional £285,000 for additional dredging at Buckie harbour.
- £139,000 capital spend for Libraries.
- £4,350,000 capital spend on roads.
- £366,000 capital spend on road safety.

14th Mar 2023 - Planning and Regulatory Services Committee

Forthcoming Events

22 March - Briefing on RAF Lossiemouth

Various dates - Briefings on Moray Growth Deal projects

Easter break

Online Reporting Forms / Call Centre.

Use of the Moray Council Online Reporting Forms or Call Centre is encouraged to speed up the reporting of problems and save the Council money. Web link:

[http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray\\_standard/page\\_88163.html](http://www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_88163.html)

Theresa Coull reported that the big event had been the budget, which had been voted through. Each ward is to get £15,000 each to do little repairs etc., and the ward councillors will have a say on how this money is distributed. However, guidance on the process is being sought through CSU as there is a risk of being inundated with requests.

There are lots of briefings on the Moray Growth Deal.

## 9. Planning Officer's Report

- a. 23/00340/APP: Retrospective application for installation of dinosaur head to roof at 1 Bayview Road Cullen Buckie Moray AB56 4SB

At the time of writing there are fifty comments representing a broad cross section of opinion and, as such, CDCC does not see a need to additionally comment.

- b. 23/00225/APP: Install a Top Up Tap for water bottles on Cullen Viaduct Car Park Cullen Moray

## 10. Resilience Planning

Colin Burch, (not CDCC) received an email from Rhona McNicol, Moray Council Community Support Officer - Education, Resources and Communities, which contained a number of attachments referring to a Resilience Plan. One of the attachments, a document titled 'Support Agreement & Review', seeks a signature from Colin, implying he agrees to the enclosed process, including a peer review of the Resilience Plan.

CDCC feels it is being steamrolled into agreeing a process it does not have the resources to properly comply with and is unlikely to agree.

The [draft] Cullen and Deskford Resilience Plan, an additional attachment, needs some amendments to be fully relevant though, once, completed, will a useful document for the community at the household level.

Colin intends meeting with CSU to clarify the process.

Meanwhile, from the SSE resilience funding:

- a. Containers: Cullen's container is in place, the Deskford one needs to be installed.
- b. Shelving for the containers
- c. Generators: one for Cullen, one for Deskford. Maintenance. A regular 'run and test' programme will need to be implemented. Generators have been occasionally run to ensure their operation.
- d. There is still circa £9,000 left. There is a pick list for this which will need to be revisited.

## 11. Visitors from Janville-sur-Juine: 24 Feb – 3 Mar

A successful visit by a deputation of 9 persons from Janville was undertaken between 25 February and 3 March. They were very impressed with what Cullen and area has to offer and are very keen to continue with a partnership between the two towns. A thank you to all who helped make it a successful visit, with special thanks to Keith Dufftown Heritage Railway and the 'Platform' staff who provided lunch, the Community Centre for making available some of the facilities, and, also a thank you to those individuals who hosted a variety of more specific experiences to our visitors. Our visitors hosted a very nice 'end-of-visit' event with a variety of French cuisine being available for sampling. They also gifted to Cullen a twinning drawing by Severine Pestelard. It is anticipated that this will be placed in the Community Centre.

- a. Roundtable meeting at community centre on Thursday 16 March  
A working group explored different ways of engaging with the Cullen population to gauge community engagement and agreed to including an article in the Cullen Connected, posters round Cullen and on social media.
- b. Zoom meeting on Wednesday 12 April with the Janville group.  
Reason is to maintain contact and look at ways of progressing this.
- c. Potential exploratory trip to France in September  
September or some other time to be determined, though during this year is the expectation.
- d. Funding: To date this has cost nearly £400. At this point the CDCC have picked up the tab. It was agreed CDCC will make an application to the 'Cullen Common Good Fund' to recoup those monies. Future funding will need to be sorted and that will fall to the working group.

## 12. Community Lunch

Held on Wednesdays at the Community Centre. Regularly being attended by 40+ persons. The Community Lunch have assisted two people away from the actual lunch itself. The lunches will continue running weekly till the end of March, then monthly on the last Wednesday of the month through to around September or October when the situation will be re-evaluated with possible re-introduction of weekly meals during the colder months.

- Buckie Area Forum - Warm Winter Bundle: At time of writing, there has been no feedback as to the status of this. Colin intends attending next BAF meeting.
- Warm Spaces – Moray Council grant application: The funding was confirmed on 21 March.
- Tesco Community Grant - The £500 award (3rd place) has been made.

## 13. Current Business

### a. Town Flowers

The Cullen Millennium Garden Volunteer Group have offered to manage the tubs in and around the square and the Midiki-Ley. CDCC thanks them for taking on this responsibility. The group have submitted an article for CullenConnected. A member of public expressed concern at the possible loss of previously purchased plants and bulbs. CDCC have been assured that these have been retained.

### b. Logie Park Play Area

Area MC representative met with CDCC member on 16 March at the park. It is now hoped installation of the playpark will be completed by the end of April. It is anticipated that the playpark will be sited slightly uphill from the existing site. It is hoped that will provide a more useful area for the new playpark.

### c. Defibrillator awareness / fund raising / Fire & Rescue Service Car Wash – 18 March

CDCC was present at the event. It was agreed to donate £50.00 to be shared between the Fire Service charity and Keirans Legacy.

### d. E-bus shelter

Due to CDCC members being overly committed and understaffed, this has still not been fully pursued.

### e. Pavement parking

Community feedback, that, apart from Port Long Road (i.e. the seafront), areas of Cullen Seatown should be exempt, was fed back to Moray Council.

### f. Moray Local Development Plan – 2027 review

See email of 22 March 2023. Closing date for input is 30 June 2023

Moray Council has a lot of information about providing input to the development of the plan; bullet points of factors to consider, range and scope of ideas that could be considered etc. Doing this properly, requesting, collating and editing responses could be a big job (assuming there are responses), like the resilience plan is a big job, possibly beyond the current capacity of CDCC. It is expected that Moray Council will be running road shows. CDCC will need to ensure there is an event in Cullen and publicise that.

### g. CullenConnected - funding

Funding for the Newsletter from the Moray Communities Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund has been secured for two years. Still awaiting a determination from the National Lottery Communities Fund. This application is for the wider Cullen Connected programme.

### h. Memorial Bench Memorial bench

This has been installed on the seaward side from the Golf club building. This has been confirmed and verified by Moray Council. The family of Alan Murray are

delighted with the bench and placement who have contributed to the CDCC in appreciation.

There was a memorial fundraising event at the Bowling club on Saturday 18 March. The event raised around £1700. The funds will go to the Cullen Christmas Lights and a “very special Christmas light” will shine bright in Alan’s memory

- i. Scottish Water and subsidence in Seafield Street  
Scottish Water thought that this should have already been done sometime by end of February. When they were informed that the works have not actually been done and now say that the works should be completed mid-March. At time of the meeting, it had still not been done. Colin Burch will continue to chase this.
- j. File sharing – still to be investigated.
- k. Three Kings Association - official request for CDCC to receive minutes.  
It was agreed to put in an official request for the CDCC to receive the minutes of the Three Kings Association.

#### **14. AOCB**

- a. CDCC Membership  
As noted above, CDCC are at the minimum number of members (4) required to exist and have no representatives from Deskford, for which there are three places. One current member is due to relocate out of the area, which will leave CDCC below the legally required numbers. It is hoped to recruit new full members before this happens.
- b. Links Car Park  
Andrew Castles has asked whether there was a chance of chuckies being spread at the links car park which has taken a battering over the winter. Colin will approach Stewart Black who did this last year.
- c. Long-Term Forest Plan (LTFP) for Reidhaven Trust (Cullen) Forest  
From Caitlin Erskine, Forest Manager, Seafield and Strathspey Estates  
The Long-Term Forest Plan (LTFP) for Reidhaven Trust (Cullen) Forest is being renewed for the next 20-year period and as part of this process, CDCC has been identified as a stakeholder and been asked to consider the project and raise any issues which you see as being key to the management of the woodland going forward so they can be appropriately addressed.  
The email’s attached map shows relevant patches of forest, none of which are really of concern to CDCC. It was agreed to thank Caitlin Erskine for the e-mail adding CDCC has no comments.
- d. Guest speakers for April. The ‘Day Opportunities Team’, part of the Moray Health and Social Care Team, have agreed to do a presentation at the April meeting.
- e. Donation to the Cullen Tourist Initiative for hosting CDCC information at the World Skink Championships on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2023. It was agreed to donate £20.00.
- f. Potholes in York Place – possibly exacerbated by increased traffic due to the traffic lights on Castle Terrace. Theresa Coull to pursue.

#### **15. Dates for the calendar**

- a. 23 March - Resilient Communities 2023 conference – online
- b. 26 March - Cullen Skink championship ~ CDCC awareness attendance if possible

#### **16. Next meeting**

18 April 2023 (to confirm that the Deskford Hall is available)

Meeting closed at 20.50

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, TKCA Development Officer, Cullen Library, and posted on Facebook.