



**Minutes of Meeting of Cullen & Deskford Community Council
17 September 2024**

Present:

Colin Burch (Chair)
Lyra Wilson (Vice Chair)
Stewart Wilson (planning)
Les Tarr
Colin Taylor, Chair, Deskford and District Community Association
Councillor Theresa Coull
Councillor Donald Gatt
Councillor Tracy Colyer

1. Welcome and introductions

2. Apologies

Bruce Edelsten,
Phil Lovegrove,
Station Officer John Jappy (SFRS)

3. Outside Agencies Reports

a. Police Scotland report for August 2024

CDCC is not aware of receiving the August report, which has now been requested.

Cllr. Gatt reported that he was aware that police reports would in future be on a quarterly cycle for the full council and assumed this would be the same for community councils.

b. Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

Station Officer Jappy had submitted in a written report, no incidents over the period. The services focus over the next period would be on chimney safety and electrical safety.

4. Minutes of previous meeting held on 20 August 2024

a. Corrections

Cllr Colyer noted that in section 9 of the minute her name had been cited as Coull and not Colyer.

b. Approval

Proposed L Wilson, seconded C Burch

c. Matters arising not on agenda

No items raised any would be covered during the agenda

5. Chair's report

Nothing particular other than feedback at particular points and recognition to CDCC members for what we all do.

6. Treasurer's Report

Phil Lovegrove reported that the Admin account has £360.55. Expenditure this month was £0.99 for iCloud DD, £42.37 to TKCA for room hire and printing costs.

The Fundraising account has £12655.80.

Expenditure this month was £100 to Hall Church for hustings event.

Income was:

- £30 from Moray Conservatives,
- £22.59 from City and Royal Burgh
- £12.50 from Portknockie CC, these three payments were towards the hustings event costs.
- £673.98 from TKCA for community lunches.
- TKCA paid £250 towards their loan repayment.
- That leaves £2586.65 in unallocated funds and £10069.15 in allocated.
- Breakdown of allocated funds is £6676.61 SSE.
£1578.61 town centre regeneration fund.
£1813.93 for community lunches

There has been a request for funds for bulbs for the town flowers. (£60.98 Agreed via E-mail by CDCC members.)

J Sowden asked if Phil could be consulted on the costs and source of Rembereance Wreaths. C Burch to action

7. Secretary's Report

Various items published in Facebook during the past month was 'Consultation on the updated Developer Obligations Supplementary Guidance', and 'SHARE – The Scottish Health Research Register and Biobank' along with minutes and agenda.

8. Planning Officer's report

No planning reports noted.

S Wilson did express concern regarding a previous planning application in Ogilvie Park where some trees had been removed. This has impacted neighbouring properties privacy. The planning application was to be reviewed to establish if replacements were to be planted.

9. Councillor's reports

Cllr. Colyer:

- Attended various statutory meetings including Licensing Board, IJB [Integrated Joint Board for Health Care trust], and Education.
- Small 'committee' meeting for Grampian
- Attended COSLA meeting on National Care Service plans by Scottish Government

Cllr Gatt

- Education meeting regarding closure of Grange Crossroads Primary School.
- Normal round of committee meetings
- Attended
 - COSLA convention meeting in Crieff
 - Tenants Forum
 - Event at Seafield Estates with visit to sawmill.
- Mercat Cross update:
 - Additional works have been discovered for which there is no funding, work on hold till the position is clear.
- Maintenance of National Cycle Route from Cullen to Portnockie
 - There is only one path's warden for the whole of Moray, funding secured for two-years, but nothing sourced at this time for beyond then. This is a concern for the future.
 - Council officers are to report back

Cllr Coull

- Attended regular council committee meetings.
- Visited the Fire Service Call handling centre in Dundee.
- Reported on a scheme to roll out BSL [British Sign Language] training plan that was being heard by the Corporate Committee.
- Attended 'Statkraft' (aka Keith Greener Grid Park) event that covered Keith and Strathspey area. Group looks at Green and Solar technologies.
- Due to attend Harbour committee, date anticipated as 3rd October.
 - Cllr Coull to let CCDC know when the meeting is so attendance can be arranged.

There were no questions to the councillors.

10. Community Development Officer's report / Three Kings Cullen Association – minutes

J Sowden reported:

- Census data, working to refine the information already distributed.
- Community Centre – awarded £27K grant to go on improvements on the centre, including insulation and improving internal condition of 4[rooms of the property.
 - Intention to set up a Community Hub
 - Highlands and Island to match funding
- Attended meetings with officials from Moray council regarding the empty commercial properties in 2023 there was 1 now there are 7 empty shops.
 - Focus is on some specific properties.
- Cullen Place Survey, Jill had produced a draft survey form for discussion. The objective being to get input from Cullen residents on improving conditions and well-being.
 - The meeting discussed this at length. Points highlighted were

- Scoring system, J Sowden explained that this follows the national Standards for 'Place' surveys. It was felt that some assistance might be required by older residents to complete the form.
- Distribution was discussed and a number of options explored.
- Some suggestions were made as to additional questions, including age range and gender, these would help with the analysis of results.
- CCDC to review and feedback comments to Jill.
- Knitters group had produced 7000 poppies.

11. Deskford and District Community Association – minutes

Colin Taylor provided additional information on the progress being made by the group.

- The halls were now 100% compliant with fire, health and safety requirements.
- More funding opportunities were being pursued, to make further improvements.
- Flower Show Committee A Burns Supper was under discussion as an event
- NEOS arts group were expressing an interest in holding an event in 2025 within the halls.
- The group were looking out for more volunteers to assist as hall keepers and on general tasks.

12. Current Business

a. Resilience Planning

A meeting has taken place with Rhona Nicol. S Wilson to follow up with J Sowden and L Tarr regarding follow up work to the meeting.

b. Local Place Plans (closing date extended to Jan 2025). Jill Sowden / TKCA taking the lead. Covered in an earlier section of the meeting.

c. Community Lunches

Still well attended and going well.

d. Cullen Connected

Next edition to be out soon. C Burch will be making a funding application to cover the costs into the future.

CDCC will have a greater input into the newsletter with it being clear that CDCC is assisting with the funding.

e. Ramp to beach

No source of funding has been identified

f. Millenium Wood

No further updates

g. Dog signs at harbour beach

A member of the public emailed CDCC, commenting that the signs at the harbour saying dogs are banned from the beach(s) have been removed.

Cllr Gatt suggested pursuing this with the Harbours Board. C Burch to action.

h. Tarmacking of pavements in Ogilvie Park

No sign, at the time of writing, of this being completed.

Cllr Gatt to make enquiries of the Roads Department

i. Maintenance of National Cycle Route from Cullen to Portnockie
Covered in Cllr report section

j. SSEN Community Benefit Fund

The SSEN Transmission Regional Fund has opened with an initial round of £2,000,000 to support strategic projects within our network area in the north of Scotland.

Clarification to be sought on this item from Bruce Edelsten

k. Aultmore Wind Farm

- Vattenfall representatives will attend the October meeting
- Aultmore Land Management Plan review document received from Forest Land Scotland. Bruce Edelsten is producing a response from CCDC

l. Community Council Elections 2025

‘CDCC Needs You’ advert required for next CullenConnected, and, probably, follow-ups during the year. Moray Council usually mailshot all households prior to elections – perhaps CDCC could be involved in the mailshot and/or the mailshot is included in a CullenConnected.

Noted see 12d.

m. JCC (next meeting – 14 November 2024)

a. Transport Forum

b. Community Council funding – JCC Admin Grant subgroup

Documents recently circulated – response and/or meeting required. Phil & Colin to collaborate and provide a response. Other CDCC members can have input if able.

c. Review of Scheme of Establishment for Community Councils

It was noted that this may be a short meeting and perhaps a Zoom remote meeting was a better use of Debra Duke’s time than have her travel to a face-to-face in Cullen.

The meeting acknowledged that Debra is only part-time and is very busy.

13. AOCB



No items

14. Dates for the calendar

Nothing noted

15. Dates of next meetings

- 15 October 2024 (AGM) at Cullen Community Centre
- 19 November 2024 at Cullen Community Centre