

Burghead and Cummingston Community Council



Minute of regular meeting held at Burghead Harbour Office on Thursday 7th February 2013

Present: Billy Davidson (Chair), Jennifer Walker (Treasurer), John Gordon (Secretary), Molly Fraser, Hilary Gloyer

Apologies: Abbey Main, Jim Patterson

In Attendance: Councillor Chris Tuke, Constables Ross and Donnelly, Grampian Police, Fiona Burnett, Moray Council Waste Aware Team, Tim Betts, Community Warden, Moray Council

Adoption of minute of previous meeting

Proposed by: Molly Fraser

Seconded by: Hilary Gloyer

The Chair welcomed and introduced those in attendance.

The meeting agreed to suspend standing orders until the visitors had given their reports.

Constable Donnelly presented the following police report.

Ongoing Investigations in Burghead

This report covers the period from 3 December 2012 until 2 February 2013. Burghead and Cummingston saw 5 reported crimes.

On 7 January 2013, a male and female appeared at Elgin Sheriff Court in connection with a Serious Assault which occurred within Burghead.

Further reports were submitted in relation to contraventions of the Road Traffic Act and Communications Act.

Following enquiries a juvenile male has been dealt with in connection to the wilful damage caused to a vehicle parked at the Cemetery Car Park, Burghead which was reported on 2 December 2012.

On 5 December 2012, a report was received of a Theft of diesel from a vehicle parked at premises at Roseisle.

During the afternoon of 28 January 2013, an unattended quad bike was stolen from farm premises at Roseisle. The quad bike has since been recovered.

Anyone with any information of the above crime or any other crimes in the Lossiemouth Policing Area should contact Grampian Police Service Centre on 0845 600 5 700, Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or call in person at the Lossiemouth Police Office.

OPERATION AVON

On 11 January 2013, an Operation Avon took place in the Burghead area. Police Constables assisted by our local Community Wardens, Tim Betts and David Haytack and accompanied by partnership agencies used the event of the Burning of the Clavie to engage with local youngsters. The event was enjoyed by all and no alcohol related offences were detected.

ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Antisocial Behaviour and its causes are continuing to be targeted by Officers from Lossiemouth along with the Community Warden Tim Betts, Moray Council and other partners.

FUEL THEFTS

Over the past month there have been thefts from fuel tanks in remote locations. All persons with fuel tanks on their properties are reminded to check the security of their tanks and to be vigilant regarding this type of crime. The local policing team has increased patrols resulting in three males being traced at an ongoing crime in Lossiemouth and a report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

Tim Betts, Community Warden, Moray Council, addressed the meeting and confirmed that a County wide initiative to reduce and eventually eliminate the scourge of dog fouling was about to start.

Tim said that although the evidence of dog fouling was abundant in all communities it was still high impossible to catch the culprits in the act, and he appealed for the assistance of the public in catching repeat offenders. Tim also confirmed that the use of surveillance cameras was being considered for use in the worst affected areas.

Fiona Burnett, Waste Aware Team, Moray Council addressed the meeting and gave a presentation on the new bins which are about to be rolled out in Burghead and Cummington. Fiona said that her team would be available to help and give advice to those who felt they would have difficulty in accommodating the new bins. Fiona said that Moray Council would consider alternative arrangements where practical.

Matters arising from minute of previous meeting

Building the Broch

Councillor Tuke advised the meeting that he was investigating what, if any, progress had been made by the Moray Council Community Support Unit since their much heralded public meetings held in the Community Hall in July 2012.

Site of Former Chemical Works

The Chair advised the meeting that there had not been any improvement works made the owners to the above site and that its condition had been made worse by further dumping of excavated materials on it.

The Secretary reminded the meeting that the owner had advised him verbally that a planning application and thus development was imminent which would resolve the problem.

The Secretary was instructed to write a letter to the owners asking them to tidy the site without any further delay.

Burghead Caravan Park

Hilary Gloyer expressed concerns she had received from residents regarding the dumping of excavated materials and topsoil on a section of the foreshore banking adjacent the caravan park. The concerns were that the materials being deposited were in complete contrast to the white sand and marram grass which was being covered by the foreign materials. There were also concerns about the amount of litter and plastic bottles which were evident amongst the dumped materials, which were starting to be pulled out on to the beach at high tide.

The meeting agreed to instruct the Secretary to write a letter to the management of the caravan park, expressing their concern and asking for assurances that the face of the bank would be returned to its natural state of white sand and marram grass.

Proposed Closure of Burghead Library

Molly Fraser produced an agenda for a meeting which was going to be held by the full Moray Council on 13 February at which the administration would be putting forward their budget proposals for the coming year. The agenda had been downloaded from the Moray Council web site by Jim Patterson.

The meeting expressed their concern and alarm that amongst the proposals were the closure of Burghead Library and that this was the first they had heard of it.

When questioned, Councillor Tuke could offer no explanation why he did not think that the proposed closure of Burghead Library was not of enough importance to warrant his discussion of this proposal with his Community Council before its forthcoming publication in the press.

The meeting noted that they had less than one week to put forward a case for the retention of the library and urged Councillor Tuke to do all he could on behalf of the community to save the library.

Being no further business, the meeting was closed.

Date of next meeting: 7th March 2013 at 7.30pm at the Harbour Office, Burghead