

## **CRAIGIEBUCKLER AND SEAFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of AGM and monthly meeting held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2017  
7.30 pm, Douglas Lounge, Craigiebuckler Church

- PRESENT:** Aileen Brown (Chairperson)  
William Sell (Secretary)  
Allan Davidson (Treasurer)  
Karen Reilly (Committee)  
Rhona McCallan (Minutes)  
Caroline Walker (Committee)  
Dana Blyth (Committee)  
Ainsley Mitchell (Committee)  
Joe McCallan (Committee)  
Karen Rennie (Community Council Liaison Officer)  
Police Officer (Sergeant David Cowie)  
Cllr Martin Greig  
Members of the public (3)
- APOLOGIES:** Robert Frost (Planning)  
Cllr Jennifer Stewart  
Cllr John Corall

### **WELCOME**

Aileen thanked everyone for attending and the meeting commenced at 7:30pm.

### **POLICE REPORT**

The Police Report was circulated to members and is available on the Craigiebuckler and Seafield Community Council Website. Sergeant Cowie advised that with the lighter nights and school mid-term holidays that the number of youths congregating around Johnston Gardens, Viewfield Crescent Gardens etc is on the increase, but there were regular patrols in these areas to minimise the disturbance for local residents. It was noted that there were vehicles exceeding the speed limits on Coutesswells Road and Countesswells Avenue. Sergeant Cowie said speed surveys had been carried out previously in this area and they would be included in future speed surveys.

### **AGM ITEMS:-**

#### **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

See Appendix 1.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

See Appendix 2.

Please note outstanding balance is £340.42 as £100 for Hazlehead Academy Library will be included in financial year 2017-18. Aberdeen Community Council's Grant Year is January to December and Karen Rennie advised that the carryover was within limits and there would be no claw back from Aberdeen Council.

#### **PLANNING OFFICER'S REPORT**

In Robert's absence William gave a resume of the numerous planning issues and investigations Robert has worked tirelessly on throughout the year.

## **MONTHLY MEETING ITEMS**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the previous meeting of Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017 were approved.

Proposed: Joe McCallan

Seconded: Allan Davidson

### **MATTERS ARISING**

#### **1. Road Closures (insufficient notifications by ACC)**

The numerous closures and at times the short notice given, plus the lack of prominent notices, were a source of annoyance for some commuters in the area. Cllr Greig advised of the change of procedure for processing road closures and these were now dealt with centrally and were now not so easily identified or retrieved. Karen Rennie advised that she dealt with these closures and forwarded the information to the Community Council's in that area. Road Closures continue to be advertised in the local papers.

#### **2. Choked Drain – Craigiebuckler Drive**

This drain near the Scout Hut was the source of localised flooding. Cllr Greig had initiated gully cleaning in the area but unfortunately this particular one had been omitted. He advised that he was pursuing with the works department to clean this one out as soon as possible.

#### **3. Donation Request**

Requests for donations had been received from Hazlehead 53<sup>rd</sup> Scouts and Toots Playgroup. It was agreed to donate £100 to Hazlehead 53<sup>rd</sup> Scouts for repairs to the roof of their hut and to collate more information regarding the Toots Playgroup, and ascertain whether they were a commercial business or a voluntary organisation, before deciding on whether to give a donation.

#### **4. Dandara Site Ownership & Couper's Pond**

It was mooted previously that if the site had not been handed over to Dandara then legally Aberdeen Council would still be owners of the site and they could be pursued to investigate the issues with water courses from that site. Cllr Greig though advised that the site had been handed over to Dandara and it would be difficult to prove liability for the issues encountered since work began on the site.

Couper's Pond was looked after by the MaCauley Institute but as there is no liability for the water course to the pond to be maintained then it seems likely that this amenity will be lost due to lack of water flowing through it. If the water flowing out of the pond is reduced and a sufficient supply to the pond is provided then the amenity may endure.

Cllr Greig continues to keep tabs.

#### **5. Rubislaw Quarry Development & Queen's Cross Community Council**

It had previously been discussed that we would get in touch with Queen's Cross Community Council offering our support in opposing the proposed flats development. William had done so and had received a response from them advising that they would be holding a meeting on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April to discuss the development. They would then advise if a public meeting is to be called to allow local residents to ask questions regarding the development.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

William had forwarded email correspondence to all committee members prior to the meeting and there were no matters arising regarding their content.

### **PLANNING OFFICER'S REPORT / PLANNING MATTERS**

It was noted that there were only minor building works associated with applications made last month.

Ainsley intimated that the commitment to plant new trees in place of those removed by Dandara at their site boundary had not been fulfilled. Cllr Greig advised that he would pursue.

### **FORUM FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

There were no additional issues raised by members of the public present.

### **FRIENDS OF WALKER DAM**

The meeting held two weeks previously had been very successful with a large turnout of local residents and an informative article which followed in the P & J. Alan said that he was again meeting Steven Shaw (Aberdeen City Council Environmental Manager) to discuss further improvements and accessibility to the Dam. He had also applied to the Woodland Trust for some 450 trees to form a hedgerow on the open south-west side of the site boundary.

### **AOCB**

Karen Rennie spoke on the various council boundaries e.g. Councillors and their ward boundaries, Community Council boundaries, Scottish Parliament Constituencies, Westminster Constituencies etc. and how they could be made more compatible and homogenised for consistency and ease of identification. She also advised that a request for a new community council was initiated on behalf of the proposed Countesswells Development, but at present this did not match the minimum population criteria and was rejected.

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### **Craigiebuckler and Seafield Community Council Chairperson's Report**

The past 12 months have been a time of progression in the service of our community.

We have made financial contributions to the following social events:-

HM the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations at Craigiebuckler Church.

Christmas Festivities, street Christmas decorative lights on Springfield Road and the purchase of a Christmas Tree which was sited at a prominent position in the grounds of Craigiebuckler Church for the public enjoyment.

We have also contributed to the purchase of books for Hazlehead Academy Library.

Throughout the year this Community Council has maintained a supportive interest in Friends of Walker Dam and Friends of Johnson Gardens.

The problems associated with public transport in this area are an ongoing concern to us. Unfortunately we have again lost our evening service.

Initially we were excluded from meetings of the West of City Health and Social Care Partnership, but as Chair of a Community Council which represents an exceptionally high number of elderly and infirm residents, I successfully argued for our inclusion.

The pavements and roads in a number of our streets have been allowed to deteriorate. Constant complaints, which included photographic evidence, were made to Aberdeen City Council. Consequently resurfacing and repairs have been made to some roads, but there is still a lot of work to be done.

We have submitted a number of representations concerning development planning applications. Two of our members have attended training courses in planning.

A planned major development at Rubislaw Quarry is of concern.

This Community Council now has a Facebook account in addition to its website, both of which are valuable communication tools. However, we recognise that IT is not all-inclusive and have used leafleting to inform residents of major building developments planned for this area.

CRAIGIEBUCKLER & SEAFIELD COMMUNITY  
COUNCIL

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2016-17

Bank balance 01/04/2017	£891.75	
debit 05/04/2016 ch/No 10097 for rental of church hall		£288.00
debit 11/06/2016 ch/No 10098 for queens party at church		£400.00
debit 02/08/2016 ch/No 10099 for Friends of walker dam		£300.00
debit 01/11/2016 ch/No 10100 to council for christmas lights		£300.00
debit 01/12/2016 ch/No 10101 for Hazelhead academy library		£100.00
debit 06/12/2016 ch/No 10102 for church tree lights		£175.99
debit 07/12/2016 ch/No 10103 for church social ,senior citizens		£25.00
debit 03/03/2017 ch/No 10104 for Hazelhead academy library		£100.00
credit 26/01/2017	£290.00	
credit 19/05/2016	£747.66	
Totals	in £1929.41	out £1688.99
Balance	£240.42	

Signed as a true record

A.Davidson(treasurer)