

CRAIGIEBUCKLER AND SEAFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of monthly meeting held on Tuesday 7th August 2018 at 7.30 pm in the Douglas Lounge, Craigiebuckler Church.

Present

Aileen Brown, William Sell, Robert Frost, Cameron Campbell, Ainsley Mitchell
Police Sergeant Simon Lewis-Dalby.

Apologies

Councillor Martin Greig, Councillor John Cooke, Joe McCallan, Rhona McCallan,
Karen Reilly.

Minutes of the last Meeting

Approved: Cameron Campbell

Seconded: Aileen Brown

Matters arising out of the Minutes of the last Meeting

Data Protection:- William Reported that we now have a certificate of registration with the Information Commissioner's Office

Police Report

The following report was given by Sergeant Simon Lewis-Dalby:- No cars were stolen in our area during the reporting period, but elsewhere car thefts occurred because house doors had been left unlocked thus allowing thieves to obtain their ignition keys.

In Mannofield cars have been entered by thieves because the procedures to activate their keyless entry systems were not carried out properly, i.e., the people who were trying to lock the vehicles were too close to them when they attempted to activate the keyless system of securing them. Their close proximity caused the cars to unlock to allow legitimate entry, but – thinking that they had locked their cars – the owners left them unattended. The Police advise testing the car doors to make sure that they are locked.

A speeding survey carried out on Countesswells Road showed that the speed of traffic was below the threshold of 30 miles per hour.

Cameron observed racing going on on Countesswells Road between two cars being driven side by side towards Kingswells. Sergeant Lewis-Dalby advised him to ring the Police the next time he sees it. Meantime he will keep an eye open for any recurrence of such incidents.

Rogue motor cyclists are driving their machines in the policies of Hazlehead Park. Anyone who sees them should promptly ring the Police. A good description of the rider and motorcycle will help identify the perpetrators.

Treasurer's Report

Cameron Campbell reported that he had visited the bank to find out about electronic banking because he is only receiving statements quarterly and wants to keep a close eye on the account. Aileen proposed that Cameron sets up internet banking, seconded by William. There being no amendments, the proposal was agreed.

Our bank balance is £567.30. Cameron has been issued with a new cheque book.

Cameron also reported that he had received an emailed confirmation from the Council's Community Council Liaison Officer stating that our grant was through and 'will be processed today' for receipt in 10 days. That was on 21st June, but it has not been received yet.

Cameron contacted the Church Secretary on 31st July concerning the payment of our rent for the Douglas Lounge (the venue of our monthly meetings), but he was advised not to worry because the Church doesn't charge due to our help in the past.

However, we are in receipt of an operating grant from the Council and it should be used for the purpose of renting the room.

After discussion Cameron suggested that we pay £15 per calendar month. Aileen proposed that we pay that amount throughout our incumbency, seconded by William. There being no amendments, the proposal was agreed. Cameron will set up the direct debit for the monthly payment of £15 to the Church's bank account.

Correspondence

All correspondence was distributed to the committee prior to the meeting and there were no questions arising.

Aileen reminded us of the Community and church celebration weekend from Friday 7th September to Sunday 9th September and gave an explanation of the event about which we had been informed. Our participation will raise the profile of the Community Council.

An email had been received from Aberdeen City Council which advised us that the Doubletree by Hilton, Aberdeen Treetops, 161 Springfield Road had applied to the Licensing Board for a variation of premises licence. After debate, it was decided not to oppose the application which was for an off-licence.

Discussion with City Councillors

No councillors were present.

Councillor Cooke has given his apologies, but he has also provided this report:-

“It's been fairly quiet in the last month, as the council is in recess, so I've largely been just dealing with constituent casework. Highlights are:

There is the ongoing saga of the state of the road in Burnieboozle Crescent. As I've said before, the lesson here is that folk should report potholes, and especially make insurance claims if their cars are damaged by hitting potholes etc. I know it's tempting to think 'I won't bother, because nothing will happen', but the Council uses a points system, whereby the more complaints/claims there are, the higher the priority is given to fixing the road.

I've also been in touch with Police Scotland about speeding, especially in Countesswells Avenue/Road.

I've also had complaints about construction traffic in Countesswells Avenue, especially very early in the morning/at weekends. If folk do get bothered by this, it would help if they could take registration numbers or other details of offending vehicles, as this will help our roads inspection team."

Vehicles bound for the Dandara site are not using the official entrance at the roundabout junction on Countesswells Road. Residents have been complaining about speeding vehicles travelling to and from the site via Countesswells Avenue, which is not its designated access. Cameron said that there should be a log of complaints about this behaviour. William was asked to inform Councillor Greig and Councillor Cooke that residents are complaining about speeding vehicles on Countesswells Avenue which are also accessing the site by that unofficial route.

Aileen said that there is a history of complaints about nuisance seagulls in the area. This had been referred to Councillor Greig who took up the issue. William was asked to email Councillor Greig for a progress report on dealing with this vexing problem.

Health and Social Care – Aileen recently attended the latest meeting of the Health and Social Care Partnership which was held in Airyhall Community Centre. She commented on the inappropriateness of combining this Community Council with Peterculter CC for the purpose of holding meetings.

Aileen also considered that the provision for chiropody in this area is inadequate to serve the needs of the elderly and disabled because too many patients have been registered with the result that there are lengthy waiting times between appointments and that is disappointing.

William said that, in granting planning permission for major domestic developments, the Planning Committee take no account of the health care provision for the thousands of occupants of the new homes. It is all very well for the developer to pay for the building of a health centre, but how is it to be staffed with Doctors? The health and Social Care partnership is supposed to be just that – a partnership, but the Council's planners and elected members of the planning committee are not' in his opinion, on the same page as the health providers. There are less medical practices in Aberdeen than there were two years ago. The existing practices are over subscribed by patients' registrations, but yet more and more homes are permitted to be built. This disjointed state of affairs cannot continue.

Planning Report

Robert reported that Carttera have now lodged an appeal with the Scottish Office against Aberdeen City Council's refusal of their application to build 299 domestic

dwellings over 10 storeys at Rubislaw quarry. Our Community council has responded to this appeal. Robert read out excerpts from the appeal and our letter of response. All documents pertaining to the appeal can be viewed on the Scot.Gov site. The deadline for the Council to respond is 21st August. The Scottish Office Reporter will reach a decision in October.

Zone F of the Dandara site – the retirement apartment blocks. Plans were submitted to Aberdeen City council for approval in September last year. There was a dispute over their Section 75 payment. However, Robert noticed that building had been started without planning permission and he reported this to Councillor Martin Greig. Consequently a building inspector visited the site and work was stopped. Permission is still pending. However, work has been resumed.

Civic Forum Report

There was no attendance at the Civic Forum.

Community Council Forum Report

There was no attendance at the Civic Forum.

Traffic Report

No additional items raised.

A.O.C.B.

Community Council Elections:- William has collected 1000 leaflets from Karen Finch. The leaflets are intended to encourage residents to become Community Councillors. The first information session for prospective Community Councillors takes place in the Town House on 22nd August so the delivery of the leaflets is becoming urgent.

1000 leaflets is not really enough to campaign throughout our area, so we'll have to decide what streets to target.

Posters have already been

Date of next Meeting

Tuesday 4th September at 7.30 pm in the Douglas Lounge, Craigiebuckler Church Hall.