

## **Craigiebuckler and Seafield Community Council**

### **Minutes of the re-establishment Meeting which Commenced at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2018 in the Douglas Lounge, Craigiebuckler Church Hall.**

**Present:** Councillor Martin Greig, Councillor John Cooke, Aileen Brown, Ainsley Mitchell, Robert Frost, Jim Flett, Dana Blyth, Cameron Campbell, William Sell, Caroline Walker, Karen Reilly.

**Chair:** Councillor Martin Greig welcomed all present to the re-establishment meeting.

**Apologies:** There were no apologies.

**Election of Chair:** Councillor Greig invited nominations for the Chair. Aileen Brown and William Sell were nominated. Therefore, there being two nominees, Councillor Greig submitted the nominations to the members' vote.

Aileen Brown was nominated by Dana Blyth, seconded by Jim Flett. Aileen Brown accepted the nomination.

William Sell was nominated by Robert Frost, seconded by Ainsley Mitchell.

William Sell accepted the nomination and was elected to the Chair.

Councillor Greig congratulated William on his election and handed over the Chair for him to conduct the election of office bearers and the subsequent meeting of the re-established Community Council.

## **Craigiebuckler and Seafield Community Council**

### **Minutes of the Meeting of Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2018 in the Douglas Lounge, Craigiebuckler Church Hall.**

**Present:** Councillor Martin Greig, Councillor John Cooke, Aileen Brown, Ainsley Mitchell, Robert Frost, Jim Flett, Dana Blyth, Cameron Campbell, William Sell, Caroline Walker, Karen Reilly.

#### **Election of Office Bearers:**

Vice Chair – Aileen Brown. Nominated by Ainsley Mitchell, seconded by Cameron Campbell. Aileen accepted the nomination and was elected unopposed.

Secretary/Minutes Secretary – No nominees. Position vacant.

Treasurer – Cameron Campbell. Nominated by Aileen Brown, seconded by Dana Blyth. Cameron accepted the nomination and was elected unopposed.

Planning Officer – Robert Frost. Nominated by Aileen Brown, seconded by Ainsley Mitchell. Robert was elected unopposed.

**Apologies:** There were no apologies.

**Date of January Meeting:** Our meetings are always held on the first Tuesday of every month. However, the first Tuesday in January is New Years Day. Therefore it was agreed that our January meeting will be held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January. William said that the public will have to be informed that we are meeting on that date. The meeting is to be advertised in the Library, the website and on Facebook.

**Police Report:** The report was given by Sergeant Malcolm Kinross. Sergeant Kinross reported that off-road motorcycles are an on-going issue in this area and urged us to 'phone 101 if we see them, providing descriptions of the bikes (e.g., colour, make and model) and their drivers/passengers.

Acquisitive Crime: 1 X Theft from an unsecured motor vehicle since the last reporting period. Sergeant Kinross reminded us to lock our doors and report any individuals who are acting suspiciously.

A recent roads policing operation in Cults resulted in 18 vehicles being stopped. One driver almost ran down a Police Officer. He had his licence confiscated on the spot because he failed the roadside eyesight test. Eyesight should be checked regularly because its deterioration can go unnoticed.

Roadside checks are to be carried out on vehicles for their winter preparation.

Jim Flett asked if there were any reported thefts from the recycling centre. None have been reported, but thefts of batteries could happen because they are high value items.

Sergeant Kinross said that Sita, who operates the recycling centre, could elect to be visited by a crime prevention officer.

Aileen had a bogus phone call during which the caller claimed to be from a bank. This is a common occurrence in this area. Sergeant Kinross recommended registering with a website called Action Fraud, which is run by the National Crime Agency. There is a link there for reporting fraudulent telephone calls.

The drink driving campaign for the festive season will soon be starting.

**Correspondence:** William received an email from Karen Finch, Community Council Liaison Officer, informing him that Community Councillor training will take place at our meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> December.

Aileen reported that the residents of Springfield Avenue received letters from a film company informing them that filming for a television production would take place at 68 Springfield Avenue. Large vehicles would be parked at that location. Residents were asked to co-operate with the film company in respect of car parking.

Councillor Greig informed us that he had already phoned the film company and that filming will only take place in the interior of the chosen house. Permission had already been granted for parking restrictions to be applied to the location (temporary for 3 days). The film company vehicles will also be parked on Craigiebuckler Avenue.

Aileen described the risks associated with vehicles being parked so near to the junction with Springfield Road.

William read out a letter from Aberdeen City Council which informed our Community Council of the Scottish Government's stakeholder consultation on 'Unconventional Oil and Gas Extraction', known as 'fracking'. It was agreed that William would complete the consultation form on our behalf.

**Matters Arising from the meeting of 2<sup>nd</sup> October:** William reminded the meeting of the request from the Manager of Craigielea Gardens Care Home requesting the services of a Community Councillor to hold regular meetings with residents to discuss their views of the quality of the care provision that they receive. William had replied to the Manager advising that the subject of her request would be discussed at the first meeting of the new Community Council. Although it was realised that Craigielea Gardens Home can provide future residential care for residents of our Community Council area, it is in the area of Braeside Mannofield Community Council. Therefore William will reply to the effect that none of our members wish to fill the role and therefore we also recommend that the home directs their request to Braeside Mannofield Community Council.

**Treasurer's Report:** Cameron reported that our latest bank balance is £939.50. However the latest statement from the bank has not been made available because of the lengthy intervals between the issue of statements. Cameron intends to request monthly bank statements.

According to the Church, we do not need to pay rent. Therefore we pay £15.00 voluntarily per month, but our standing order for payment was not accepted. The bank apologised, but couldn't explain the cause.

It was agreed that Cameron and William would sign a cheque for £150.00 as payment for the next 10 month's rent.

Councillor Greig reported that the installation and subsequent storage of the Christmas decorative street lights had been arranged by the Council.

Aileen asked if it was possible to be given a cheque for £25.00 for the Church's December elderly gathering. This amount was then proposed by Aileen and seconded by Dana. Cameron proposed amending the amount to £40.00. The amendment was unanimously agreed. The cheque for £40.00 was signed by Cameron and William then given to Aileen, along with the cheque for £150.00, for presentation to the appropriate Church Officers.

Cameron estimated that we have about £780.00 unused funds and asked that we think of ideas for its expenditure for the business of the next meeting. The financial year ends on 31<sup>st</sup> December. After that date, the unspent portion of the operating grant will have to be returned to the Council.

Jim Flett was surprised that we had to hand the underspend back.

It was agreed that we accrue the money by ringfencing it for expenditure on community projects. Proposals for the underspend will be put forward for the meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> January. Initially this suggestion was made by Councillor John Cooke.

**Planning Report:** Robert Frost – The appeal by the developer of the 299 flats over 10 storeys on the Hill of Rubislaw is still under consideration. The decision date had been extended to 17<sup>th</sup> December.

All information concerning the appeal, including all correspondence between the Reporter and the Architects, can be viewed at: [dpea.scotland.gov.uk](http://dpea.scotland.gov.uk).

Pending: Seafield Club – Change of use from serving food and drink to practising physiotherapy. This application includes the demolition of an existing wooden extension which will be replaced by a planned new purpose built extension.

Cameron asked about the progress of the conversion of the former 'Nevada Bob' building to a fitness centre.

Robert said that the planning application had been approved on 29<sup>th</sup> June and that work had started on the roof of the building.

**Matters for Discussion with Ward Councillors:** Ainsley reminded the meeting of the parking problem at the Seafield Shops. William also said that he is in receipt of a complaint from a resident about the lack of parking in the immediate vicinity of the shops. The resident had also suggested removing the kerb and cobblestones so that the area could be tarred over to form a car park.

Councillor Martin Greig said that when considering the recent commercial planning applications in that area, Council Officials had stated that there will not be a parking

problem.

Councillor Greig also commented to the effect that the road there is costing a fortune to maintain and that there is no money for that.

William asked how the road in front of the shops can get on a council budget and if the Community Council should write to the Roads Department about the suggested parking improvements. Councillor John Cooke said that it is worth trying.

Councillor Cooke explained the Council's points system for funding road repairs. A major route would get more funding.

Karen Reilly said that there are some appalling roads in this area. Karen's comment met with unanimous agreement from the community council members.

Councillor Greig advised emailing the Roads Engineer with the all the information under discussion at the meeting and ask for a list of our suggested actions by the Council to be considered.

Councillor Cook had requested the Council to investigate alleged speeding on Countesswells Avenue. The investigation found that there was a negligible amount of speeding.

The volume of traffic on Countesswells Avenue only increased slightly in the past year.

**A.O.C.B.** - Robert asked about the award of associate membership of the Community Council. William said that he would ask Karen Finch about the procedure for awarding associate membership.

Karen Reilly and Caroline Walker, two former Community Councillors present at the meeting, have applied to be co-opted members of the Community Council.

William asked the members to vote on the approval of their applications for co-opted membership. The membership's vote of approval was unanimous for both applicants.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 pm in the Douglas Lounge, Craigiebuckler Church Hall.