

Craigiebuckler and Seafield Community Council

Minutes of the online meeting which commenced
at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 2nd June 2020

Present: William Sell, Robert Frost, Karen Reilly, Dana Blyth, Margaret Meikle, Jim Flett, Ainsley Mitchell, Cameron Campbell, Councillor Martin Greig, Councillor John Cooke, Steven Park (Liberty One Communications), Philip Johnston (Property Director, ALDI), Steve Robb (Avison Young) Planner for the project. 4 residents also joined the meeting.

Apologies for Absence: There were no apologies.

Police Report: The police report was forwarded to all members.

Adoption of the Minutes of the Meeting of 5th May 2020: The adoption of the minutes of the May meeting was proposed by Jim Flett and seconded by Robert Frost. There being no amendments, the minutes were adopted as an accurate record of the meeting of 5th May 2020.

Treasurer's Report: Cameron reported that the signed accounts have been sent to Karen Finch, Community Council Liaison Officer, Aberdeen City Council. We will be in receipt of our grant in due course.

Matters Arising from the Meeting of 5th May 2020

Purchase of a Defibrillator – William reported that he has emailed the donor, Cheryl Jones, asking for the donation of the defibrillator to be put in abeyance until the end of the present emergency.

Local Place Plan by Community Councils and Communities - This item cannot be actioned because of the COVID 19 emergency. As agreed at the May meeting, it will continue to be listed on the agendas of future meetings.

Guest Speakers: Steven Park (Liberty One Communications), Philip Johnston (Property Director, ALDI), Steve Robb (Avison Young) Planner for the project.

Subject: A proposal by ALDI to develop a food store at Countesswells Road adjacent to the Hazlewood Housing Development.

Each Speaker delivered a presentation on particular aspects of the proposal.

ALDI propose to build a 1,868 sqm foodstore with 112 parking spaces, including 2 charging points for electric vehicles. The meeting was informed that the parking space would be installed with sufficient underground cabling to give it the capacity for a considerable increase in the number of electric vehicle charging points, if required in the future.

During the presentation, a coloured site plan of the proposed store was transmitted by video.

The attention of attendees was directed towards the existing trees on the site. The Speaker conceded that a number of trees (possibly 6) will have to be felled. New planting will also be incorporated across the site to provide a greater number of trees than the number of those felled in the course of construction.

There is an existing footpath on the eastern boundary of the site. This will be upgraded and a

number of internal walking paths are also proposed to maximise site accessibility.

The meeting was informed that the design and landscaping of proposed foodstore would be sympathetic to the characteristics of the surrounding area.

In replies to questions from members and residents, it was communicated that the site is designated as a residential area in the 2017 Aberdeen Local Development Plan; a pedestrian crossing would be installed to improve the safety of the pupils of Airyhall Primary School who cross the busy Countesswells Road; no difficulties of access to the site were expected in respect of 40 ton delivery vehicles; the illumination of the site would be achieved within the the Council guidelines.

The flood risk strategy was also described. It was pointed out that the flow of surface water from the site has to be restricted to mimic the discharge from an undeveloped greenfield. To achieve this ALDI will be required to install a number of flood prevention measures.

Several questions remained unanswered. The Speaker said that he would obtain answers to those questions and communicate them to Stephen who, in turn would email them to William. They would then be forwarded to the members.

Discussion with City Councillors: Margaret Meikle, Community Council Co-opted Member, updated Cllr Cooke and Cllr Greig on the rat problem, affecting the Burnieboozle neighbourhood, that was discussed during the February and March meetings.

On 2nd April, a near neighbour of Margaret killed 2 rats in his garage. These creatures are becoming more invasive of properties in the Burnieboozle Area.

Councillors replied that the Council had carried out rat bating, but this was halted due to the redeployment of staff. The rat problem has been known for 2 years.

Planning Report: Robert's report included a number of tree works being carried out in the area.

The report began by informing the meeting that Planning Application 200042 by Carttera to construct a residential development of 245 flats on land adjacent to Rubislaw Quarry had been refused by Aberdeen city Council's Planning Committee. The vote for refusal was unanimous. contrary to the recommendation of Planning Officers.

The tree works include 18 protected trees at Rubislaw Park Care Home.

A minor planning application to pertaining to a residence in Pinewood was also mentioned in the report.

AOCB: William reported that, since the closure of the recycling centres, there has been a number of incidents of fly tipping. Councillor Greig described how fly tippers may be traced by virtue of items that they discard illegally.

Other activities since the closure involve the burning of rubbish in private gardens.

Next Meeting: Online at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 7th July 2020

