**CRAIGIEBUCKLER AND SEAFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL.**

 Minute of the Virtual Meeting at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 1st November 2022.

**Present**

Robert Frost (RF), Margaret Meikle (MM), William Sell (WS), Keith Watson (KW), Craig Melvin (CM), Karen Reilly (KR), Cameron Campbell (CC), Councillors Martin Greig (MG), John Cooke (JC), Ken McLeod (KM), Steven Shaw, Environmental Manager, ACC., (SS).

**Apologies**

Jane Ormerod, Dana Blyth, Councillor Jennifer Stewart.

**Police Report**

There was no Police presence on this occasion.

**Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of 4th October**

The minutes of the last regular meeting, having been forwarded by e-mail to all members, were confirmed on a proposal by RF and seconded by MM

**Treasurer’s Report**

After discussion it was agreed that £300 would be donated to the Council for decorative Christmas lights on Springfield Road and £350 would be allocated to the Church for their Christmas festivities. Total = £650.

CC reported that the remaining balance after the cheques were cashed would be £307.91

The next grant that is issued will increase our balance to £1,200.

MM will ask the Minister to include our donation in the Church intimations.

KR suggested that we donate a sum of money to Hazlehead Park’s Pets’ Corner to enrich the lives of the animals of the little zoo. It was agreed to donate £200 to this cause.

SS explained that he is responsible for Pets’ Corner. Therefore, he will allocate the donation to it.

After discussion, it was also agreed to donate £300 to Friends of Johnston Gardens.

SS explained that Friends of Johnston Gardens is a partnership with Aberdeen City Council. He will make sure the money is appropriated for the right purpose.

CC suggested planting a commemorative tree in the gardens.

SS will investigate this and email WS with his findings.

It was also agreed to donate £100 each to the BBs, Scouts, and Brownies.

**Guest Speaker –** Environmental Manager, Aberdeen City Council.

The subject of the talk was the recent residents’ survey concerning the future of the green space between Countesswells Avenue and Springfield Road.

SS informed the meeting that the improved path is being constructed. It will be completed in 6 – 8 weeks. £80,000 of grant funding has been allocated to meeting the costs of its construction.

CM reported that he had spoken to engineers on the project. He commented on the speed of construction, but also said the community council had not been informed that the project had begun.

SS considered notice boards to be a benefit to the area and that he could have them added to the paths contract.

CC suggested that we could get a name to define the greenspace, e.g., Springfield Meadows.

SS will work with us on renaming the greenspace.

MM asked how the path would improve disabled access.

SS replied that the path would be accessible for everyone.

SS will review the survey results to determine the next stage in the project.

MM asked if Dandara could be persuaded to donate some money to improve the area. SS will ask the Council’s planners to find out what planning-gain funds are available.

MG pointed out that Dandara may be open to suggestions about projects to donate to, e.g., tree planting.

SS is prepared to attend our next meeting.

**Co-opted Membership**

It was agreed to accept Craig Melvin, associate member, as a Co-opted member.

**Correspondence**

All items of correspondence have already been forwarded to members.

**Matters Arising**

The provision of littering signs:- Referring to the previous meeting, WS asked MG if Aberdeen City Council would erect signs in this area. MG informed the meeting that when he made this request, the Council said, “No.”

Regarding the request for more litter bins, they said that the provision of litter bins in the area was adequate.

MG emailed the City Wardens about littering in the area. The city wardens will endeavour to patrol. They will keep it on their radar. The level of litter in the area seemed to be quite low.

MM informed the meeting that residents say that littering is a problem.

MG informed the meeting that every area gets the same level of service.

MM reported that she has already had complaints.

KM commented that people require to be educated not to drop litter. Children Act irresponsibly because of a lack of education about the negative aspects of littering.

JC informed the meeting that he consistently gets the same answer from the Council, i.e., that litter bin provision will be concentrated on litter hotspots, e.g., bus stops.

**Planning Officer’s Report**

RF had already informed the chair that he would have to leave the meeting early because of work commitments. Therefore, the report could not be narrated. WS had already emailed the planning report to all members. mg informed the meeting that the Danara Zone F planning application will be decided on the Thursday following this meeting.

**Matters for Discussion with Ward Councillors**

WS stated that it had been suggested that the Ward Councillors may wish to provide reports which are similar in structure to the Police report. They may even wish to email them in advance of attending the meetings.

The ward councillors pointed out several difficulties with this concept. For example, KM informed the meeting that lots of emails are confidential.

KW said that he would like to know what key issues of the counsellors work are and their priorities.

JC said it would be difficult to do things in the same format as the police, for example, to get quantitative data would be difficult.

KW gave examples of what key areas are for counsellors, for example, speeding traffic.

KW suggested that this topic should be discussed at the next meeting. In the meantime, he asked councillors to consider it.

MM reported that she was standing at a bus stop when a man took grit from a grit box and drove off.

MG commented that grit is only for use in public areas.

KW reported that there has been no leaf clearing, and drains are being blocked.

MG stated that the Environmental Manager is responsible for leaf clearance. If someone asks for leaf clearance, the Council will do it. The Council has asked councillors not to report on fallen leaves.

KW countered that those drains, choked by leaves, are causing roads to be flooded.

**A.O.C.B.**

Robert Frost attended the licencing workshop that was held on 20th of October. WS narrated the following report on his behalf:

“The licencing policy is being reviewed, and after consultations, the revised policy document will be reissued.

A workshop for community councillors was held on 20th of October 2022 to discuss reviewing the licencing policy, which needs to be reviewed every three years.

The Act sets out high-level licencing objectives. These represent the principles on which the new licencing system is based and provide the Licencing Board with a solid foundation on which to build their own local policies.

These Objectives are:- preventing crime and disorder; securing public safety; preventing public nuisance; protecting public health; and protecting children from harm.

The Council has 18 months for consultation and to issue a new licencing policy.

Licenced premises can be used for the good of community engagement with residents, for example, company to combat loneliness; improved mental health benefits, and being a good neighbour in the community.”

**Date of Next Virtual Meeting.** Tuesday 6th December at 7.00 pm