

**Minutes of a Meeting of Banchory and District Initiative held on 12th January 2006
in the Burnett Arms Hotel, Banchory at 7.30 pm**

Attendance: Sue Edwards (in the Chair), John Pettis, Linda Clark, Jean Henretty,
Matthew Merchant, George Mennie, Henry Allen, Sheila Millar
Apologies: Tony Brown
In Attendance: Eveline Crossan

1. **The Minutes** of the previous meeting, held on 3rd November 2005 were APPROVED.
2. **Matters Arising**
Town Hall Office – SE reported that Jim Christie (solicitor) has accepted the final version of the lease. Entry to office should be within the month.
Bowling Club – SE reported that Cllr Makin has asked for a report on the issue from Property Dept. She also reported the Recreation ground is owned by AC.
EC reported she was continuing with the Right to Buy application. MM had supplied relevant maps.
Waste Issues – HA to consider future plans in discussion with Jennifer Cook.
Town Co-ordinator Job Description completed.
Walk to Health – EC reported that project funding is not due until March.
Amendment to Constitution – SE reported there was not a need to change the constitution and a new accountant has finalized the accounts.
- 3.1 **Activity Reports** – previously circulated.
Paths/ Cycle Paths Infrastructure
JH reported the new Travel Plan Officer had been in contact and that the safer routes scheme would now progress. SE noted that the Core Path network scheme could also be linked to the SR initiative to improve urban paths leading to the schools.

Action JH

St Ternan
Eveline reported that the CVS has offered to organize the “Charity Village” which will involve many more local voluntary groups. All agreed and welcomed VOICE participation.
SE confirmed the renewable event would be included but because of its success and lack of space last year it would now be held in the Town Hall.

Business Association
HA reported on recent BBA meeting including their objectives (attached).

- 3.2 **Facilities report**
GM and SE reported on meeting with Rod Stone and Les Allen.
There was disappointment that AC could not offer more support to community projects which were identified as priorities. Concerns were

raised that the proposed new academy may not have community facilities which could solve a number of facilities issues including the swimming pool. Rod Stone had offered to supply information and provide a demonstration of a tool for facilities planning, SE will follow up.

Action SE

KGV 2000 Proposal

JH reported on recent KGV 2000 meeting. As their facilities including the All Weather Pitch (DATA) required urgent repairs the group wished to progress their plans ASAP. Contact with SportScotland project manager indicated he would be interested to visit Banchory. JH to arrange visit, MM and GM would attend.

Action JH

All agreed to support KGV 2000 proposal as required.

Recreation Ground

Agreed to continue with "Right to Buy" process.

Action EC

Administration

Finance report. JH reported current balance is £10,861.

The 2004/05 accounts were now finalized. Copies to be distributed to Board members and funders.

Action SE

Office Status

As above.

Town Coordinator

JH reported there were three applicants however one withdrew this week. Interviews to be arranged, SE, HA and BBA member on panel.

Action JH

4.4

Away day

TB proposed holding a meeting to discuss organization structures. All agreed a debate was required however time was difficult for those who were employed.

Agreed to review TB proposals by email and arrange a meeting when TB returned in February.

Action ALL

5. Report of meetings

5.1

Mike Rumbles

GM and LC reported that MR remains supportive however he did not appear to be fully informed on BDI progress. He would consult the Education Minister about Community School status for the new academy.

5.2

Local Councillors

HA and LC reported on meeting with Councillors Makin and Webster and Les Allen. There was disappointment that Cllr Watson did not attend. They were all supportive of BDI however would like more details of initiatives.

It was agreed that all elected representatives should receive copies of the Board minutes which include project reports. GM suggested that BDI should call and chair a special meeting of all stakeholders with the objective of informing and debating active community issues.

Action SE

6. New members

List previously circulated. All approved – Mark Hope, Euan Duncan.

7. Continental Market

Agree to support the market. LC reported the Farmers Market had concerns and that they would like to develop further. Agreed to include a review of the Farmers Market in the Town Coordinators priorities. JH to coordinate continental market meantime.

Action JH

Town Gateway.

Les Allen had written to enquire about a possible village gateway. Agreed to the principle however would require more information.

Action SE

8. AOCB

Allotments

JP had attended the Woodend Allotment meeting. The project was making good progress.

Newsletter

The latest newsletter appears to have been a success probably due to the inclusion of colour photographs. Groups who had included articles had a noticeable response for new volunteers. EC reported she had numerous volunteers for the editorial team.

9. External meetings attended by members.

Public Health Coordinator – JH and EC
Local Councillors – LC, HA and JH
MSP – GM, LC and JH
DTAS training – JH (Business Planning for Social Enterprises)
Banchory Community Council – JH
WRVS – JH (good neighbour and transport scheme)

Date of Next Meeting - March 9th 2006



9/March/2006

Chair ✓

Banchory & District Initiative

Project Officer's Report – 4.11.05 – 11.1.06

During the last two months, several areas of BDI work have been progressed.

Making it Real

The Banchory report of the Planning for Real process became an urgent priority for the Marr Area Project. JH had put considerable work into the report, which required further statistical evidence particularly on Health and Housing, and work on the final presentation. Submitted and accepted 21st December.

- Met with Judy Aylett, MAP for briefing on requirements
- Met with Kate Campbell, Public Health Co-ordinator
- Also Lindsay Allardyce, K & D VOICE Information Officer

Newsletter

- Produced articles, edited and proof read incoming articles from contributors
- Arranged volunteers for work on newsletter and some for distribution
- Additional volunteer for website and updates of Royal Deeside Partnership website – Banchory and Lower Deeside site is out of date, a potential funding issue for the RDP website
- Compiled list of contacts/contributors for next issue
- Arranging with potential sponsor for next issue

BDI Administration

- Office – arranged for and met with painters, carpet fitters, IT specialist and BT for quotes
- Office procedures in ongoing development
- Produced draft service level agreement (contract) for self-employment; an addendum will define targets and outcomes
- Volunteers recruited for community office
- Met with TB re: BDI structure

Banchory Heritage

- Met with JH. AL unable to attend.
- Developed outline for oral history project.
- Pre application stage for “Your Heritage” Fund complete

Photography Competition

- Application to K & D Arts Forum in development; planning submission by end Jan

St Ternan Medieval Fair

- Potential for “Village” Themes – eg Sports Village, Charities Village, etc
- Continuing to add detail to programme
- Met with Sarah Edwards November to discuss and plan form and appearance of publicity leaflets and posters
- Sports theme near completion; all main attractions confirmed
- Started visiting businesses and other potential sponsors; draft list of sponsorship opportunities complete
- Launch of pennant art competition early Feb (date to be confirmed)
- Planned meeting with Lightning Dept to determine which lampposts will be suitable on approaches to Banchory and around the Park for pennant display

Targets for next two months

- Move into office in Town Hall
- Training for office volunteers
- Produce further draft office procedures
- Re-establishment of Banchory Website
- Update RDP website – Banchory Area
- Newsletter February, then end May, incorporating finished St T publicity
- Progress/expand Banchory Heritage application
- Launch Photography Competition, depending on available funds

Banchory & District Initiative Ltd

Summary of progress for January 2006

Paths and Cycle Infrastructure

Group Members and Partners

Jean Henretty
Banchory Schools, Banchory Community Council, Aberdeenshire Council, Banchory Paths Association
Council Officers - Linda Mathieson, Aberdeenshire Travel Co-ordinator

The objectives are to investigate the existing path infrastructure in and around Banchory and provide a development plan for improving and constructing a path network. The project will include an investigation of the safety of routes to Banchory Schools and promote healthy alternatives to car use such as walking and cycling.

Safer Routes

A new School Travel Planning Officer is now in post. A meeting is being held with School Staff later this month.

Paths

The Paths association is considering options for providing upgraded paths in Scolty Woodlands and will be consulting with members of the public regarding preferred routes. The local farmer, and the representatives from Aberdeenshire and Forest Enterprise will be working with the Paths Association. Likely to be a phased project over five years.

The Core Path Planning Process will start this year, the consultation will take place during the first half of 2006 and will be well advertised.

Forest Enterprise will be running a public meeting about their Banchory Woods Initiative on Wednesday 25th January in the Douglas Arms Hotel, 5 – 7pm.

Facilities

Group Members and Partners

Henry Allen, Matthew Merchant, John Petts, Linda Clark, Jean Henretty
BANDSWIM, KGV 2000, BCC, VOICE, Scouts, Bowling Club, Town Hall Group, Aberdeenshire Council, Scolty Centre, HOB Ltd
Council Officers – Steve Welsh, Norman Boal, Alison Thomson

The objective is to develop inclusive sport, leisure and community facilities that have been identified by the community.

Scolty Community Resource Centre

The objective is to build an integrated day centre for learning disabilities in partnership with the voluntary sector.

The steering group have agreed a constitution which is with the IR to be considered for charitable status. A sub group is seeking professional advice on business planning and building design. An open day will be held before the summer for the public and voluntary to visit the existing centre and view the proposed plans.

KGV Playing Fields

The KGV 2000 committee would like to move forward with their plans to develop the KGV Park. The all weather area (DATA) of the recreation ground is nearing the end of its lifespan and therefore requires replacement which will depend on the future of the recreation ground. A draft plan has been submitted to Aberdeenshire Council in advance of their meeting with SportsScotland in January in the hope that the project can be included into the funding package for 2006.

Town Hall Resource Office

The objective is to provide a “signpost” and resource centre to community groups and statutory agencies.

The lease has not yet been signed as there are problems at the Councils end. Carpet fitters and decorators have given estimates. IT advisor has been asked to give an estimate for Internet connections. The Volunteer Centre has been seeking a team of volunteers to do general admin work and reception.

Bowling Green and Recreation Grounds

A report on the future of the area is being prepared for Les Allan and the Marr Area Committee.

Environment and Waste Management

Group Members and Partners

Henry Allen, John Petts, Jennifer Cook,
PGL, Aberdeenshire Council, Scottish Enterprise Grampian
Council Officers –Jack Clark

Waste

The vision is that Banchory should leading the way in NE Scotland through the introduction of recycling and more sustainable waste management practices. The aim of the project is therefore to encourage community participation in initiatives to pioneer new services and new behaviours both in the residential and business sectors.

Composting.

A very successful composting workshop was held in November with numerous requests to hold a follow up. A number of composting units and household waste containers were sold on the day which indicated a market for such products.

Green Policies

Fiona Graham has compiled a draft environmental policy.

Business Partnerships

Group Members and Partners

Henry Allen, Sue Edwards,
Banchory Business Association, Scottish Enterprise Grampian
Council Officers – Robert Armstrong

The objective is to engage with local businesses and community groups to promote a working partnership which will benefit the local economy and the whole community.

Town Co-ordinator

Three applications have been received for the post. Interviews will be held this month.

Business Association.

- Current core committee, Jon Shelbourne, Paul Panchaud, Angela Muir and Alasdair Considine are willing to continue through the start-up phase of the new Business Association. Henry for the time being will act as BBA liaison/representation on BDI as best he can.
- Idea is to stay focused and scale up carefully as momentum builds
- Alasdair will look after Determined to Succeed
- Paul will look after TTF
- Awaiting appointment of Town Co-ordinator to assist – Jon happy to assist with interviews if requested
- Not anxious to build membership and expectations too rapidly
- Next step is to hold AGM amongst existing members
- Then to deliver results of survey to a public meeting and summarise the BBA plan for 2006
- See attached summary from BBA

St Ternan Fair – June 17th 2006

Group Members and Partners

Jean Henretty, Anne Lamb, Sue Edwards, Eveline Crossan, Sheila Millar
Banchory Community Council, Banchory Heritage Society,

The objectives are - to create a distinct 'tourist' event for Banchory; to provide an opportunity for local folk, tourists and people from outwith the town, to enjoy and participate in a variety of entertainment, activities and attractions; to stimulate sales for local businesses; and to encourage an interest in local history.

Programme development is progressing. See Project Officers report.