

BANCHORY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Monday 17 October 2016

Banchory Academy Library

7.30pm

Present: Mary Lennox (Chair); Eileen Durno (Vice Chair); Louise Cameron (Secretary); David Conroy; Vivika Kerridge; David Milner; Harry McNab; Lyn McNab; John Wills

Officials: Cllr Karen Clark; Cllr Linda Clark; Cllr Jill Webster

Apologies: Rebecca Glansbeek (Treasurer); Nicola Kenyon; Corinne Ogilvie

1. Welcome and Apologies

Mary Lennox opened the meeting, welcomed the new Community Councillors and noted the apologies.

2. Results of Application Process and Inauguration of New Members

As Returning Officer, Cllr Linda Clark confirmed that Vivika Kerridge, David Milner, Harry McNab, Lyn McNab and John Wills are now full members of the Banchory Community Council. Although David Conroy's application was received after the deadline the Community Council agreed unanimously to co-opt him.

Cllr Linda Clark noted that Electoral Roll held at the Banchory Library was not the most recent copy and as such electoral roll numbers for Harry and Lyn McNab and David Conroy had not been obtained. The election of the aforementioned individuals was confirmed however it was agreed Banchory Community Council would seek to obtain the electoral roll numbers as soon as possible.

ACTION: LOUISE CAMERON TO CONTACT ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL RE ELECTORAL ROLL NUMBERS

3. Police Report

The meeting expressed disappointment at the non attendance of Police Scotland.

3.1 Feedback on issues raised last month

Mary Lennox noted that following September's meeting she wrote to Sergeant Gordon Forsyth on four key issues of concern and received a prompt reply. Highlighting that the correspondence took place prior to the Glen O' Dee fire, Mary Lennox reported to the meeting as follows:

Glen O'Dee

With respect to the community's concern over videos circulating on social media showing teenagers exploring the inside of the old building, Sgt Forsyth replied Police Scotland were aware of the issue (which in part due to the game Pokémon Go). He stated that the

Community Safety Hub was working with the developer and the owner of the site to address the situation.

Mary Lennox added that following the fire at Glen O' Dee the Deeside Piper had contacted her to ask for a comment from Banchory Community Council. She informed them of this correspondence.

Dog Attack in Banchory

Following a recent Press and Journal story on a local dog attack, Sgt Forsyth was asked if the dogs in question were still in the local area. He did not want to go into details but said the animals in question were otherwise good natured. They were fighting and 'the intervening human came off worse'. He added that the Dog Warden is aware of the incident and has more powers to act than the Police.

Speeding on Raemoir Road

With reference to several complaints expressed by local residents, Sgt Forsyth replied that the power to change speed limits, install traffic calming measures etc rested with Aberdeenshire Council Roads Department (although the Police would be consulted on the matter). *Also see item 7: Correspondence*

Concerns on personal safety following recent incident on Deeside Way

Sgt Forsyth confirmed that the man requesting 'piggy backs' from women on the Deeside Way had been dealt with.

3.2 Communication with Police Scotland

Cllr Jill Webster reported that the issue of Police attendance at Community Council meetings had been raised several times through the Policy and Resources Committee. This Committee is Aberdeenshire Council's mechanism for communication with Police Scotland. At the last meeting of the Committee, Police Scotland stated that local Police and Community Councils should discuss and agree on a suitable means of communication. Cllr Webster fed back to Police Scotland that it ought to be the local Police who are pro-active in initiating this discussion.

Cllr Linda Clark reminded the meeting that previously a Police Report was sent to Banchory Community Council prior to the monthly meeting.

After some discussion it was agreed that Louise Cameron would contact the local Police to request that a representative attend the monthly meeting. A request will also be made to discuss a means of communication going forward and that a report be sent, similar to those previously provided.

ACTION: LOUISE CAMERON TO CONTACT THE LOCAL POLICE & REQUEST REPORT OR VISIT

3.3 Increase in Vandalism

Cllr Jill Webster informed the meeting that she had recently been made aware of several incidents of vandalism, including graffiti and a fire at the allotments. Cllr Webster has asked Inspector Burgess of Police Scotland to increase patrols in the area and raise the matter with the local schools, to which he has agreed.

Vivika Kerridge reported to the meeting that she is concerned with the significant increase in vandalism at Hill of Banchory over the last six months and has reported the matter to Alex Burnett MSP. Examples cited were disruption to Hill of Banchory Primary School's eco-garden; destruction of sections of paths; mini fires; offensive graffiti and children's' play parks rendered unusable. It was agreed Vivika Kerridge would detail her concerns on the vandalism at Hill of Banchory and pass to Louise Cameron for inclusion in the email to the local Police.

**ACTION: VIVIKA KERRIDGE TO SEND DETAILS OF CONCERNS TO LOUISE CAMERON
LOUISE CAMERON TO INCLUDE COMMENTS IN EMAIL TO POLICE**

3.4 Other

Cllr Webster commented that a means of addressing issues such as vandalism is increasing education input as part of a reduction strategy. Noting that a recent report received by the Policy and Resources Committee showed educational events targeted at improving road safety had reduced when compared with the prior year as have those aimed at targeting organised crime. Cllr Webster reported that Inspector Burgess of Police Scotland had confirmed the education provision will be increased.

Given the number of issues raised and the disappointment at the reduction in communication from Police Scotland it was suggested Inspector Burgess be asked to attend a Banchory Community Council meeting.

ACTION: MARY LENNOX TO INVITE INSPECTOR BURGESS TO BCC MEETING

4. Councillors' Report

4.1 BT Issues

Cllr Webster expressed her disappointment at the presentation BT made to the full Aberdeenshire Council at the September meeting, commenting that it was too generic in nature and not tailored to provision of services in the North East. However there were two points of interest. Firstly www.digitalscotland.org has improved the information it provides for broadband in the local area and secondly O2 are obliged to roll out 4G coverage to 95% of the country by 2017. Other network providers have indicated they will match this level of coverage.

After gathering feedback from the local community regarding internet services in the area, Cllr Karen Clark put the community's queries and concerns to BT. Although assured that all questions would receive answers, there has been no reply.

ACTION: CLLR KAREN CLARK TO CHASE BT FOR RESPONSE TO LOCAL CONCERNS

4.2 Banchory Health Centre

Cllr Jill Webster advised Janelle Clark (Marr Area Manager) has been asked why the Integration Joint Board were still waiting for a report on the new Health Centre for Banchory. Cllr Webster commented that a concerted effort was required by the community to raise the profile of this much needed facility.

The meeting concurred and it was agreed Mary Lennox would write to Mike Ogg of the Health and Social Care Partnership to express the Community Council's view that a new Health Centre for Banchory is overdue and citing the local community's overwhelming support for this much needed facility (as seen through responses to the Banchory Community Action Plan).

ACTION: MARY LENNOX TO WRITE TO MIKE OGG RE NEW HEALTH CENTRE

4.3 Appointment of Rector to Banchory Academy

Cllr Jill Webster informed the meeting that Judith Wight has been appointed Rector of Banchory Academy. Ms Wight was previously acting Rector.

4.4 Glen O'Dee

The meeting agreed with Cllr Linda Clark that site be cleaned up as soon as possible as it now offers an unpleasant view to the vulnerable patients of the new Glen O' Dee hospital. Harry McNab added that the old building contained asbestos and therefore a swift clean up is essential.

4.5 Health and Social Care Integrated Joint Board

Cllr Linda Clark informed the meeting of her appointment as Chair of the Integrated Joint Board, which deals with health and social care.

4.6 Braehead

Cllr Karen Clark explained the Special Landscapes Areas, as designated under the 2016 Local Development Plan, had been ratified by the Infrastructure & Services Committee. Therefore Scolty Hill and surrounding area is confirmed as a Special Landscape Area. Documentation confirming Scolty's new status was forwarded to Edinburgh for inclusion as evidence in the planning appeal of the Braehead development.

A final decision on the Braehead Development may be slightly delayed in order to take this into consideration.

4.7 River Dee Radio

Cllr Karen Clark advised the meeting of the availability of the River Dee Radio 'app' on Apple and Google Play. *Also see 6.1 Matters Arising*

5. Guest Speaker

No guest speakers.

Mary Lennox informed the meeting that Lizzy Shepherd had asked to address a meeting in order to provide an update on the Banchory Signage Project. It was agreed that an invitation would be made for the November meeting.

ACTION: MARY LENNOX TO INVITE BANCHORY SIGNAGE PROJECT TO ADDRESS NOVEMBER MEETING

6. Approval of September's Meeting's Minutes and Matters Arising

Cllr Webster requested two changes be made, after which the minutes of 12 September 2016 were proposed by Eileen Durno and seconded by Harry McNab.

Matters Arising

6.1 River Dee Radio

After some discussion it was agreed that Banchory Community Council would, in principle, be interested in a regular slot on the station. It was agreed to discuss the matter further at a private meeting and nominate a couple of members to liaise with the station and develop the idea.

ACTION: MARY LENNOX TO ADVISE RIVER DEE RADIO OF INITIAL INTEREST IN BCC SLOT

6.2 Planning Questionnaire

Mary Lennox reported the questionnaire from Aberdeenshire Council on the consultation process of the 2016 Local Development Plan had been completed by Corinne Ogilvie.

7. Correspondence

Ancestral Tourism

Louise Cameron explained that a previous Community Councillor had brought the issue of Ancestral Tourism to the attention of BDI, copying in BCC. This Scottish Government initiative, led by Visit Scotland, aims to bring together a network of businesses and groups to provide assistance and guidance to those visiting Scotland in order to research family history. Applications for registration to the network are currently being sought.

It was agreed Louise Cameron would follow up with Jean Henretty of BDI.

ACTION: LOUISE CAMERON TO CONTACT BDI

Education Governance Review

Louise Cameron explained the Community Council had been contacted by the Empowering Schools Unit of the Scottish Government seeking views on matters such as who should take decisions on things that impact children's education; how can funding schools be made fairer; about the support that teachers need to do their job and how it can be improved.

Feedback can be provided either by a representative from BCC at an event in Aberdeen on 24 November or through various social media platforms.

It was agreed Louise Cameron would circulate the request again for members' consideration. The matter of how to feedback to the review can then be addressed at the November meeting.

**ACTION: LOUISE CAMERON TO CIRCULATE EMAIL ON EDUCATION GOVERNANCE REVIEW
ALL TO CONSIDER ANY RESPONSE THEY WISH TO MAKE**

Alleged Speeding near junction of Upper Lochton and Raemoir Road

Louise Cameron expressed her disappointment that despite chaser emails, no response had been received from Aberdeenshire Council Roads Department to her original email of 2 July 2016 on this matter.

It was agreed Louise Cameron would forward the correspondence to Cllr Jill Webster who would pursue the issue with the Road Department.

ACTION: LOUISE CAMERON TO FORWARD CORRESPONDENCE TO CLLR WEBSTER

Marr Ward Forums

The Ward 16 Forum is due to take place on 16 November 2016. It was agreed information concerning this event will be circulated again and forwarded to all new members.

ACTION: LOUISE CAMERON TO CIRCULATE INFORMATION ON WARD FORUM

Concerns raised over unkempt area on Mount Street

Mary Lennox explained a complaint had been received concerning the lack of maintenance afforded to an area of ground near a Scottish Water facility on Mount Street.

Harry McNab reported he had contacted Scottish Water who confirmed it was their responsibility to maintain the land and agreed to tidy up the area.

8. Treasurer's Report

In the Treasurer's absence, Mary Lennox reported a bank balance of £5,411.86.

This includes Mid Hill Wind Farm monies of £2,000 which are to be paid to BDI and Banchory Sports Village following their successful applications. Also included is £43 to be paid to Isla Elliot in respect of her work on the Banchory Community Action Plan.

The current bank balances for Youth 2000 accounts are £4,227.13 and £545.82.

9. Mid Hill Wind Farm

Mary Lennox reported that few applications had been received. The possibility that the forms are too complicated and therefore deterring smaller groups from applying is being explored.

The next meeting is to be held on 26 October 2016.

10. Notice Board

Harry McNab informed the meeting that he is waiting for a revised quote from Loftus Signs Unfortunately the previous quote was not for an L-shaped notice board.

Harry McNab explained that following a discussion with the planning department, it had been confirmed that the change to an L-shaped board will require a planning application.

ACTION: HARRY MCNAB TO PURSUE NEW QUOTE & PLANNING APPLICATION

11. Banchory Community Action Plan

Following public consultations on the issues, ideas and projects put forward in the survey responses, key areas have now been identified. Along with the three main issues of a new Academy, new Health Centre and new Sport Facility, the condition of the High Street, broadband and mobile signal provision, affordable housing (although not south of the river), play parks, cinema and other facilities for teenagers, signage and parking were all highlighted.

The next meeting is to be held 11 October to decide on the next stage.

12. Community Resilience Planning

Mary Lennox raised the matter of a Community Resilience Plan. The process would be similar to that of the Action Plan with two to three Community Councillors leading the project but with involvement from other local stakeholders.

After some discussion, the meeting agreed that the Community Council ought to initiate the drafting of a resilience plan but commencement of the project should be delayed until the Banchory Community Action Plan is further on and the new members have settled in.

13. Payphone Consultation

Further to a notice received from BT concerning the removal of three public phone boxes in Banchory, two on Raemoir Road and one at Silverbank, the meeting agreed no objection would be made.

14. Community Council Representatives

14.1 Planning

a. Braehead

See item 4.6

b. Other

Applications for Tree Preservation Orders have been considered. Mainly renewals of existing TPOs, Harry McNab informed the meeting that he had spoken with most of the owners concerned and all were aware of their responsibilities and had no objections. No further action required.

14.2 Community Learning and Development

Although unable to attend, Nicola Kenyon sent a report on ongoing projects.

- The Banchory Job Club continues to be held in Banchory Library on Tuesdays between 10am and noon.
- Adult literacy and numeracy one-to-one tuition is available
- English Speakers of Other Languages classes run on a Wednesday evening 7pm-9pm.
- A range of volunteering opportunities is available supporting the Duke of Edinburgh programme to Adult Literacy Tutor, with all required training provided.

14.3 B.D.I

Nothing to report

14.4 Banchory Sports Village (BSV)

The BanchoRio events raised approximately £7,500 (final figures have to be calculated).

The next meeting has yet to be arranged.

More details can be found at www.banchorysportsvillage.co.uk

14.5 Banchory Community Sports Centre Stakeholders' Meeting

Nothing to report

14.6 Banchory First Responders (Defibrillators)

Nothing to report

14.7 Community Safety Forum

Eileen Durno confirmed that forms and tax disc holders for the in-car emergency contact details project have been placed in Banchory Library. The next meeting is to be held on 13 October 2016.

15. Date / Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Monday 14 November at 7.30 pm in the Banchory Academy Library.

Further information about many of the projects and events mentioned above can be found online at:

www.visitbanchory.com

www.facebook.com/pages/Banchory-Community-Council/606634609388296