



## COLLIESTON AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2007

Present: Sally Sheehan, Margaret Swan, Roger Berl, Vicky McNiff, Trish Davidson, Sarah Gosden, Lesley Stewart, Julie Swan, Viv Easton

In attendance: Michael Milligan, Estate Factor

Apologies: Jilly, Niki Tait, Councillor Brinsley Sheridan

Chair: Roger Berl

Minutes taken by: Sally Sheehan

| ITEM                        | DISCUSSION   | ACTION |
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| Approve minutes             | Approved by Vicky, seconded by Lesley  |        |
| Date of Next Meeting        | Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> February  |        |
| Discussion with Mr Milligan | <p>After being welcomed to the meeting, Mr Milligan informed the Committee that Thursday is his usual visit to the village and for people to contact him if they would like to meet.</p> <p>Strutt and Parker had been removed as factors for Slains Estate; Mr Milligan will be acting as Factor for Slains Estate as well as Esslemont Estate, Ellon.</p> <p>A meeting had been held recently with Scottish Water and it was hoped that the final terms for the proposed works have been agreed.</p> <p>Currently agreeing terms of land purchase with CASCT.</p> <p>Mr Milligan explained that the Estate's policy is to make the most of their assets and also rid themselves of liabilities, but they do want to be seen as helpful to community aspirations, i.e. through the purchase of football strips for the school and donations to the Gala.</p> <p>Roger asked about the pier and the Estate's involvement. Mr Milligan said that although it was a common belief that the Estate was part owner of the pier, ownership had been passed to the Harbour Trustees following the 1895 disposition. The Estate had met</p> |        |

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|                 | <p>with Aberdeenshire Council and their own legal advisers and had subsequently resigned as Trustees. Mr Milligan said that the Estate felt that possibly members of the local community might want to take more responsibility of the harbour. The Trustees do not have a financial responsibility; although Vicky pointed out that there may still be a liability of negligence.</p> <p>Vicky commented that the recent survey had identified major work needed, but that neither the village nor the Council had money available to rectify this. The factor said that the Estate would consider all suggestions from the community.</p> <p>Vicky asked what the liabilities were the Estate was thinking of getting rid of. The Factor replied he would be happy to come back another time and discuss the possibilities of community land ownership, and the possibility of paying for land management – e.g. grass cutting and/or equipment.</p> <p>A question was asked about charitable donations but the Factor replied that this was only an informal arrangement.</p> <p>Mr Milligan outlined the problems defining land boundaries within the Estate but that the Estate Solicitors Burnett and Reid have just finalised a Register of Land. This is available from the Register of Sassinnes in Edinburgh.</p> <p>Mr Milligan concluded his input by saying that although there had been a breakdown of relationships between the Estate and the community in the past, he hoped that they would be viewed as better landlords in the future.</p> |  |
| Matters Arising | <p>Sarah had spoken to Linda Matheson from Environmental Planning who had agreed to come for a site visit to inspect the coastal path.</p> <p>Councillor Sheridan to be asked about future arrangements for representation for Collieston and Slains.</p> <p>The Crown Estate to be contacted re the possibility of grants from their Marine Stewardship programme.</p>  | <p>Sarah</p> <p>Cllr Sheridan</p> <p>Sally</p> |

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|                    | <p>Lesley believed that Gardenstown pier was owned by the Council. She will investigate further.</p> <p>A meeting was to be held on the 20<sup>th</sup> for invited local people who had particular interest in the pier to determine future action</p> <p>Mick had passed the Christmas tree lights to Mike Earlam who had volunteered to repair and replace them.</p> <p>Andrew Clucas from High Town was keen to put on a musical fundraising event for the village. He will be invited to the next meeting.</p> | <p>Lesley</p> <p>Committee and community</p> <p>Mick and Mike</p> <p>Niki</p> |
| Correspondence     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thank you card from Richard and Michelle Brown</li> <li>• Glasdon – Shelters and seating brochure</li> <li>• Gordon Forum for the Arts – poster for Art Exhibition</li> <li>• Planning and Environmental Services – Online Register of Planning Application notification.</li> <li>• Formartine Community Council Forum – Minute of meeting 15<sup>th</sup> November 2006</li> <li>• Letter of thanks from Dr and Mrs Argo</li> </ul>                                      |   |
| Burns Supper       | Viv confirmed that all arrangements were in hand.   |   |
| Christmas Raffle   | Arrangements for next year to be discussed at the April meeting. Margaret felt that she may not want to be the promoter in future.  |   |
| Treasurer's Report | Trish reported on recent transactions and the state of the account.   |   |
| Welfare Report     | Margaret reported on the cards and gifts sent to local people who had been ill or who had something to celebrate.   |   |
| CASCT              | <p>Vicky explained the process that the stage reached to date. There would be two meetings to attend before the judge's report back.</p> <p>Keith Newton had said that the only reason the hall had not closed was because the community were doing something about it,</p>   |   |

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|                    | <p>Margaret said that she felt this was an unrealistic statement.<br/>CASCT were to meet the following week.</p>   |                           |
| Any Other Business | <p>Sarah reported that she sat on the Forvie Advisory Panel (SNH) and would be happy to take any village concerns to meetings.</p> <p>Roger brought several matters of concern to the table; these included the state of benches, paths and dangerous steps around the village. Sarah agreed that some areas were hazardous and that we should possibly contact the Estate.<br/>She also mentioned that the boat in the play park may have reached the end of its useful life. The play park will be on the agenda for the next meeting.</p> <p>Anyone noticing road defects was advised to contact the Council's roads department directly.</p> <p>Agreement reached that the Amenities Committee should purchase two notice boards for the village, possibly one for Slains at a later date.</p> | <p>Sally</p> <p>Sally</p> |