



Slains and Collieston Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 1st September 2010

Present: Rachel Hitchcock, Trish Cowie, Sheena Junor, Roger Berl, Charles Esson, Sally Sheehan, George Jamieson, Nora Harper

Apologies Sian Earlam, Ewan Cowie, Huib Attema, Jonathan Mitchell, Councillor Davidson, Nicole Bell

In attendance Constables Alun Harries and Stuart Archer from Grampian Police. Andrew Coupar from the Pier sub group

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Approve minutes	Minutes were proposed by Sheena Junor, seconded by Roger Berl	
Matters Arising	There were no matters arising other than those items already on the agenda.	
Ellon Police	<p>The two Constables present had attended the meeting to hear what was happening in the community and to see if there were any concerns.</p> <p>Question asked about abandoned vehicles on the grass verges in the village. Although the land is owned by Aberdeenshire Council, because the vehicle is not actually be on a road, may mean the police cannot enforce its removal despite there being no road tax. However Environmental Health may have cause to treat the vehicle as abandoned.</p> <p>Discussion about the Cruden Bay black spot which had been the scene of several accidents recently. Suggestion that the Council Road Department be contacted expressing the concerns of the community.</p> <p>Noted that there was a possibility of a traveller's site being established at Balmacassie. Police said that they were now able to act immediately if any laws had been broken.</p> <p>Request made that all agendas and minutes are emailed to Inspector Pratt.</p>	SE
Secretary's Report	<p>The content of some emails had already been cascaded to Council members, correspondence included:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Aberdeenshire Council</u> <u>Planning & Environmental Services</u> List of Applications Dealt with under Delegated Powers 1-3 June 2010 List of Applications Dealt with under Delegated Powers 1-31 July 2010 <u>Education, Learning and Leisure</u> Turriff Academy HMIE Inspection Report, Action Plan King Edward primary school HMIE inspection report, Action Plan 2. Details on Formartine Bus Forum meeting on 8th September 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Digital switchover information 4. Advert from Trades advisor Aberdeen 5. Poster for CC elections 6. Formartine CC Forum Agenda & MOM 7. Aberdeenshire Councils Community Asset Funds 8. Energy saving Scotland Advice Centre 9. Aberdeenshire Green Butterfly awards 	
Community Council Election	<p>Aberdeenshire Council had been asked to assist with the election process. They had placed an advertisement in the local press and had sent out posters for the Community Council to display. These had been posted on village notice boards; Sian had circulated further information to Council members. The closing date was the coming Friday – 3rd September. It would be dependant on the number of nominations received, whether there would be an election for the eight vacancies.</p> <p>The AGM was to be held on Friday 24th September in the Community Centre. Nora will send her minutes from last year to Sian. Agendas, minutes etc to be ready for the night.</p>	NH, SE
Gala Feedback	<p>Agreed by everyone the Gala had gone well. Discussion took place on future format. Date to be changed to the beginning of July next year – i.e. the first week of the school summer holiday. Any programme activity must have fully committed volunteers if it is to be included. Skittles may be incorporated with another activity at another venue. Hoped to have “Drouthie Neighbours” play at the ceilidh again next year.</p> <p>Bobby the Playbus not to be asked next year.</p>	
Hall Interim Activities	<p>Despite securing funding and a favourable quote for new windows, the project has been frustrated as the Council’s property services are insisting on there being timber windows instead of PVC. However, two of the windows might be replaced from the Council budget as they are not wind and watertight – a requirement of the Council. Concern was expressed by one member who felt there was no clear vision and that the building was not fit for purpose. A reply was made in that there is a need to take some short term action due to the poor condition of the building, but that a longer term strategy is being investigated by the sub group tasked with the hall project.</p> <p>There are several outstanding repair items still to be completed by the Council – the clerk of works will be asked to come to the next meeting.</p>	
Play park	<p>The four swings which had been erected 30 years ago had reached the end of their useful life and had had to be removed.</p> <p>Costings to be obtained for the next meeting.</p>	SS
Bonfire Night	<p>Arranged for Saturday 6th November 6pm for 6.30 pm. Joint activity with School Parent Forum. Sarah Gosden is the new Chairperson. Forum to do soup/food/collections, SACC to do bar. Need to ask Mike Earlam if he might do fireworks</p>	

	again. Also need a first aider. Sally will apply for licence.	SS
Treasurer's report/Financial update	The Treasurer was not present to give a statement. The Gala had been a financial success, with the full total to be announced at the AGM.	
Pier	<p>Andrew Coupar had been invited to come to the meeting to report on the work of the sub group.</p> <p>The group have an identified set of priorities, working within their budget whilst realising that completing all the work required would cost millions. Concreting work was carried out last year and this summer major work has been undertaken on the Boatie Shore. The area was succumbing to erosion with the danger of a major slip on Braehead. It was hoped that the Crown Estate would give partial funding, but this had not happened. However, stones had been obtained – thanks in part to Bill Bruce – and the work completed successfully. Grass seeding is to be done shortly. Other work to be done included the replacement of ladders, hoops and posts and also fencing at the end of the pier. Wilkies engineering are to do the fencing, George Cameron, the Council's Harbour Engineer is giving advice and may be able to supply workforce. Marine grade stainless steel is to be used for the structures and Roddy Junor may be able to obtain favourable costings for this.</p> <p>All monies held by the former Harbour Trustees are now held in one sub account of the Community council. The Boatie shore work had cost £9k and the fencing would be approx £1500. Income had been generated from Scottish Water having skips on the pier, collected donations, the Fun Run and Silent Auction. Bills might be paid through CASCT as they can reclaim the VAT.</p> <p>Andrew had been investigating the Harbour Trustees documentation to determine its remit, powers and limitations. Although these are wide ranging, if charges were to be established – payment of rates would be incurred. However a suggested charging scheme for cars and boats would be appropriate. An annual charge for boats and use of slipway is being investigated.</p> <p>A non working parking meter is to be installed to suggest to motorists that they make a donation. An information board would include suggested charges along with local information.</p> <p>Andrew assured the meeting that signage cannot be enforced before the community are aware of the proposals. The pier sub group appreciate that wording of signs as well as management of boats is a sensitive issue, and they want to engage with the community to ensure this is done by agreement.</p> <p>There are some ongoing problems with Scottish Water's inspection hatches on the pier – possibly caused by heavy rainfall.</p> <p>Major issue for the group is the need for continued funding and big grants. Time constraints an issue.</p> <p>A representative from Bell Ingram has offered to come to the next meeting – which all agreed would be useful.</p> <p>Mention was made of the Coastal Path and its dangers near Cransdale. Agreed this was a matter for Aberdeenshire</p>	

	<p>Council. Andrew will come to the AGM to give a report to the community. Revised Rules will go out with the next Blether. Sheena is selling toffee to raise money for the Church/Pier/Community council.</p> <p>NB Minutes of the Pier sub group can be found on the website – www.colliestononline.org</p>	
CATs	<p>Quiet over the summer, but up and running again now. List of dates on the website and notice boards – will also include in the Blether. Volunteers will need Disclosure Scotland clearance, Sally offered to sign these off. Youth workers will be coming to help with activities and also to get the group signed up with Youth Scotland.</p>	
Blether	Next edition coming soon, Will incorporate dates etc.	
Wellbeing Report	Nicole was not present, but all cards etc believed to be up to date.	
Work Party	<p>Mick Sheehan had outlined outstanding items needing attention, these included:- Need for new bin holders round harbour New dog bin needed Kirk yard wall in need of repair Christmas lights to be checked/repared/replaced? New signs for next years Gala needed Boards in field need lashing down, covering – Mick will do this Play park shed needs repair Gap in fence behind Sunny Brae needs repair Path from harbour road to Cransdale needs upgrading.</p> <p>Discussion about how to get work done, with a number of suggestions being made. Re-visit at next meeting, in the meantime list to be posted on the website.</p>	
Planning Applications	<p>Only one relevant application – 1 Swan Place, Collieston – alterations and extension to dwelling house.</p> <p>http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/apps/detail.asp?ref_no=APP/2010/2722</p> <p>The Community Council made no representation.</p>	
CASCT	Nothing new to report.	
Any other business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathleen Robertson who sang “Collieston Calling” had asked whether anyone knew of the whereabouts of a video that had been taken at the first fundraising ceilidh. • Roger reported two hazards with poor road surface near to Ogston Farm. • Tea and Talk coffee morning to take place in the hall the first Sunday in October as part of Ellon’s Community Well Being festival. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Offer had been made by village resident of good quality sound system for the hall costing approx £150. Agreed.• Purchase of new vacuum jugs plus other equipment agreed.	
Date of Next Meeting	Wednesday 6 th October 2010 @ 7.30pm	