



MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 29 JUNE 2016
AT TARLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

PRESENT: Cllr. Katrina Farquhar, Simon Welfare (Chairman), Sue Erskine (Treasurer), Dave Ellis, Alec McVean, P.C. Morag Campbell of Police Scotland and 2 members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Peter Argyle, Cllr. Geva Blackett, Joyce Lovie, Veronica Ross and Evelyn Smith.

1. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2016 were discussed and approved.

2. Police Report

P.C. Campbell of Police Scotland said that crime levels in Cromar had remained low, but that there had been several incidents recently on Deeside that made it apparent that criminals are prepared to travel to the area to commit offences. Police Scotland was having some success in catching perpetrators, particularly of car crime, but she emphasized that members of the public should nonetheless take all reasonable precautions to ensure the security of their homes, vehicles and property. She added that the response to the national air weapon surrender campaign had been significant, with 1340 weapons handed in to the North East Division. Operation Zenith, which focuses on improving the standard of riding motorcycles, is still underway.

3. Cromar Report

3.1: Tarland Trails 2

Chris Redmond of the Tarland Development Group gave a presentation about a proposal for a 20-30km network of mountain bike trails in Cromar. This would build on the success of the trails in Drummy Wood. The new network would, he believed, boost the economy of Tarland and the surrounding area by bringing in more visitors and it would also benefit the health and wellbeing of the

community. A preliminary consultation had found that the initial reaction from the public was favourable. He said that he was hoping to commission a feasibility study later in the summer and this would help decide if the proposal should be taken further. Mr Redmond said that this was a long-term project and that sustainability, safety and possible effects on the landscape, environment and other recreational amenities offered in the Howe would be high on the agenda. After a discussion, the Community Council commended the ambition of the project, thanked Mr Redmond for his presentation and agreed that it looked forward to hearing more upon the completion of the feasibility study.

3.2: Tarland Public Toilets

The Community Council heard that visitors to Tarland had been confused about access to public toilets in the village. These facilities are now provided by the Commercial Hotel and the Chairman agreed to write to Aberdeenshire Council to ensure that a notice on the now closed toilets displays the new arrangements. The Chairman also agreed to write to Aberdeenshire Council to ask what it intended to do with the old public toilets building.

3.3: Flooding & Drains

The Chairman said that he had received responses to his enquiries about flood plans for Tarland from Aberdeenshire Council and from the MacRobert Trust Estate. The Community Council agreed that these will be taken into account when the results of the community consultation about flood planning, due to be resumed after the summer break, have been received. A meeting to gather information from landowners and farmers had also been suggested. The Chairman agreed to write to Aberdeenshire Council's Roads Dept. to ask for details of the work on the drains in Aberdeen Road, Tarland, scheduled for 18 July. He also reported that he had brought the overflowing drain at the edge of the recycling area in Tarland to the County Council's attention.

3.4: Tarland Bowling Green and Pavilion

The Community Council heard that Aberdeenshire Council's consultation on the future of the Tarland bowling green would finish on 18 July. The Tarland play park pavilion can be booked by contacting the Duty Officer at the Aboyne Community Centre (Telephone: 013398 86222) or via email at: Aboyne.Pool@aberdeenshire.gov.uk. Further details are being posted on the Cromar & Tarland Community website.

3.5: *Tarland Old Kirk Bellcote*

The Chairman said that he had had a response from Marsaili Aspinall of Aberdeenshire Council's Environment Team to his enquiry about plans to restore the bellcote removed from the Old Kirk. A specialist stone conservator is due to report on the condition of the stones this summer so that the size and cost of the project can be assessed.

3.6: *Logie Coldstone Path*

The long-awaited path from Logie Coldstone School to the Hall is due to be constructed this year.

3.7: *Market Stance, Tarland*

Concerns about the erosion of the Market Stance in Tarland were discussed and the Chairman agreed to contact Aberdeenshire Council's Landscape services to discuss what could be done.

4. **Community Council Accounts**

Sue Erskine presented the Community Council's accounts for the year 1 June 2015 – 31 May 2016. These were read, discussed and approved by the members of the Community Council. Donald Gordon was thanked for examining the accounts.

5. **Cairngorms National Park**

The Community Council agreed to hear a presentation about the National Park Partnership Plan from Cllr. Farquhar at its meeting in August. The plan is out for consultation until 30 September and can be found at www.cairngorms.co.uk. The public is invited to offer their views on the proposals that it contains.

6. **Planning Applications**

Community Councillors discussed the following planning applications:

TARLAND

Internal Alterations and Refurbishment Works to Fire Damaged Care Home
Alastrean House Tarland Aberdeenshire AB34 4TA Ref. No: APP/2016/1719

Erection of Outbuilding Kirklands Of Cromar 9 Bridge Street Tarland
Aberdeenshire AB34 4YN Ref. No: APP/2016/1414

LUMPHANAN

Demolition of Former Mill and Erection of Dwellinghouse and Garage including
Change of Use to Domestic Garden Ground Site To The South Of Old Mill
Lumphanan Aberdeenshire Ref. No: APP/2016/1416

Community Councillors decided to offer no comments on these applications to the Planning Authority, but, following a discussion of the first application, the Chairman agreed to write to the C.E.O. of the MacRobert Trust to enquire about the future of the care home at Alastrean House.

Next meeting: at Logie Coldstone School on 17 August 2016 at 7p.m.