



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 4th DECEMBER 2019
AT LOGIE COLDSTONE HALL**

PRESENT: Simon Welfare (Chairman), Dave Ellis (Secretary/Treasurer), Nigel Healey, Joyce Lovie, Emma Murphy, Veronica Ross, Evelyn Smith, Cllr. Paul Gibb and one member of the public.

APOLOGIES: Andrew Wilson, Cllr. Geva Blackett, Cllr. Peter Argyle.

1. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of 6 November were discussed. Acceptance of them was proposed by Dave Ellis and seconded by Evelyn Smith. Agreement was unanimous.

2. Councillor's Report

Cllr. Gibb updated the meeting on current issues. He said that a draft of the proposed new policy for installing road crossings was circulating within the Roads Department. This was due to be discussed by the Marr Area Committee on 28 January and later by the Infrastructure Services Committee. He explained the scoring system used to decide if a crossing was needed.

Work on the Logie Coldstone School soakaway is scheduled to begin on 6 January. Logie Coldstone School will be closed for the month while the work is happening and the children taught as a group at Tarland School. The transport arrangements for the children travelling to Tarland School were still being discussed.

Cllr. Gibb presented the school roll figures for Aberdeenshire. There was a general reduction in rolls: this was thought to be related to the number of new housing starts in West Aberdeenshire.

3. Police Report

The recent Police Report was considered. There was discussion about a van that had been stolen in Logie Coldstone and there was concern that this did not appear to have been recorded in the Report. The Secretary was asked to raise this with Police Scotland.

4. Cromar Report

Roads & Drains: The recent heavy rains had caused no serious problems in Logie Coldstone, but in Tarland there were significant floods on 12 November. Although the drains on the Aberdeen Road in Tarland had performed well, there was some flooding on the road between the Playpark and Cromar Cottages. And more serious incidents of flooding

occurred in the area surrounding the Tarland Garage, with Melgum and Mill Roads especially affected. The water had come up from an underground burn, running through a culvert that was subsequently found to be blocked: a large sheet of plastic was later removed from it. At the same time, the Tarland Burn overflowed on to a long stretch of Burnside Road. Members thanked Cllr. Gibb for his help on the afternoon that the flooding occurred and for his subsequent help in trying to find solutions to these problems. They were also grateful to local residents, officials from the Flood Risk & Coast Protection Department at Aberdeenshire Council and to the team from the Roads Department who arrived quickly to provide sandbags and other assistance. Cllr. Gibb and the Chairman agreed to pursue the matter with Lee Watson, the Principal Engineer for Flood Risk and Coast Protection, and a public meeting to discuss the ongoing flood problems in the village and their prevention will be held on 7 January.

Logie Coldstone Crossing & School Soakaway: This is covered in Cllr. Gibb's report.

Tarland Christmas Tree & Christmas Lights: The planting of the Scots Pine on the Market Stance on 22nd November had been an enjoyable occasion. The back-filling of the hole in which the tree had been planted had been undertaken by a group of children from Tarland Primary School, together with the Head Teacher, Ms Julie Rogers. Members expressed their gratitude to H.R.H. The Duke of Rothesay for generously providing the tree, to Craig Morrison and his colleagues at Aberdeenshire Council's Landscape Services Department who arranged and carried out the planting, to the gardeners of the MacRobert Trust who looked after it over the summer, and to the schoolchildren who took part in the ceremony.

The Tarland Christmas Lights switch-on event on 30 November had been very successful. Thanks were given to Gordon Ross and his team for obtaining and putting up the lights, to the MacRobert Trust Estate for providing the tree and helping to erect it, to Sarah Smith and her committee who organised the event, to the musicians and carol singers who performed in the Square, to the businesses that had stayed open late for the occasion and to all those who had taken stalls in the MacRobert Memorial Hall.

VE Day Anniversary in 2020: The plans for the event and exhibition are progressing.

Electric Charging Point: Nigel Healey had been invited to a planned meeting in January between the TDG's electric car group and Aberdeenshire Council. Members expressed the hope that the community might have a charging post installed whether a car-sharing scheme went ahead or not.

Community Engagement: The Chairman reported that he had discussed the planned Community Action Plan (CAP) with the Chief Executive of the MacRobert Trust. Work on the CAP would be initiated in the New Year.

5. Community Council Accounts

Dave Ellis said that the balance of the account stood at £1,626.46. This total included £91.17p that had been collected in 2018 to improve the Tarland Christmas lights. A donation had been made towards the Cromar Childrens' Party.

6. Logie Coldstone Trust

Plans for the annual Hogmanay event and the Burns Supper were well advanced. There would be no Community Cafe on 2nd January.

7. Tarland Welfare Trust

Nigel Healey said that this was the busiest time of year for bookings in the MacRobert Memorial Hall. A puppet show of *Hansel and Gretel*, suitable for children from 3 years and above, was planned for 13 December. The Hogmanay Party was expected to be very popular. Two new trustees had joined the Trust. Improvements to the on-line booking process for the Hall were planned. This would allow provisional bookings to be made directly on to the website, subject to later confirmation.

9. Tarland Development Group

The minutes of the TDG had been circulated. Members of the Community Housing Group had visited Tomintoul to meet with a group with similar plans.

10. Planning

There were currently no planning applications requiring comment.

11. Any Other Business

Joyce Lovie said that the Logie Coldstone community was hoping to obtain a brown tourist sign to point the way to the village hall there.

Members agreed to co-opt Christine Padgham of Tarland to the Community Council and asked the Secretary to initiate the process.

12. Date of Next Meeting & Flooding Meeting

Tuesday 7th January at MacRobert Hall, Tarland at 19.00. This will be a short ordinary Community Council Meeting followed by a discussion of the recent flood events in Tarland from 19.30.