



## **MINUTES OF THE ONLINE MEETING - 24th June 2020**

**Present:** - Simon Welfare (Chairman) Dave Ellis (Secretary/Treasurer), Anne Heath, Nigel Healey, Joyce Lovie, Cllr. Paul Gibb, Emma Murphy, Christine Padgham, Andrew Wilson.

**Apologies :** Cllr. Peter Argyle and Cllr. Geva Blackett

### **1. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes of the online meeting held on 27th May were approved.

### **2. Matters arising**

There were none.

### **3. Welcome to new member**

The Chairman welcomed Anne Heath to the meeting as a potential member of the Community Council. Anne had served on the Community Council previously.

### **4. Marr Area Police Report**

The May report had been circulated earlier. Very few incidents involving anti-social behaviour were reported. A continued decrease in calls to the Police was largely put down to the continuation of Covid-19 restrictions. Crimes such as housebreaking and thefts continue to remain at very low levels in Upper Deeside, but communities should remain vigilant and ensure that their properties are secure at all times. During May 2020, officers dealt with a number of road related crimes. There has been a dramatic increase in the number of motorcycles in the local area, and this is being monitored. Roads in the area are being patrolled. Joyce Lovie spoke of a possible wildlife incident in Logie Coldstone. The matter was reported to the police who followed up the report.

### **5. Councillor's Report**

Councillor Gibb reported that the Scottish Government had now published information about phase 2 of its 'route map' out of lockdown. Aberdeenshire Council had resumed grass cutting of cemeteries, parks and road verges. The next concern was the reopening of public toilets. Play parks were due to reopen on 29th June, following health and safety and maintenance checks.

### **6. Cromar Report**

**Covid-19 volunteer groups:** Nigel Healey reported on Cromar Community Help. In total, the group has responded to around 200 requests for help and has also carried out a daily newspaper delivery round. There are over 50 volunteers in 4

teams (coordinators, drivers, systems & core) servicing these requests. Another leaflet drop had been carried out in Cromar that highlighted the availability of the Aberdeen South Foodbank for people experiencing food poverty. An identification scheme is about to begin to validate the volunteers. Joyce Lovie and Emma Murphy said that in Logie Coldstone requests for help are still limited in number, but the system is in place to meet local needs. The Community Council expressed its warm appreciation to the volunteers and to local businesses for all they have done and are doing to help the community in these difficult times.

### **Logie Coldstone Crossing**

Councillor Gibb said there was no update at present on the progress of the crossing. This will still be expected to come before Aberdeenshire Council's Infrastructure Committee in October.

### **Engagement with landowners**

The Chairman had circulated a draft letter to the MacRobert Trust Estate in response to its proposals to engage with the community in line with the guidance of the Scottish Land Commission. He hoped to write to other landowners in the Community Council area about this in due course. The draft letter was approved and Members thought it reflected the spirit of amity the Community Council wished to share with local landowners.

### **Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan**

The Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan will be available to view online until the extended date of 31 July.

### **Plan for Mobile Phone Mast in Tarland**

No planning application has currently been lodged, but, when and if it is, the Community Council will inform the local community of the plans.

### **Tarland & Logie Coldstone Schools**

The schools in Scotland are now due to re-open on the 12th August. The Community Council heard that Aberdeenshire Council and local schools are confident they will achieve the deadline, although many questions still remain.

## **7. Easing the Lockdown**

Members were told that a 'strategic task force' had been set up by Aberdeenshire Council to assist food and drink businesses begin to trade using outdoor spaces when the lockdown was eased in July. Discussions were continuing about the possible use of Tarland Square.

## **8. Treasurer's Report**

The current bank balance is £4,058.82 which includes the grants from organisations to assist with local Covid-19 relief work.

9. **Logie Coldstone Trust**

Joyce Lovie said that the plants provided by the MacRobert Trust were very much appreciated by the community. The successful weekly Logie Coldstone Zoom sessions were continuing on Wednesdays and were enjoyed by those participating.

10. **Tarland Welfare Trust**

Nigel Healey said he had approached Aberdeenshire Council on behalf of the Welfare Trust to inquire if the MacRobert Memorial Hall might be of use for educational purposes.

11. **Tarland Development Group**

The minutes of the TDG had been circulated previously.

12. **Planning Applications**

Members discussed a planning application but ultimately decided not to comment upon it.

13. **Any Other Business**

The hanging baskets were now in place in Tarland. Thanks were expressed to the MacRobert Trust for the provision of plants and to Kate Redpath and her team for planting and putting up the containers.

The elections to Community Councils were likely to be deferred until 2021 on account of the Coronavirus pandemic. The AGM of Cromar Community Council was set for Wednesday 28th October. New Members could be co-opted and, similarly, Members coming to the end of their three year term could be co-opted until the elections take place.

14. **Date of the Next Online Meeting**

Wednesday 22nd July 2020 at 6 pm.