



CROMAR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF ONLINE MEETING 18th November 2022

Present: Simon Welfare (Chairman), David Ellis (Secretary/Treasurer), Joyce Lovie, Andrew Wilson, Camela Earle-Wright. Councillor Sarah Brown, Police Sergeant Allan Masson

Apologies: Sandra van Heusden, Cllr. Geva Blackett, Cllr. Anouk Kloppert

1. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of Cromar Community Council held on 19th October 2022 were approved. Approval was proposed by Joyce Lovie and seconded by Carmela Earle-Wright.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Police Report

The Chairman warmly welcomed Police Sergeant Allan Masson to his first meeting of Cromar Community Council, Sergeant Masson introduced himself and gave a brief account of the career path in the Police Service which led to his appointment as Community Police Sergeant for the Deeside Area. He is based in Ballater and has a Police Constable with him working out of Ballater and two others based at Braemar and Aboyne.

Sergeant Masson intends to attend the Community Council's meetings once each quarter. He highlighted the large geographical area his team is covering, and the challenges posed, especially in winter. He said that the Police Service has a key role to play in local resilience.

Sergeant Masson said that the best way of contacting his team directly, but only in a non-emergency is via email - Allan.Masson@scotland.police.uk. Using the 101 telephone line will also lead to the central control desk liaising with the local community force,

The Chairman thanked Sergeant Masson for attending the meeting and welcomed his planned personal contact with community councils.

4. Councillor's Report

Cllr. Brown reported on:-

The recent survey on the re-zoning of Logie Coldstone School

The recent survey was conducted for information gathering. The option to dual-zone Logie Coldstone school with Dinnet would be expensive and was not preferred. A meeting was planned between Council officers and the Parents' Council at Logie Coldstone to discuss the results. The Chairman asked if this meeting could be open to the public. It was recognised that having P1 pupils at Logie Coldstone school was important for maintaining the overall numbers on the roll.

The flood management plan for Tarland

Tarland is included in an update to the Local Flood Risk Management Plan for the period 2022 to 2028. This was discussed at the recent Marr Area Committee meeting. It was planned that the Tarland study would be completed by 2025 and submitted to the Scottish Government. Action and improvements would be dependent on funding from the Scottish Government.

While awaiting this, the assurance was given in response to a question from the Community Council that the flood protection service would be there to help in emergencies.

SEPA provides flood alerts and updates on this website link - <https://floodline.sepa.org.uk/floodupdates/>

Teachers' Strike Action

Notification had been received that schools throughout Aberdeenshire would close on Thursday 24th November due to strike action planned for that day by teachers.

5. Aboyne Hospital Update

It was reported that the hospital wards had now reopened and that the Strategic Needs Survey report would be presented to the Integration Joint Board on 7th December. Cllr. Brown was asked to check if all the pre-pandemic clinics were now operating. (Update: This has proved to be the case. Cllr. Brown has reported that 'in addition, the Secondary Care hub at Aboyne has also recommenced, plus Community Treatment and Care services should be starting soon. Podiatry clinics no longer take place for staffing/accommodation reasons.')

6. Cromar Report

Resilience Planning

Preparation of the Local Resilience Plan continues and discussions have been held with both organisations and individuals. It is planned to attend an SSEN resilience workshop on 24th November. The Digital Engagement Team has been asked to provide information on the arrangements for local mobile phone masts in the event of a power outage.

Roads, Bridges and Drains

The Chairman had written to Ian Peacock of Aberdeenshire Council about the work

at Coull Bridge and Burnside Road. A local resident had contacted the Chairman about the need to keep road drains clear in event of storms and water build-up. The Roads department had been proactive in removing soil from around gully drains on the local roads and they were thanked for making these preparations. If residents notice any blocked drains, these should be reported to the Council via the website - www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/roads/report-a-road-fault/ or by telephone.

Broadband Improvements

Broadband Improvements: meetings with a commercial company offering to provide full-fibre broadband in the Cromar area had been held in early November in both Logie Coldstone and Tarland. This offered the potential to deliver a full fibre service a number of years in advance of the R100 project timetable. Local residents interested in getting a better connection were advised to express interest on the Broadway Broadband website.

Christmas Lights

The MacRobert Trust estate has generously agreed to provide a Christmas tree for Tarland Square. Mr Gordon Ross is kindly planning to check the existing lights and advise on refurbishments/ replacements.

Social Media Training

Dave Ellis and Sandra van Heusden had attended a one-day seminar at Aberdeenshire Council's Head Offices. Sandra has agreed to improve the Community Council's social media output, using facebook and Instagram.

Coronation Celebrations

Discussion was held on appropriate ways to mark the coronation of The King on 6th May 2023. Members were asked to bring forward their ideas for the next meeting.

7. Treasurer's Report

The account is showing a balance of £2,289

8. Logie Coldstone Trust

Joyce Lovie reported that the AGM of the Trust would be held on 21st November 2022 at 8 pm, followed by mulled wine and shortbread.

9. Tarland Welfare Trust

No update.

10. Tarland Development Group

The AGM minutes from September 2022 had been received and circulated.

11. Planning Applications

One application was discussed, but Members thought there was no reason to offer any comment.

12. Any Other Business

The Chairman paid tribute to the team that had planted, put up and tended the hanging baskets and planters in Tarland Square throughout the summer. It was agreed that the volunteers should receive a token of the Community Council's appreciation.

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held via Zoom at 6 pm on 7th December 2022.