

# BALLATER & CRATHIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL (B&CC)

ballaterandcrathie.org.uk

Minutes of a Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> Oct 2017, at 7pm in Mike Sheridan Room

<p><b>Present:</b> James Anderson (WJ) - Chair Jane Angus (JA) Joanne Croll (JC) Pat Downie (PD) Iain Latta (IL) Anne Reid (AR) Francis Duguid (FD) Cllr Paul Gibb (CPG)</p> <p><b>Apologies</b> Cllr Geva Blackett (CGB) Wendy Miller (WM) Fiona Presslie (FP) Linda drever (LD)</p>	<p><b>Also present:</b> Allan Harrison (AH) David Horne (DH) Jenny Smith SCARF (JS) PC Stuart Archer Police Scotland</p>
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## 1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

## 2. Matters Arising from Last Meeting:

- Minutes approved
- Action Tracker: Updated.

## 3. Emergency services:

- Obstructions and congestion on Golf Road. Trying to resolve issues using the educate before enforcement method. Call if anything suspicious is seen, opportunist crimes, open doors etc.

## 4. Reports:

### AbCo SCARF (JS) -

- AbCo founded the home energy advice team to help reduce fuel bills. Can give advice on how to heat houses, fuel tariffs. Home visits available. Everyone can benefit. Thermometer cards available to help the more vulnerable.

### BRD (DH) -

- Mtg last Thurs indicated Ballater is on the next list for receiving electric chargers for cars.

- Awaiting info from AbCo wrt new power box on the green. PD has asked that if the power is not available prior to Nov 24<sup>th</sup> please put back til next year as BEG need power for the Christmas tree lights.
- JC (BCCC) has asked that BRD pay the bill for the halls for the next CAP meeting, they have agreed.
- Walking week meeting to take place to finalise the 18 walks for next year. FD to contact JB for route input.
- Next paths and bridges meeting will take place on Nov 9<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.
- AGM to be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov at BRD offices.

#### AbCo (CPG) -

- Governance for established of Community Councils has been concluded. There is 1 yr to make changes and comments to constitutions.  
There is a community committee which includes Police Scotland. Police Scotland will try make a quarterly visit to meetings, standard police reports will be sent out otherwise.
- Marr Area Bus Forum 18<sup>th</sup> October. JC -changeover place not ideal. CPG will take forward. IL noted there is an environmental health issue from the diesel fumes on Golf Road. CPG will send report after meeting.
- FD requested the resurface of road at East Lodge, Cocks Neck, sand bags are falling apart, permanent barrier required since road collapsed.
- IL reported the lighting at Monaltrie Road requires attention.

#### BCE (AH) -

- Caravan Park has enjoyed a fantastic season, touring income doubled since the first year of taking over the park. 10 new pitches will be available from next year. Possibility of a further 50 stances in the future. Pods looking unlikely in the short term.
- BBA. Cruise ships coming to Aberdeen will hopefully bring tours to Ballater. Cruise group set up with Visit Aberdeenshire collaboration to promote Deeside to the ground controller in Aberdeen

#### AbCo (AR) on behalf of CGB -

- The uneven pavement outside Clachan Grill has been reported.
- The wall outside Inchgael has now been removed and looks much better.

#### CNPA (AR) on behalf of ASS from previous meeting -

- Draft of paths leaflet should be available mid November.
- Golf course meeting this week to discuss promotion of riverside path.
- Invercauld Estate have been in discussion wrt signs and paths leaflet, they are interested but require further information.
- Richard at Cycle Highlands is keen to be involved in the redrafting of paths leaflets.
- Deeside way extension is being worked on incrementally from each end. They will consult with community councils along the route.

#### Resilience Group -

- All but a handful of the volunteers have now had a Familiarisation Training Session in the Halls
- Radios - There is a major sticking point with the planners re. siting of an aerial. John Bolton liaising with Aberdeenshire Planning Dept.
- We continue to gather information for the list to be used in event of another emergency - it's almost complete
- The signage is almost complete
- We have had a dialogue with Aberdeenshire Council re. provision of sandbags. Research is ongoing as to feasibility of providing another container of sandbags closer to the area most likely to be affected by

flooding. Meantime we hold two keys for the container at the school - one to be kept in the Halls and the other with W. Murdoch on Monaltrie Avenue.

WE HAVE ACCEPTED NO LIABILITY FOR DISTRIBUTION BUT AGREED ONLY THAT AS SOON AS IS PRACTICABLE WE WILL OPEN THE CONTAINER.

#### CAP (JC) -

- Survey closes in the next day or so. 572 people responses returned, wide range of age groups. Collating the information is ongoing.
- Open day planned at Albert Hall on 4<sup>th</sup> Nov, called THE BIG CONVERSATION, whereby small groups can get together to give further comments. Needs to be well publicized.

**5. Planning Matters** - Old School outcome will be end Nov/early Dec for CNPA decision.

**6. Correspondence** - Letter from Ron Drever BHG requesting support for hard standing at Monaltrie park. A majority vote in support was given.

Letter written to Charitable Chiels highlighting the shortfall in funds for repair of the drains at Monaltrie park toilet block, asking if they can meet the bills that have been presented.

Letter from TC expressing disdain over the paths and bridges steering group.

**7. Finance** - NTR

#### **8. AOCB**

- AR - Old School deeds available to read.
- FD - Bell at Old School to be retained in Ballater. Possibly to go to History Group
- AR - Letter from Harry Wight passed to CPG to follow up from June. ACTION - CPG
- FD - 40mph signs to be removed from A93 opposite Abergeldie Castle. ACTION -CPG
- FD to lay wreath at Nov service at Glenmuick Church. TA to drop off wreath.
- JA to lay wreath at Nov service at Crathie Kirk. Pick up wreath from TA
- DH enquired about history with boots. ACTION - AR (with CNPA)
- IL enquired as to the opening times at Monaltrie Park Toilets. Keep all informed. ACTION -AR
- PD - Emergency evacuation at Halls, all hall users to attend.
- PD - 12 days of Christmas to go ahead, volunteers required for handing out sheets.
- JA reported buses remain a problem as are roads, overbanding is poor.
- PD reported problems with 201 bus service. People from town get on bus, people from Ballater cannot as there is insufficient room.
- AR - There is no lighting between Hawthorn Place and Craigview Road, a well used path. ACTION - CPG
- IL to report from Halls meetings and forward minutes.
- FD -defib unit is now housed on the toilet block on Church Square. No power as yet. ACTION - FD
- PD - who owns Craigview Road ground. ACTION - CPG
- WJA - holidaymaker complained via FB about dog poo close to Balmoral. ACTION - CPG

The meeting closed at 9.01pm

Next meeting will be 13<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2017, Mike Sheridan Room, Victoria and Albert Halls, 7-9pm.