**BANFF & MACDUFF COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Monday 27th March 2023 - 7pm**

**Deveronside Community and Sports Centre**

**Present:**

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| Mary Arnold | Chair |
| Kevin Ritchie | Vice Chair |
| Hazel Daniel | Secretary |
| Reg Connon | Community Councillor |
| Dougie Thomson | Community Councillor |
| John Will | Community Councillor |
| David Duguid | Community Councillor (Co-opted) |
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| Councillor Glen Reynolds | Ward 1 Elected Member |
| Councillor John Cox | Ward 1 Elected Member |
|  | Police |

**Apologies:**

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| Paul Gleisner | Community Councillor |
| Louise McCafferty | Treasurer |
| Councillor Stewart Adams | Ward 1 Elected Member |
| Councillor Ross Cassie | Ward 1 Elected Member  |

**In Attendance:**

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| John Anderson | **Fraserburgh Community Council** |

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| **1** | **Present and apologies** |
|  | Welcomed and apologies noted. |

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| **2** | **Declaration of Interests** |
|  | No declarations noted. |
| **3** | **Approval of Minute of Meeting of 27 February 2023****Matters Arising from last Minute** |
|  | The Minute was approved. Proposed by John Will and seconded by Dougie Thomson. |
| **4** | **Treasurer’s Report- Secretary’s report** |
|  | The Treasurer was not in attendance and no report was given.Hazel, as new secretary has had to purchase Microsoft and this was agreed by the CC members. Approved by Dougie Thomson, Seconded by John Will.Discussion also took place for incidentals to be purchased and how this could be achieved. If required Hazel, Secretary, will discuss with Mary, Chair and Kevin, Deputy Chair. Approved by Reg Connon, Seconded by John Will. |
| **5** | **Police Report** |
|  | Inspector Gavin Grant presented the February report, which had not been seen by the members of the CC. He advised he would have a copy forwarded.Inspector Grant reported that there was nothing problematic to report. There were 10 cases of shoplifting, by the same individual. Ten assaults reported as well as some fraud cases via online.At the last CC Meeting the Police were asked whether they expected to see an increase in crime due to the cost of living and he advised not. The Police were advised of an issue raised by a member of the public regarding anti-social behaviour in Low Street. Inspector Grant advised that there is to be a project starting at the Vinery with young people who will benefit from additional support and intervention.Also highlighted was the potential staff restructuring at the station, this is ongoing. Police Constable Rastislav Zubaj is going to be based in Banff Academy. This is already happening in other schools throughout the shire. |

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| **6** | **Speaker**  |
|  | John Anderson, Fraserburgh Community Centre, gave a presentation regarding the need for a Resilience Plan to be produced by Banff and Community Council in the case of an emergency. Mr Anderson advised he would pass on the plan to be adapted to Banff and Macduff’s needs as and when the email address is up and running. |

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| **7** | **Councillors’ Reports** |
|  | **Councillor Reynolds- Councillor Cox** |
|  | * Both spoke regarding the budget process and how to provide the service the community requires and expects with the level of funding available.
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| * There are issues with regarding Mental Health both for the public and in particular, young people and also staff. The impact that has on them and the knock-on effect. Looking at how to encourage young people to work in the Council and NHS. Communities need to take a look as to what they can do to support each other.
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| * A question was asked as to whether the photographs which are in the Macduff Town House could be given to the Macduff Historical Society.

Action: Dougie to contact Troup Councillors and Angela Keith, Aberdeenshire Council.* A question was asked regarding the text messages being sent out by Macduff Medical Practice regarding lack of staff and limited availability of GP’s and the impact this could have on the local community, particularly older members.
* A question was asked regarding the budget Landscape Services have and how that is used in terms of the condition of Macduff streets.
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| **8** | **Correspondence/Communication** |
|  | There was discussion around the need to have a new e-mail address for the Community Council and this was agreed by all.A response was received from Cllr Findlater regarding the A98 Banff Bridge. The bridge does need to be repaired but is not at the highest level. It was pointed out that a bridge n Moray has been given £1.5million pounds and this is a “C” Category Road. Both councillors advised that they continue to push for an upgrade.**Action:** Mary to write to MP David Duguid regarding the issue and sharing the concerns of the community.Webinars have been advertised regarding the transport issues.**Action:** Hazel toforward information.People have been asked to nominate volunteers for the Coronation.**Action:** Hazel to forward.There is to be a festival at Banff Castle for the Coronation of King Charles III. |
| **12** | **Planning Matters** |
|  | Cllr Cox and Cllr Reynolds left the Meeting.Moray House 32 High Street Banff Aberdeenshire AB45 1AE<https://upa.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=RQQIJGCAK5A00&activeTab=summary> No Issues  Banff Castle Community Centre Castle Street Banff AB45 1DL* <https://upa.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=RQDJVECAJF800&activeTab=summary>

There was discussion around the wish to put a gate in place where the wall has fallen down and several members were concerned that this is not becoming of the Castle or the wall. It was agreed that the Community Council would submit an objection to the application.**Action:** David Duguid to submit objection. |
| **13** | **AOB** |
|  | * Hazel advised that Banff and Macduff in Bloom had separated from the Community Council during Covid and it has since become known that they are no longer covered by the Community Council’s public liability insurance. Whilst BAMIB were looking into obtaining insurance one of the options would be to return to being a subsidiary part of the CC. There were no objections if the group wished to return.
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| * Mary advised that she has sent an objection on behalf of the CC regarding the planning application for the Battery Storage.
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| * There is to be a Local Hero Festival from the 6th to 27th May 2023, where there will be lots of local events. [www.localherofestival.com](http://www.localherofestival.com)
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| * Concerns have been raised regarding the lack of School Patrol cover at the top of Duff Street.

**Action:** Hazel to contactSchool Janitor. |
| * Concerns were raised regarding the fact that Lloyds Pharmacy in Macduff has been closing early due to a lack of staff and the impact this may have on vulnerable members of the community. It was agreed that there are other options available such as home delivery from other Chemists.
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| * Safety issue with wall in Bridge Street, old entry to the Football pitch.
* There are concerns regarding heavy vehicles using Station Brae and Church Street. Members thought that a sign at the bottom prohibiting heavy traffic going beyond The Platform would be advantageous.

**Action:** Hazel to contact Roads department. |
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| * **Good News**

Macduff Harbour has been awarded £74,400 and this will enable them to offer a wider range of services to a variety of different vessels. |

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and the meeting then closed. |
| **14** | **Date of next meeting** |
|  | Monday 24th April at 7pm – Macduff Sports Centre |