**BANFF & MACDUFF COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Wednesday 24 April 2024 – 7pm**

**Macduff Community and Sports Centre.**

Present:

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| Mary Arnold | Chair |
| Hazel Daniel | Secretary |
| Louise McCafferty | Treasurer |
| Reg Connon | Community Councillor |
| David Duguid | Community Councillor |
| Colin Robson | Community Councillor |
| John Will | Community Councillor |
| Dougie Thomson | Community Councillor |
| Paul Gleisner | Community Councillor |
| John Main | Community Councillor |
| PC Zubaj | Police |
| Councillor Mark Findlater | Ward 2 Elected Member |
| Councillor Ross Cassie | Ward 2 Elected Member |

Apologies:

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| Councillor Richard Menard | Ward 2 Elected Member |
| Councillor Stuart Adam | Ward 1 Elected Member |
| Shona Watson | Community Councillor |
| Kevin Ritchie | Community Councillor |

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| **1** | **Present and Apologies** |
|  | Mary Arnold, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies noted. |

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| **2** | **Declaration of Interests** |
|  | John Main advised that he was declaring an interest in the planning relating to the Workshop in Kingswell Lane. |

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| **3** | **Approval of Minute of Meeting of Wednesday 27 March 2024.**  **Matters Arising from last minute** |
|  | The minutes were approved.  Proposed by Reg Connon and seconded by Paul Gleisner. |

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| **4** | **Police Report** |
|  | The Police report had been provided to CC members prior to the meeting.  Mary asked PC Zubaj about the level of Assaults increasing. He advised it was likely due to the way in which recording has changed.  Hazel fed back the email received from Inspector Gavin Grant regarding the Strategy for managing crime in the area. PC Zubaj advised that there is a general distrust of the Police in the area and how when the public report issues that there is not an immediate response and reaction. He gave an example of the issue with the Cannabis Farm which was identified in Banff and trying to identify the owner / tenant of the building. Building is currently unsecured and adolescents are entering it. Fire Brigade may be able to exercise powers to secure buildings in Strait Path.  All people who are stopped and searched are recorded.  Youths are now travelling to Portsoy and causing issues there. One of the CC members advised of youths walking in the middle of the road and he having to drive around them. Quicker to use online form to report any concerns.  <https://www.scotland.police.uk/contact-us> |

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| **5** | **Treasurer Report** |
|  | Louise advised that the current bank balance is £2,450.90.  £1057.46 has been provided for the Admin Grant by Aberdeenshire Council.  Hazel to be reimbursed £59.99 for Microsoft . |

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| **6** | **Councillors’ Report** |
|  | Cllr Cassie advised that bin collections in Macduff have changed and have caused some confusion. Vehicle breakdowns and refuse collectors not being aware of the area have caused the changes.  Cllr Findlater advised that the Aquarium has been given permission for the extension. Whilst the Aquarium will be closed to the public for some time, outreach activities will be ongoing.  It was noted that Aldi have been keeping the road clear of any mud.  It was also discussed that rubbish in the street continues to be an issue when it is windy. There was a brief discussion as to whether Community Service Offenders could be involved. Hazel to contact relevant person. |

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| **7** | Correspondence/Communications |
|  | * Response from Jan Emery and progression of Coastal Path discussed. There continues to be a discussion as to whether Macduff Memorial and the Anchor are to be signposted. Louise to ask whether there is an updated plan. * Possible list of business’ who have toilet facilities to be made available to the public as they can receive money from the Council as an incentive. * Mary wrote to Aldi regarding a road crossing in Duff Street, no response to date. Will rewrite. |

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| **8** | Planning Matters |
|  | * 134 Gellymill Street Macduff Aberdeenshire AB44 1XD   <https://upa.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=SBMLK8CAFL500&activeTab=summary>   * Workshop Kingswell Lane Banff Aberdeenshire AB45 1DX   <https://upa.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=SBF6WHCAN3C00&activeTab=summary>   * Bank Of Scotland 29 Low Street Banff Aberdeenshire AB45 1AU   <https://upa.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=SBD9F8CAMY800&activeTab=summary>   * 66 North Castle Street Banff AB45 1HX   <https://upa.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=SB9PNSCAMQZ00&activeTab=summary>   * Banff Castle Castle Street Banff Aberdeenshire AB45 1DL   <https://upa.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=S9VWLOCAKGJ00&activeTab=summary>    There was a brief discussion around the parking involved for the application in Kingswell Lane, however most members were in agreement with the application.  There were no issues regarding any other of the planning applications. |

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| **9** | Update from B and M in Bloom |
|  | There was no update provided. |

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| **10** | **Good News** |
|  | CAB still busy 4 days a week and now triaging calls.  Plans for Aquarium have been passed.  Aldi have started work on building the store in Duff Street.  Wellbeing Festival in Aberdeena and Aberdeenshire in May 2024. Information to be posted on website and FB page. |

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| **11** | **AOB** |
|  | * Fencing at Duff House (Bear’ Den) for dog enclosure keeps blowing down. Questions around who owns the land and would be responsible for upkeep. * Seafront Café has reopened, and the owner was discussing issues of parking and the potential for parking bays. Hazel to contact the LA. The owner also asked about signage which is not permanent and this is allowed provided not blocking the pathways. * Discussion around poles which are erected at Macduff Harbour and banners that hang from them. Due to the way in which they were erected the banners did not last long in the wind. * Caledonia Offshore Windfarm- Further discussion with other CC area’s affected by the onshore disruption and possibility of monies available. * Discussion regarding how the approval of the Lithium Battery will affect the area and whether Fire Brigade will have the necessary training and resources should anything unforeseen happen. Hazel to contact Fire Brigade. * Resilience Plan to be updated to include Lithium Battery Plant. * Refresher First Aid for anyone and whether Data Base should be available within the community. * Home Emergency Plan to be put on relevant pages. * Single Election Date- Still unclear and seems unnecessary. People’s roles within the CC do not need to change. September was agreed as being preferred option but Constitution states June. Louise to contact Jan McRobbie to discuss further. |

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| **13** | **Date and time of next meeting:** |
|  | Wednesday 29 May 2024 at 7pm Deveron Community and Sports Centre. |