**BANFF & MACDUFF COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Monday 26th June 2023 - 7pm**

**Macduff Community and Sports Centre**

**Present:**

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| Mary Arnold | Chair |
| Kevin Ritchie | Vice Chair |
| Hazel Daniel | Secretary |
| Louise McCafferty | Treasurer |
| Reg Connon | Community Councillor |
| Dougie Thomson | Community Councillor |
| John Will | Community Councillor |
| Shona Watson | Community Councillor |
| Paul Gleisner | Community Councillor |
| Colin Robson | Community Councillor |
| David Duguid | Community Councillor |
| John Main | Community Councillor |
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| Councillor Ross Cassie | Ward 1 Elected Member |
| Councillor John Cox | Ward 1 Elected Member |
| Councillor Richard Mennard | Ward 2 Elected Member |
| Councillor Mark Findlater | Ward 2 Elected Member |
| Councillor Glen Reynolds | Ward 1 Elected Member |
| Alistair Miller | Snr Roads Management Engineer (North) |

**Apologies:**

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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 29 May 2023**  **Matters Arising from last Minute** | |
|  | The Minute was approved. Proposed by Dougie Thomson and seconded by Colin Robson. | |
| **4** | **Police Report** | |
|  | A report had been provided by the Police however no one attended.   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Where to Report Scams | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Scams** In Scotland, report all scams to **Advice Direct Scotland** by calling **0808 164 6000** (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm) or online at [www.consumeradvice.scot](https://consumeradvice.scot/)  **Fraud** If you have been the victim of fraud, report it to **Police Scotland** on **101**or **999**in an emergency.   **Suspicious Emails** You can forward suspicious emails to [report@phishing.gov.uk](mailto:report@phishing.gov.uk) and send links from websites which you think are trying to scam the public to the **National Cyber Security Centre's** scam website reporting service at [www.ncsc.gov.uk/section/about-this-website/report-scam-website](https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/section/about-this-website/report-scam-website)  **Suspicious Text Messages** If you receive a suspicious text message you can forward it to **7726**. The free-of-charge ‘7726’ service enables your provider to investigate and take action if malicious content is found. | | |     **Mental Health and Suicide Awareness Contacts**  Mind Infoline • 0300 123 3393 • info@mind.org.uk  Information on types of mental health problem, where to get help in your area, medication and alternative treatments, advocacy.  Mind Legal Line • 0300 466 6463 • legal@mind.org.uk  Legal advice on mental health, mental capacity, and community care human rights and discrimination/equality.  Victim Support • 0845 30 30 900 • www.victimsupport.org.uk  Free and confidential help to victims of crime, witnesses, and anyone else affected across England and Wales.  Samaritans • 08457 90 90 90 • www.samaritans.org  Support and advice for people experiencing a crisis.  Alzheimer’s Society • 020 7423 3500 • www.alzheimers.org.uk  Advice and information on supporting people affected by dementia in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.  Neighbourhood Return • www.ourturn.org.uk  Helps find lost people with memory problems quickly, and gets them home safely.  Self Help Services • www.selfhelpservices.org.uk  A user-led mental health charity providing primary care mental health services and self-help initiatives to people across the North.  NHS Choices • www.nhs.uk  Information on local services, including mental health services and emergency departments.  NHS24 Mental Health Hub • 111 • www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk  Information and advice on a wide range of health issues via telephone, email and the internet.  Local council websites • www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk  Will provide a directory of council services in your area.  Prevent Suicide NE App (available for free download on Android and iOS, info also available at https://www.preventsuicideapp.com/ ) – contains info on how to ask someone about their thoughts of suicide, a directory of local and national supports and an option to create a safe plan  Guidance booklets with further information are available through SAMH’s website (https://www.samh.org.uk/about-mental-health/samh-publications/suicide-publications)  [www.securityforbikes.com](http://www.securityforbikes.com)  Please also remember you can communicate with us using any of the following:  101 – Non emergency;  Email - BanffDistrict[CPT@Scotland.police.uk](mailto:CPT@Scotland.police.uk)  Twitter - @NorthEPolice  Facebook – [www.facebook.com/NorthEastPoliceDivision](http://www.facebook.com/NorthEastPoliceDivision)  Web – [www.scotland.police.uk](http://www.scotland.police.uk/)  999 – Emergency;  0800 555 111 – CrimeStoppers. | |
| **5** | **Treasurer Report** | |
|  | Grant Received (balance from last CC) £792.80  Grant Received (2023/4) £1058  Paid £35 Data Security Fee  Total in bank -  £1815.80  Due £59.99 x 2 Microsoft packages\* £119.98  Total available - £1695.82 | |
| **6.** | **Alistair Miller** | |
|  | Alistair Miller Snr Roads Management Engineer (North) Aberdeenshire Council attended to answer some questions which had arisen.  1. Risk Assessment on Banff Bridge  Regular assessments are undertaken and the bridge would be closed as necessary regarding the weather. Alistair Miller is the local officer with that responsibility. Looking at possibility of anemometer with regards to measuring wind speed. If bridge is out of action the detour would be via Turriff.  With regards to traffic mounting the pavements. It is hoped that a walk bridge will be in place and the carriageways will then be widened. There is a meeting tomorrow (27/06/23) with regards to further discussion.  The onus would also be on Stagecoach making assessments as to whether the bridge is suitable for double decker buses.  2. Zebra Crossing Shore Street Macduff  This is a new issue. There are policies in place regarding the siting of crossing. A survey will be requested.  3. Traffic at Macduff Bus Terminus, when buses stop.  In 2012/2013 a similar question was asked. Stagecoach did not want a layby put in as this impinged on their ground and there were implications regarding safety and finances.  Views were put across regarding the benefit as to slowing traffic down and there have been no recorded accidents since 2012/2013.  Cllr Mennard advised that he has spoken with Stagecoach and they are clear that they will not lose any of their ground to make this happen.  Mary will write to Stagecoach to ask whether they can park closer to Banff and possibly extra signage to warn of buses stopping.  There was a brief discussion as to whether the bus depot could be moved to the industrial estate.  4. Speed of Traffic in High Street Banff  This is a Police matter. Mr Miller advised that the Government are looking to implement a mandatory 20mph in all streets in villages and towns and the evaluation will be completed by 2025.  The Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 (Part 6) will decriminalise parking with regards to dropped kerbs, double yellow lines , single lines and pavement parking, which will come the responsibility of the Local Authority.  5. Bus turning at High Street  New signage in place.  6. Trunking of Banff Bridge  Road was de-trunked in 1992 and therefore comes under the auspice of the Local Authority. Alistair Miller will discuss further with regards to policies currently in place.  7. St Mary’s Car Park  Alistair Miller to look at signage for St Mary’s car park and whether this can be improved.  8. Church Street Macduff  Further discussion regarding signage for HGV traffic at Church Street and access to the business at the Platform.  9. Trees on the Howe  Alistair advised that land ownership is being checked regarding the clearing of the dead / fallen trees. There are strict timescales in place before Local Authority take over.  10. Speed on the Howe  Flashing signs being assessed.  There was discussion regarding the relationship between roads and landscapes and the greenery at junctions, eg Low Street. Verge cutting and weed killing has started. Community to be asked for alternative options for longer term plan for maintenance and safety.  Landscaping , in Cullen has been taken over by the community. Banff and Macduff in Bloom will look to taking over responsibility for the large area at the bottom of Sandyhill Road. Shona Watson will discuss further with Landscaping Services. | |
| **7** | | **Councillors’ Reports** |
|  | | **Councillor Findlater**  Farmers Market now moved to Men’s Shed, both doing well. Citizen’s Advice would like to be involved as well.  Meeting with Offshore Energy UK on 27/06/2023  Macduff Cross looking good with the wild flowers however there are bare patches and Landscaping are going to ask for this to be re-seeded.  **Councillor Mennard**  Meeting with personnel regarding Macduff Harbour and how companies such as windfarm and fishing can be encouraged to use it more.  A request was put forward for more members to join the Safety Group. They meet monthly / 6 weekly at Macduff and Banff Fire Stations, alternatively. Various projects can be put forward, one is that Throwlines are to be installed along the coast.  The “pop up bobby” which was discussed is not supported as a method of slowing down traffic.  **Councillor Cox and Councillor Cassie**  Issues already mentioned above. Councillor Cox advised that there are talks regarding setting up a Blue Light event and opening it up to community groups.  **Councillor Reynolds**  Police reports are now to be focused on local issues. There are cuts to be made to local services and Libraries and Sports Centres may be affected. There will be an option to feed into a consultation. |
| **8** | | **Correspondence/Communication** |
|  | | 1. A card was received from Buckingham Palace thanking the Community Council for their best wishes on the coronation of Charles III. 2. Letter was sent to Mr Scott advising him that he is no longer a member of the Community Council. This was sent via Area Office due to GDPR. 3. Hazel to write to Ewan Wallace, Head of Transport, regarding the fact that Aberdeenshire Council have decided not to provide their residents with the opportunity to apply for a Rail + 1 card. |
| **9** | | **Planning Matters** |
|  | | No issues with any planning matters |
| **10** | | **Remembrance Wreaths** |
|  | | Shona to order 4 wreaths. Dougie and Shona to lay wreaths at Macduff and Banff respectively. Wreaths to be laid at Cemeteries’. |
| **11** | | Scottish Government - Permitted Development Rights Review – Phase 3 – Publication of Consultation |
|  | | It was noted that there is not a lot of time for consultation to be completed, although this has now been extended. Paul and Kevin will manage this issue. There wasa question as to how the public are being given the opportunity to have access to the consultation. |
| **12** | | **Request for your participation in the development of Councils new Local Transport Strategy** |
|  | | John Will and Reg Connon will take this forward. Closing date is 30/07/2023 |
| **13** | | **Resilience Plan** |
|  | | Louise to investigate funding for Resilience Plan. Paul will support Colin with developing Resilience Plan for Banff and Macduff. |
| **14** | | **Banff and Macduff in Bloom** |
|  | | Shona advised that have completed all of the hanging baskets and now watering on a rota. She thanked the support of Aberdeenshire Council. |
| **15** | | **Refuse** |
|  | | Glass recycling—asked whether the different colours are kept separate, advised that it is.  New Bins –to be introduced towards the end of the year.  Tarlair—noted that there is only one bin and it is often overflowing. |
| **16** | | **AOB** |
|  | | It was noted that roadworks signs are often left in place for some time after the roadworks have finished.  Buchan Street Hall has a Coffee Morning on a fortnightly basis (Blue Bin week) from 10.00am until 11.30am.  Mary thanked everyone for their attendance and involvement. |
| **17** | | **Date of next meeting** |
|  | | Monday 28th August at 7pm – Deveron Community and Sports Centre |