

**MINUTES OF PORTLETHEN &
DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

TUESDAY 28th JULY 2009

COMMUNITY
COUNCILLORS

RON SHARP (VICE CHAIR)
JUNE WOOD (TREASURER)
BILL GRIFFITHS (SECRETARY)
RAB DICKSON
DOROTHY FOREMAN
DOROTHY MAIN
ALEX MCKAY
JOHN SHACKLETON
CHRISTINE STEWART
JOHN TETHER

YOUTH
REPRESENTATIVES

HAZEL MCKINNON
PENNY SENTANCE

ABERDEENSHIRE
COUNCILLORS

PAUL MELLING
IAIN MOLLISON
CARL NELSON

ABERDEENSHIRE
COUNCIL

LYNN BUCHAN (COMMUNITY LEARNING)

POLICE

KEVIN MARRON
JILL ANDERSON

APOLOGIES

GORDON MUNN (CHAIR)
DEREK JOHNSON
COUNCILLOR BEWS

MEMBERS
OF PUBLIC

ALASTAIR CONDIE

PRESS

LEANNA MACLARTY (PRESS & JOURNAL)

1.	APOLOGIES	
	Gordon Munn, Derek Johnson, Councillor Bews Ron Sharp took the chair and wished Gordon a speedy recovery.	
2.	REVIEW & APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES	
	Item 3 Bracken Drive should read Bracken Road. The minutes were Proposed by June Wood. Seconded by Dorothy Foreman.	
3.	POLICE REPORT	
	See attached report. PC Marron also asked people to be careful when shopping as there had been an incident in a local supermarket where an unguarded handbag had been stolen while the owner's attention had been diverted by an accomplice. The child assault related to child on child. Inspector Jim Gordon is retiring in 2 weeks. The police are involved with street football at ASDA from 3 to 5 pm on Fridays and 5.30 to 7.00 pm on Saturdays. This is in conjunction with Aberdeenshire Community Learning. The police are monitoring youths camping at the rear of houses in the Easter Drive area. They will patrol the area and stop any occurrences. PC Marron will be on holiday when the PDCC meeting is held next month but somebody else should attend.	
4.	COMMUNITY LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT (CLD)	
	Lynn gave the following report. The chair of Portlethen Action Team has just returned from Cape Town, South Africa, where she participated in a youth exchange. Enrolment for Aberdeen College and Centre based classes take place on 26 th August from 6.00 to 8.00pm and 27 th August from 10.00am to 2.00 pm. The Community Learning and Development team are meeting soon to revamp youth work provision and will hopefully commence with detached youth work after youth work staff have been trained.	

	<p>Jacqui Christie, Community Planning Officer, resigns tomorrow, Wednesday 29th July.</p> <p>Portlethen Park Group had a very successful 'Fun in the Sun' session this month to raise awareness of the park provision in Portlethen.</p>	
5.	COMMUNITY COUNCIL YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES	
	<p>Neither Penny nor Hazel are able to organize an 'Oor Talent' contest due to studying for Higher exams etc.</p>	
6.	XMAS LIGHTS	
	<p>A decision has been made as to which lamp posts will carry the Xmas lights.</p> <p>Some old and some new junction boxes will have to be mounted on said lampposts. Agreement has been reached with Aberdeenshire Council as to the siting and cost of mounting new boxes. There are 7 new to be mounted at a total cost of £723.</p> <p>Aberdeenshire Council have agreed that the old lights can be put up as long as they are converted to LED.</p> <p>Hopefully 'Awards for All' will give an answer to our application within the next 2 weeks.</p> <p>Various methods of fund raising are being considered with 21st November and 3rd December being suggested. The assistance of all Community Councillors will be required.</p> <p>Ron thanked the team for the excellent work being done.</p>	
7.	LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN	
	<p>The reports by Rab Dickson and John Tether have been submitted to Aberdeenshire Council. Ron thanked them for their efforts as the reports were very impressive.</p> <p>Rab said that we have gone through the correct procedures and would now need to wait for the outcome.</p> <p>Councillor Melling asked if there had been any contact with North Kincardine CC. No discussion had taken place.</p>	
8.	AUDIT OF OPEN SPACES	
	<p>The Community Council had received a letter from Aberdeenshire Council with details and comments on various open spaces within their area and asking for comments. There was not much detail in the letter but looking at</p>	

	<p>the Council's website produces too much info as it covers the whole of Aberdeenshire.</p> <p>Ron suggested using the DDI comments as a starting point with the community councillors looking at any open space in their or other area and coming back with comments for the next meeting.</p> <p>The youths were also asked to come back with comments.</p> <p>Councillor Melling said he would investigate his immediate area.</p> <p>Dorothy Main said that there were very few decent sized play areas earmarked for Schoolhill. Councillor Melling said that this was because there had been many complaints within Portlethen in the past e.g. fences being broken etc.</p> <p>Put on agenda for the next meeting.</p>	
9.	TREASURER'S REPORT	
	<p>The Clochandighter account holds £6900.60. The PDCC account holds £1,447.16.</p>	
10.	PLANNING REPORT	
	<p>Derek Johnson had emailed Bill to say there was nothing of consequence in the weekly planning list. Stewart Milne has put in 2 applications for change of house type at areas L1 and M1 – APP2009/2148 and 2149.</p> <p>John Tether had attended a planning reform seminar run by Paull and Williamson on 22 July and gave the following report. After introductory remarks by Bruce Smith there were 3 speakers.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Jim Mackinnon, Directorate of Built Environment, outlined policy changes since the SNP executive took power. The intention is to make applications simpler, more efficient and less time consuming, to slim down legislation, make officialdom more approachable and offer advice. Reference was made to the Structure Plan involving the community. North East Scotland is leading the way. 2) Christine Gore, Director of Planning and Environmental Services for Aberdeenshire and also speaking on behalf of Aberdeen City, mainly outlined the Pre-application Consultation (PAC). This covers 3 types of application. a) National e.g. Airport, Peterhead Power Station. b) Major e.g. 50+ houses, 10000+ sq. m. Business development and 2 ha sites. c) less than b). There will be Community awareness and engagement for a) and b) with Proposal of Application Notice (12 weeks prior to the application with description, postal address, site plan and brief description). There will be consultation with Community Councils or relevant communities, with at least 1 public event using expert advice and avoiding confrontation. The PAC report 	

	<p>will state what has been done, any issues raised, changes and reason for not changing. The planning authority will monitor, screen, advise and respond.</p> <p>3) Elaine Farquharson-Black, Paull & Williamson, showed flow charts on the appeal process which depends on the nature/size of the application, time limits, who can appeal and how. Also who will sit on the appeal leading to a decision. This section was mainly for lawyers.</p> <p>Appeals will be presented to a committee of local county councillors rather than being referred to the Scottish Office.</p> <p>The above comes into force on the 3rd August.</p>	
11.	CORRESPONDENCE	
	<p>Bill read out a letter from the Scottish Offices relating to a Public Event with the First Minister on Choosing Scotland's Future: A National Conversation inviting a CC member to attend. Bill agreed to attend as nobody else showed interest.</p> <p>The reply from Aberdeenshire Council on grass cutting was read out. Councillor Nelson reported that a sports area in Newtonhill had been cut using a vacuum collector and this had made a very good job. Hopefully this facility will be expanded.</p> <p>The reply from Aberdeenshire Council on recycling facilities was read out. Dorothy Foreman was unhappy with the reply and suggested that the CC should involve the press. Ron pointed out that another 3 years was unacceptable and will put pen to paper in the next week.</p> <p>The letter from Newtonhill CC thanking the Portlethen Moss group for showing them round the Moss was passed to Christine who will give it to Denise Martin.</p>	
13.	COMMUNITY COUNCILLOR REPORTS	
	<p><i>Alex McKay</i></p> <p>The notice board is now in place at the Bourtree Hall and he has received good comments. He now needs further notices.</p> <p>The path from Portlethen Primary school to Burnside Drive, alongside the railway, is badly overgrown. Councillor Nelson agreed to walk along the path with Alex tomorrow. It was suggested that, perhaps, the CC could get volunteers to help clear. Lynn Buchan suggested contacting her department as they possibly have suitable projects available.</p> <p><i>John Shackleton</i></p> <p>It has been reported to him that the pylon lights at ASDA have been left on</p>	

	<p>all day. Ron asked him to monitor the situation.</p> <p><i>Bill Griffiths</i></p> <p>He had received an email from somebody who wishes to remain anonymous at the moment reporting traffic problems e.g. parking and road layout in Hillside. Dorothy Main has already contacted the Roads Department several times and has been informed that everything has been built as per regulations. The plans have been finalised and nothing can be done to alter things. The CC was instrumental in getting the police to leaflet the area on parking.</p> <p>Councillor Nelson suggested the CC needed something more official. Though we understand the frustration more detailed information is required.</p> <p><i>Ron Sharp</i></p> <p>Directional arrows have now been put in place on the roundabout at the junction of Muirend Road and the flyover.</p> <p><i>Rab Dickson</i></p> <p>Now need similar at the junction of Muirend Road and the new underpass. Bill to write.</p>	Bill
14.	ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCILLOR REPORTS	
	<p><i>Councillor Nelson</i></p> <p>With the new Licensing act coming into being there is a need for members to join the Licensing Board Forum. This group meet approximately once per quarter in Viewmount, Stonehaven on a Wednesday forenoon.</p> <p><i>Councillor Mollison</i></p> <p>All of his points have already been raised and discussed.</p> <p><i>Councillor Melling</i></p> <p>Also, most of his points have been raised.</p> <p>At today's Area Committee Meeting their local planning review body representative will be Councillor Bellarby with Councillors Nelson and Smith as alternative representative.</p>	
15.	AOCB	
	<p>Mr Condie brought up the subject of distasteful smells coming from the abattoir. It was pointed out that the CC has written to both the owners and Aberdeenshire Council on several occasions in the past. As far as can be</p>	

	<p>ascertained all regulations are being met. One suggestion put forward was to raising a petition. Turning this into a standard letter and each household sending in a signed copy would be more beneficial. Bill was asked to write to Environmental Health asking if any limits are being exceeded.</p> <p>The meeting finished at 9.35pm.</p> <p>The next meeting will take place on 25th August 2009 at 7.00pm.</p>	Bill
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REPORT FOR THE PORTLETHEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING ON TUESDAY 28 JULY 2009-07-28

REPORT PREPARED BY PC KEV MARRON

OFFENCES	DETECTED	UNDETECTED	ONGOING
Driving Documents	3	0	0
Theft By Shoplifting	1	2	4
Communication offences	1	0	0
Vandalism	0	1	0
Theft from garden	0	1	0
Distraction theft	0	1	0
Child assault	2	0	0
Drink Driver	1	0	0
Careless Driving	1	0	0
Breach of the Peace	1	0	0
Total	10	5	4 = 19
INCIDENTS			
Road Traffic Other	16		
Miscellaneous	37		
Animals	6		
Neighbour disputes	4		
Noisy music	1		
Road Traffic Collisions	5		
Youths	9		
Missing persons	2		

Does not include: Fixed penalty tickets

Incidents dealt with by Portlethen Officers that do not occur in the area specific to this Community Council