

**MINUTES OF PORTLETHEN &
DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

TUESDAY 27th OCTOBER 2009

COMMUNITY
COUNCILLORS

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

YOUTH
REPRESENTATIVES

HAZEL MCKINNON
PENNY SENTANCE

ABERDEENSHIRE
COUNCILLORS

CARL NELSON
PAUL MELLING (8.00pm)
IAIN MOLLISON (8.00pm)

ABERDEENSHIRE
COUNCIL

LYNN BUCHAN (COMMUNITY LEARNING)

POLICE

APOLOGIES

GORDON MUNN (CHAIR)
JUNE WOOD (TREASURER)
DEREK JOHNSON
COUNCILLOR ALASTAIR BEWS
PC KEVIN MARRON
PC JILL ANDERSON

MEMBERS
OF PUBLIC

PRESS

CLAIRE DOUGLAS (LEADER)

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| 1. | APOLOGIES | |
| | Gordon Munn, June Wood and Derek Johnson. Councillors Bews, Melling and Mollison had a prior meeting but hoped to attend later. Kevin Marron and Jill Anderson from the police. | |
| 2. | REVIEW & APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES | |
| | Bill apologise for leaving Tom Morrow's name of the list of attendees. Under PLANNING REPORT – the following should have been minuted – The PDCC did not wish to withdraw their objection to Planning Application APP2009/2420 for change of use of ground round the standing stones to Storage and distribution. Dorothy Foreman pointed out that the children's Christmas lights were not being converted to LED, only being repaired. Minute numbering after item 11 are out of synchronisation. The minutes were Proposed by Alex McKay. Seconded by John Tether. | |
| 3. | POLICE REPORT | |
| | The police had sent apologies to the secretary as they were unable to attend but had emailed in a report which Bill read out. A copy is attached to the end of the minutes. | |
| 4. | COMMUNITY LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT (CLD) | |
| | Lynn Gave the following report. St. Sport at the Green – Youth work staff reported that 30 youths had attended on Friday 16 th October. Budget allowing – youth work staff will arrange for COMET to be at the Green on Saturdays next month. Drama tester sessions start next month in the Porty Cabin. 'Safe on the Net' peer educators on Internet Safety are applying to 'Cash Back for Communities' for funding to make a short film. 'Safe on the Net' young people have achieved silver status. 'Portlethen Action Team' is planning a consultation with their peers about services etc. in the network. | |

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| | <p>CWD are hoping to develop support, along with Caitlin Sherrat (PAT Chair), a peer education group about racism. Academy pupils will be invited to a meeting on Monday 9th November in the Community Centre.</p> <p>Needs Assessment re - adult learning will be being conducted at Flu clinics at the medical centre.</p> <p>‘Adult Learner Partners’ meeting is planned for next Tuesday, 3rd November, to seek professional views on adult barriers to accessing adult learning.</p> <p>Christmas flower arranging and football coaching classes start next month.</p> <p>The overall winner of the Art and Photo competition and exhibition was ‘Young at Heart’.</p> <p>Councillor Nelson mentioned that the HMIE inspection report on Portlethen Academy and the surrounding Learning Community was excellent.</p> <p>Ron Sharp thanked Lynn and the CLD team for the work they do in the community.</p> <p>Dorothy Foreman thanked Lynn for the help she gave with the ‘Awards for All’ application form.</p> | |
| 5. | COMMUNITY COUNCIL YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES | |
| | <p>Hazel and Penny reported that the school and Gordon were having difficulties finding suitable dates for his talk on the Community Council.</p> <p>Ron congratulated the school on their ‘Dodgy Ball’ efforts.</p> | |
| 6. | STONEHAVEN HORIZON PROJECT | |
| | <p>Allan Cairnduff and Rosemary Clark gave a very interesting talk on the development of the Stonehaven Horizon Project, from its inception to the work they now covered.</p> <p>John Tether asked if litter had decreased since the project started. The answer was yes with further decrease each year though there was still a problem with the secondary school. Birds are also a problem as they tend to rip open black bin bags.</p> <p>Dorothy Foreman asked if the school had been approached. This has been done but it seems as the pupils can drop litter but not pick it up without special equipment due to Health and Safety rules.</p> <p>Rab Dickson asked if there was a central core of volunteers. There are approx. 12 core members but they can increase this to 20 or more depending on what is being done. They have access to schools for special projects.</p> | |

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| | <p>Ron congratulated the Horizon Team on their work and thanked them for giving their talk. Similar concerns on litter have been raised in Portlethen. The PDCC would like to set up a similar project but there are problems getting help.</p> <p>Allan Cairnduff suggested contacting the allotment group (i.e. those trying to get allotments introduced to Portlethen), the Portlethen Moss group and the local business association. Unfortunately there is no local association.</p> | |
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| 7. | CHRISTMAS LIGHTS | |
| | <p>Wallace Electrical have been awarded the contract to mount and dismantle the Christmas lights. Bill was asked to write officially confirming this and to the others informing them they were unsuccessful. Bill also to ask Wallace for a copy of their insurance in case we need it to show Aberdeen Council.</p> <p>Dorothy Foreman reported that the Christmas Lights were not due to be delivered until December but some had already arrived. These are being stored in her garage. The remainder of the order will also be delivered there as it will be easier for the electrician to pick up though after dismantling they will be taken to the container at Schoolhill.</p> <p>Bill was asked to write to Aberdeenshire Council for extra insurance in case of damage to the Christmas lights.</p> <p>Dorothy Foreman passed round a plan showing where the lights would be sited.</p> <p>Dorothy Main asked for volunteers to help tidy the container. Aberdeenshire Council require 24 hours notice to unlock the yard. It was agreed to carry out these tasks on Thursday 5th November.</p> <p>The quiz night held recently would seem to have only broken even. Because of this it has been decided to cancel the race night in December. Instead an Easter raffle will be held.</p> <p>It is hoped to purchase further lights next year. Hopefully once the public have seen our efforts this year it will become easier to fund raise.</p> <p>Ron thanked the team for all the hard work they have put into fundraising.</p> | <p>Bill</p> <p>Bill</p> |
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| 8. | CLOCHANDIGHTER | |
| | <p>Christine announced that this would be her last year both as editor of the Clochandigher and as a Community Councillor. Her intention is to retire at the AGM in March2010 having been editor for at least 5 years. She was announcing this now so that a replacement editor can be found to work with her over the next 2 editions.</p> | |

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| | <p>Ron thanked Christine for the way she has taken the Clochandighter to a very high standard and for the hard work and effort put into continuing such a good publication.</p> <p>If anybody knows who may be interested in becoming editor please pass the information on to Christine, Gordon or Bill. The Leader was asked if they could publish the request.</p> <p>Christine is getting quotes to increase circulation to cover the new houses at Hillside. She also warned that costs will increase regardless in March 2010.</p> | |
| 9. | PORTLETHEN TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT | |
| | <p>Bill had received letter from Aberdeenshire Council asking the PDCC for any improvements they would like to see to the local roads. This was circulated and the replies are attached.</p> <p>Other comments received were that 20mph limits should only be in residential areas and if speed humps were to be introduced they should be similar to those constructed in Boswell Road.</p> <p>Direction signs within Portlethen need to be re-examined now that the new road through Hillside has been built.</p> <p>Signs for Portlethen Village should be changed to should to Old Portlethen.</p> <p>Bill will construct a letter and send to Aberdeenshire Council.</p> | Bill |
| 10. | TREASURER'S REPORT | |
| | <p>The Clochandighter account holds £6452.35 approx.</p> <p>The PDCC account holds £1579.00 approx.</p> <p>Christmas light fund £12348.00 approx.</p> | |
| 11. | PLANNING REPORT | |
| | <p>John Tether went through the planning applications on Derek's behalf.</p> <p>Nothing much to report.</p> <p>Bill asked about the planning application for 125 houses at Marywell as, at the last meeting, he had been asked to request an extension of time from Aberdeenshire Council. It was agreed that the planning sub-committee would discuss and get back to Bill so that he could send in a letter. (<i>This was sent on 30th October</i>).</p> | Bill |
| 12. | CORRESPONDENCE | |

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| | <p>Under the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 all Community Councils are now statutory consultees on Premise Licensing. He then went through 3 licence variation applications namely ASDA, Muirend Road, Co-op, Berrymuir Road and Co-op, Rowanbank Road. There were no objections so no reply is required.</p> | |
| 13. | COMMUNITY COUNCILLOR REPORTS | |
| | <p><i>Alex Mackay</i></p> <p>Aberdeenshire Council are installing drainage alongside Burnside Park.</p> <p><i>Christine Stewart</i></p> <p>Dave Mitchell (ex Gala) had passed on a wreath to her. It was agreed to pass on to Gordon Munn who would lay it on behalf of the PDCC on 8th November.</p> <p>Invoice to be passed to PDCC for payment. Bill asked for details to be passed to him so that future invoice details can be altered.</p> <p><i>John Shackleton</i></p> <p>He had tried to access the school last Friday but found the doors locked. Seems as if the sensor was faulty but he has now been informed that access could have been made via a side entrance.</p> <p><i>John Tether</i></p> <p>Buss timetables have now been altered to take account of the 109 running between Stonehaven and Aberdeen. This gives 4 buses per hour – 2 no 107's, 1 no 117 and 1 no 109.</p> | |
| 14. | ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCILLOR REPORTS | |
| | <p><i>Councillor Mollison</i></p> <p>Work on the Badentoy flyover has been put back by the contractor until April 2010.</p> <p>Mark Skilling will be starting a new post in Woodhill as of next week.</p> <p>Successful recycling trials have been carried out in Banff and this will now be rolled out over the rest of Aberdeenshire. Full details later. This is to try increasing the amount of recycling.</p> <p>There have been concerns about the venue and timing of the proposed invite to meet the chief executive and leader of the council. Nobody from the PDCC would be able to attend. Bill asked to write with our concerns.</p> | Bill |

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| | <p>The planning application to build 5 houses in Downies was unanimously refused at the Area Committee.</p> <p>The planning application to build 7 houses in Findon was refused at the Area Committee by 7 votes to 5.</p> <p>A report put forward to the Area Committee suggested that there was less crime being committed in the Kincardine and Mearns area.</p> | |
| 15. | AOCB | |
| | <p>The meeting finished at 9.50pm.</p> <p>The next meeting will take place on 24th November 2009 at 7.00pm.</p> <p>There will be no December meeting.</p> | |

DRAFT

REPORT FOR THE PORTLETHEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING ON TUESDAY 27 OCTOBER 2009

PREPARED BY PC KEV MARRON

| CRIME/OFFENCE | ENQUIRY ONGOING | DETECTED | UNDETECTED |
|--------------------------|-----------------|----------|------------|
| Theft by Shop Lifting | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Attempted Theft | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Assault | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Vandalism | 0 | 0 | 4 |
| Breach Of The Peace | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Theft | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Fire-raising | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Careless Driving | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Nuisance telephone calls | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dog out of control | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Domestic Incident | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Hit & Run | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Drink Driver | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| | | | |
| Sub Totals | 2 (6) | 8 (9) | 6 (6) |

(last months in brackets)

Total (last month in brackets)

16 (21)

INCIDENTS (last months in brackets)

Alarm activations 9 (8)

Fly tipping 0 (1)

Suspicious incidents 6 (7)

Miscellaneous 25 (21)

Noisy Music 1 (2)

Road Traffic - other 8 (12)

Animals 1 (2)

Youth related calls 13 (9)

Fire call 0 (1)

Neighbour disputes 2 (3)

Road Traffic - collisions 1 (1)

Missing persons 0 (1)

NOTES

[] Inspector Jim Gordon has now retired and the name of the new Inspector for the area is Inspector Graeme Mackie.

[] The above statistics are from the date of the last meeting.

[] They only refer to the area specific to the Portlethen Community Council

[] They do not include any incidents/offences on the A90

[] They do not include any fixed road traffic or ASBO fixed penalty tickets issued.

[] It should be noted that the above statistics include the school autumn break - a normally busy time for incidents

[] Grampian Police have had extra officers out undertaking anti-social behaviour patrols during the school holiday

[] Foot patrols have been undertaken at Broadhaven Bay regarding local concerns re youths - nothing untoward was found but perhaps the inclement weather has been a factor in this. A water safety and coastal awareness course has been initiated in a bid to alleviate this problem in the future. This is being financed by

Grampian Police and managed by the Community Education and Learning Department.

[] Along with our partnership agencies Grampian Police have participated in the management of Street Football

I am back to work on day shift on Wednesday so if there are any issues please contact me.

Best wishes,

PC Kev Marron G9784

Portlethen Traffic Management

Dorothy Main

Perhaps one item we might suggest is double yellows alongside McIntosh Donald where folk stop to go into the butcher shop, despite a large car park with plenty visitor parking just yards from the shop door. Parking on the road necessitates overtaking on the bend approaching the new underpass. Is it just me being a grumpy old woman, or does it annoy anyone else???

Derek Johnson

I am of the opinion that we do not have many issues regarding traffic management in Portlethen if the existing traffic regulations were to be enforced. By that I mean stopping parking on existing yellow lines e.g. outside Cookston Road Co-Op. Although I do not live in the top community I am not aware of people speeding and we do not seem to have many traffic accidents. I am passionately anti speed humps and the very people that request 20mph speed limits will also break them. The local constabulary should be asked to offer their opinion as to whether there is a problem.

This has all the hallmarks of political correctness and overbearing authority.

Gordon Munn

I would like us to suggest restricting access to the shops (Ashvale etc) on Muirend road, i.e. coming up from ASDA no right turn into the shops and when exiting the shops left turn only. There are roundabouts in close proximity so this would ease traffic flow. I'd also like to see some form of perhaps bollards on both sides of the road to stop lorries and other vans/ service vehicles parking up till they go get food.

Dorothy Foreman

- Bollards on the pavement at Muirend Road beside ASDA
- Turn left only onto Muirend Road towards roundabout coming out of the small shopping area beside ASDA
- Double yellow lines beside Macintosh Donald shop – there is plenty of space in MD car park.
- RE paint white lines on the acceleration lane going out of Portlethen heading south. The lines have nearly disappeared.
- A proper acceleration lane going out of Portlethen at the Smiddy instead of the little bus stop area to use trying to get onto the dual carriageway.
- No crossing over the dual carriageway from the Smiddy exit to go onto the North side of the Dual carriage way. This is extremely dangerous crossing i.e. turn left only. If you want to go north there is the ASDA flyover and the new underpass.

The 20's plenty according to the police is quite good although it cannot be policed or anybody charged - if the shire is strapped for cash then I am sure there are far more needy things to spend our taxes on .

John Tether

My tuppenceworth would be for a bus-stop lay-by at Asda (northbound). Buses often wait there if they are ahead of schedule - inhibiting traffic flow.

I suggested this at the latest bus forum and was told it was unlikely to happen.

Of the list below I would especially support #5, but (re #6) I hope Dorothy does not wish to prevent the access to the Durris road from Bruntland Road. Although traffic does come fast there, there are actually good views of the A90 both north and south at that junction.

I don't agree with her #2. It would send a lot of traffic unnecessarily round the houses - probably congesting Muirend, Rowanbank, Cookston and Bruntland Roads. All those right turns!!

DRAFT