

Minutes of Meldrum Bourtie & Daviot Community Council Meeting

Tuesday 25th May 2021

7.00pm

Online Zoom Meeting

CC Members Present: - Shona Presly, Jan Chalmers, Willie Sinclair, John Pirie, Yvonne Oliver, Gordon Duncan, Nick Forbes and James Milton

Apologies: - Stuart Singer

Members of Public: - Gary Oliver, Andrew McCartney and Kaye Cowie

Councillors: Cllr Hassan and Cllr Gifford

Police: None

Declarations of Interest

None given

Minutes of April 2021

Proposed: James Milton

Seconded: Yvonne Oliver

Matters Arising

Jan went through all matters arising from the last minutes.

Andrew McCartney advised he is still waiting for quotes for the proposed new plaque in the community garden and will report back to us when he has this information. **ACTION ANDREW MCCARTNEY**

James confirmed he is working on setting up a Coat of Arms meeting and will report back to us when there is any information.

Jan confirmed the silt has now been removed from the bypass by Aberdeenshire Council.

Jan confirmed she has asked the Developer Obligation Team for the amount of DO coming forward from Meldrum House building so we can

start thinking of projects. We are currently awaiting Clarification from Elaine Brown on one point. Jan will continue to follow this up.

ACTION JAN

We are still waiting for an update on the Town Hall from Cllr Johnston. This will hopefully be at our next meeting as Cllr Johnston was unable to attend this meeting.

ACTION CLLR JOHNSTON

Jan confirmed she has confirmation from area office that we do not need to write into our constitution that we are using Zoom for meeting at the present time.

Statement of Outstanding Business

Jan advised there is nothing new to report from the statement this month.

Police Report

The police report for April was emailed to all members. There were no questions on this report.

Daviot Estate Defib

A discussion was held once again regarding the Daviot Estate Defib. The residents of Daviot Estate are proposing they transfer the money they have sitting to pay for electric for this Defib to the Community Council and we then pay the bill on their behalf to SSE once a year. The members present voted to support this after hearing the pros and cons. Jan commented she felt it was very important that the other Defibs the Community Council have under their umbrella understand the Community Council is NOT paying the money for the electric from our own bank account, we are accepting the money from Daviot Estate and paying it out on their behalf. All members present agreed with this.

Zero Carbon Daviot

Matthew Clubb from Zero Carbon Daviot gave a very interesting and informative presentation to us. Willie asked if the group have presented to any children yet and Matt advised they haven't but this is something they are keen to do. Matt also encouraged everyone to look at their website www.zerocarbondaviot.org and sign up to their newsletter for future alerts.

Matt will forward the slides from the presentation this evening to Jan.
Jan will then forward to all members. **ACTION JAN**

Members of the public

Andrew McCartney asked if the Speed Hump on South Road has been reported to Aberdeenshire Council. Cllr Hassan advised the Roads Dept are aware of this issue however have advised it is not a priority as it is in a 20mph zone there should be no danger to cars or pedestrians.

Kaye commented she contacted Ian Daniels as a cyclist fell off his bike and onto the middle of the road however he also advised Kaye it is not a high priority.

Andrew McCartney said there are concerns about the speed hump in this state with the new Trishaw as an elderly person could easily fall out and seriously hurt themselves. Cllr Hassan said he would go back to the Roads Dept now he has this info regarding safety of cyclists and pedestrians etc and will report back to us at our next meeting.

ACTION CLLR HASSAN

Andrew McCartney asked if the Road Sweeper could be asked for in Meldrum again. Jan will ask this question. **ACTION JAN**

Kaye asked about the Chapelpark road widening. Cllr Gifford advised it is progressing however a CPO may still require to be done. Cllr Gifford advised they would keep us updated of any developments.

Reports from Elected Members

Cllr Gifford thanked MAIG for their invite to the Trishaw launch. He also said he would ask the Roads Dept to sort the speed hump on South Road as he feels it is very important.

Cllr Hassan advised Council Officers have looked at the Sandwich Board signs in the Square and have confirmed they are content with them. He also advised Planning Enforcement have stated they are content with the blue netting at Oldmeldrum Golf Club as the planning they have doesn't state it requires to be a certain colour.

Kaye asked for an update on the Transport Hub. Cllr Gifford advised alternative sites are now being looked at in detail. He also said the new plans are much better in every way however it is very much a work in

progress. Jan stated Jim Bowe is hopeful to be presenting info to this community council in August or September.

Gary Oliver asked if anyone from Aberdeenshire Council is trying to work with the Stephen's to get the path from Meldrum to Barra Castle in place. Cllr Gifford said he would be very surprised if they were not but he will take it back to the officers and ask. **ACTION CLLR GIFFORD**

Willie asked if a walking bridge could be built however Cllr Gifford advised this would be too expensive. Andrew McCartney asked if traffic lights could be placed there however the Cllrs present felt there may not be enough people to warrant this. Kaye commented that the Council needs to make sure they are working with ALL business and not against.

The following reports were received from the community groups:

MAIG

- At long last I can report that MAIG will take delivery of their new Electric Vehicle this week.
It has been a 2-year saga since first ordering the vehicle. The Covid outbreak in China delayed shipping, this was followed by the container ship breaking down in the China seas resulting in the container having to be transhipped. Our agents then discovered the vehicle had the wrong specification for the rear axle. A replacement axle was placed with a company in Italy which then had to close down because of an outbreak of Covid at the factory. The final straw has been trying to obtain a reasonable insurance quotes with underwriters quoting between £1,700 up to £3,000. However, I am pleased to report that we now have an acceptable quote from an Edinburgh firm which was recommended by Cllr. Johnston.
- I can confirm that the Electric Trishaw has been delivered and no doubt some of you will have seen the Pilots out training. Part of their training involves recording problems with some of the routes out and around the town. We have already identified no go areas because of uneven surfaces and narrow pavements. As previously reported the official launch will take place on Saturday morning 5th June at 10.30 am.

- We are well ahead with planting the baskets and containers which we hope to put out on display on the 10th. June - weather permitting.
- Owing to Covid restrictions the planned litter pick for 14th May had to be postponed, we are targeting to organise the next litter pick sometime in July and confirmation of the date will be announced in our June report.

Daviot Community Trust

Work repairing the new path and other paths is continues and good progress is being made with the reasonable. This work is being undertaken by our “in-house volunteers” along with general maintenance and improvements. More new volunteers have been welcomed and it is hoped more will join the list.

Work is progressing well on the renovation of the Ram House area, being undertaken by those involved in the Chris Smith Daviot Memorial team with volunteers from the Trust assisting. The seating area at the small pond is now well under way. The fundraising link and information can be found at: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/the-chris-smith-daviot-memorial/update/26525620/gallery/1> and is worth a look as various pictures are shown.

A meeting was held with the trustees of Zero Carbon Daviot on Tuesday, 18th May and the Trust directors present received a summary of ZCD’s progress to date and forward plans. Discussion took place on how the two organisations might be able to assist each other to the mutual benefits of the community.

Heritage Society

John advised the society has a meeting scheduled for Saturday 29th May.

Formartine Rural Partnership

Nick advised he is still interested in joining however hasn’t heard anything from the parternship and thought this was likely due to covid. Willie said he spoke to Rod recently and Peter has resigned so Rod has a backlog of work to get through. Nick will keep us updated.

Meldrum Paths Group

MMW (Oldmeldrum/Daviot/Inverurie Active travel route) - No change since April report i.e.

Plans to delivery the footpath from Inverurie to the link road by summer 2021 continue to be worked on.

Communications are ongoing with Landowners to get a solution for agreement for a path from Lethenty to the link road.

Survey of the Lethenty /Daviot Road network for dual access (motorised and pedestrian) will not take place until agreement has been reached with the Lethenty to Link road path. We welcome the path David and Sarah Stephen have created from North Main of Barra to Barra Castle.

Community Path Links No Change since April report.

Daviot/Oldmeldrum/ Inverurie – see comment in MMW.

Oldmeldrum/Pitmedden/Undy/Tarves - Initial discussions with land owners are still in progress

Barra Hill Path

Landowner has erected signs closing the path to 31 May for lambing.

Banister on foot bridge has still be put in place, Landowner has asked us not to do this work when the path is closed.

Path will be strimmed when opened on 31 May.

Active travel route to Denwood from Oldmeldrum

Three land owners have been contacted. Positive response from one, no reply for one, awaiting feedback from another. MBDC to arrange meeting with landowners.

Community E-bike Scheme

Good news, Huntly Development Trust have confirmed we can have two e-bikes for another month starting Monday 7 June for an extended trial.

Meldrum House Estate Access

There has been no further feedback since the letter of acknowledgement.

Walk routes around Oldmedrum - no update

Initial ideas to revamp an electronic leaflet of walks and cycle routes in our area is being worked on.

AGM

Our AGM will take place by zoom on Wednesday 26 May ay 7.30pm

Oldmeldrum Green Growing Space

Public Meeting

Minutes of the public meeting of 21 April 2021 have been circulated.

AGM

The first AGM has been arranged for Wednesday 16 June at 7.30pm which will be staged by zoom.

There is enough interest to create a Lead Group. School representation will be on the Lead Group.

John stated he has emailed the access officer regarding the closing of Barra Hill but has had no response as yet.

Treasurers Report

Willie emailed round a copy of the current account and the balance as at 25th May 2021 is £13,330.13.

Secretarial Report

Jan advised she is meeting with Linda Hendry next week to try and find a new site for the electric box for the lights at the skatepark.

Jan confirmed all pot holes she reported back in January have now been fixed.

Jan advised Richard Elliot is going to be working on the social media policy and will contact us when he has more info to share.

Jan commented the Scouts have completed a litter pick in Meldrum over three days and suggested we send a donation like we usually do for the Brownies. All members present agreed on £75. Jan and Willie will get a cheque signed and posted.

ACTION JAN/WILLIE

Planning Report

John gave a report on the planning applications for May 2021.

CC Forum

Shona emailed the following report to all members prior to the meeting:

Mhairi McCowan, Risk & Resilience Manager and Vicky Morris, Project Officer gave a presentation re Resilience and the role of Community Groups Support.

What is an emergency? War terrorism, damage and the environment and human welfare suggested.

What is an emergency for the community? Oil spills and storm damage suggested.

Category 1 responders – local authorities, Police Scotland, Fire and Rescue, Ambulance Service, NHS Grampian, S.E.P.A., H M Coastguard and Adult Health and Social Care Partnership.

Category 2 responders – Utilities Companies, Transport Authorities and Health and Safety Executive.

Additional – Voluntary Sector, Military and the community (the main topic of the presentation).

Aberdeenshire Council's Response Roles and Responsibilities were covered and the powers and lead that would be available.

The roles and responsibilities of Police Scotland, The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and The Scottish Ambulance service in an emergency were also covered.

Where does the community fit in? The following points were covered.

Local emergency responders will always have to prioritise those in greatest need especially where life is in danger. In order for community resilience to be effective, a co ordinated approach is essential. Locals know their area. Prepare for risks – what could affect your area? Utilise local resources. Support the recovery of your area. Share risks within your area, use social media. Work in partnership with Aberdeenshire Council and local emergency responders. Assistance NOT hindrance was stressed. Don't put yourself at risk. Shared learning – talk to people involved. The listed tasks communities could perform during an emergency response included door knocking, checking neighbours and opening a 'place of safety' to name a few. We were informed how we could increase our community resilience – with planning, practising and reviewing were some of the suggestions.

The final comment of the presentation was Resilient Communities Are Stronger Communities.

No Police Scotland update was available.

Community Council Training – Jan McRobbie, Area Committee Officer. She covered the following points – What is a Community Council? Being a Community Councillor. The Scheme of Establishment/Handbook.

Roles and responsibilities of Community Councillors. Courses are available on A.L.D.O. with training for Community Councillors.

A Covid update was given by Samantha Rawlins. She informed us of moving down to level 2, Live Life Aberdeenshire opening up again, vaccination numbers and Covid positive cases and deaths.

Gordon asked if the members felt it was appropriate for us to put an action plan together in case of emergencies. All members present agreed. Jan, Shona and Gordon will start gathering some info on this.

ACTION JAN, SHONA AND GORDON

AOCB

Gordon asked if there has been any update on the Scheme of Establishment. The Cllrs present advised it will be discussed and any changed adopted at a Full Council meeting in September.

Gordon asked if the members felt it appropriate that we post on our social media about the new fire alarm detectors regulations that come into force in February 2022. All members agreed so Gordon will arrange the post.

ACTION GORDON

The subject of street names for the Chapelpark was discussed and it was decided by the members present we agree with the suggestions put forward by Aberdeenshire Council namely:

Chapelpark Road

Chapelpark Place

Jan will email the Roads Development Team to confirm. **ACTION JAN**

Jan said Aberdeenshire Council are looking for us to confirm the projects we wish to apply for with this year's Tidy Village Money. Meldrum has £1,000 and Daviot has £500.

All members present agreed to Meldrum's money being used for a village orderly and Daviot's money being used to complete the work at the car park next to the Church annexe.

Jan will send this through to Jan McRobbie.

ACTION JAN

Jan advised she had an email confirmed the LDP has been accepted by the Reporter with a link to view all documents. Jan will forward this link to all members.

ACTION JAN

Date and time of next meeting

22nd June 2021 at 7.30pm (AGM will be at 7pm)