

Minutes of Meldrum Bourtie & Daviot Community Council Meeting

Tuesday 26th October 2021

7.00pm

Online Zoom Meeting

CC Members Present: - Shona Presly, Jan Chalmers, Willie Sinclair, John Pirie, Yvonne Oliver, Gordon Duncan, Jeff Goodhall, Barry Howard and Alastair Massey

Apologies: - Nick Forbes

Members of Public: - Andrew McCartney and Gary Oliver

Councillors: Cllr Hassan, Cllr Powell and Cllr Gifford

Police: Inspector Young

Declarations of Interest

None given

Minutes of September 2021

Proposed: Yvonne Oliver

Seconded: Gordon Duncan

Matters Arising

Jan advised Cllr Hassan had emailed with a correction from the last minutes. Under the Elected Members section it should read “Cllr Hassan advised us there was a full council meeting on Thursday 23rd September. This meeting included a report on a move to hybrid meetings where some members were in the room and some were still online.” Jan will change the September minutes to reflect this.

John stated he has emailed the access officer regarding the signs at Meldrum House Golf Club but has had no reply as yet.

Jan went through all matters arising from the last minutes.

The Cllrs present confirmed Aberdeenshire Council Roads Department have said there are no plans to resurface the A947 from Meldrum House

Roundabout along Urquhart road and Albert Road until the Chapelpark development has been completed.

The Cllrs present confirmed it is the Council's plan to provide plants again in 2022. There will be no changes.

Statement of Outstanding Business

Jan advised there is nothing new to report this month.

Police Report

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

Inspector Mark Young – Police Scotland

Inspector Young began by introducing himself and the role he has within Police Scotland. He advised us there have been some thefts from rural properties close to Oldmeldrum during September and a person has been arrested for stealing a quad bike from a farm. There was also 1 serious assault in Oldmeldrum with 4 persons involved.

Inspector Young reminded us of the following points as we head into the winter months

1. Check vehicles etc are locked
2. Check door and windows are locked
3. If you see anything suspicious like repeated visits to properties please call it in to 101

Gordon asked about a phishing email he received which supposedly had been sent by Police Scotland. Inspector Young asked Gordon to forward this to the Police Crime Team to look at.

Jan advised Inspector Young there are 3 areas of concern from members of the public over the last 6 months:

1. Speeding on the A947 from Meldrum House roundabout to Park Lane
2. Speeding along the A947 right out to the A920 turnoff and beyond.
3. Handbrake turns at the bottom of Rosebank.

Inspector Young asked Jan to send this to him in an email and he will look into these issues.

ACTION JAN

Jan asked Inspector Young for any advice for people heading out to clubs etc given drink spiking is often in the news just now. Inspector Young gave the following advice:

1. Don't leave drinks unattended
2. Always go out with friends
3. Have a plan on how to get home
4. Don't drink too much and
5. If feeling unsure of anyone or anything go to a member of staff and ask for Angela. This alerts staff that there is an issue and they can help.

Jan asked Inspector Young for any general advice to make homes more secure. Inspector Young gave the following advice:

1. Make sure all vehicles, doors and windows are locked
2. Don't keep keys in the back of the door
3. If unable to park in your driveway park in a well lit area

Inspector Young also advised there are leaflets available from their Crime Prevention team or our community beat officer. Inspector Young will forward these to us for posting on social media and our noticeboard. Inspector Young also confirmed to us the community surgeries Police Scotland have been carrying out in our towns and villages will be continuing.

Shona and Willie both commented on the lack of information we now received in our police reports. They both said it used to be very informative with information about our area included. They asked if reports can be completed in this way again however Inspector Young advised this cannot happen as it is now police policy not to show stats for areas.

Cllr Powell said she has had numerous concerns from residents all over Formartine regarding speeding through towns, villages and on lanes too. Inspector Young advised this is not unique to Formartine and it is a UKL wide issue. To tackle this issue Police Scotland is attempting to get youngsters involved with workshops etc to create an impact. Inspector Young also asked everyone to feed any info on speeding to the police as he can get officers out to do a speed check in areas. He also advised us to request the speed check again for the A947 however there is a long wait for it as there are only 2 available. Jan to email and request this.

ACTION JAN

Members of the public

None

Reports from Elected Members

The Cllrs present had nothing new to report except from confirming they will be attending Remembrance Sunday in our area to lay wreaths.

Gordon asked if there are any grants available for helping people to comply with the fire alarm regulations. Cllr Gifford said he hadn't heard about any grants but would check and report back to us.

ACTION CLLR GIFFORD

MAIG

Members of the public will be aware that the summer displays have come to the end of their show and most of the baskets and containers have been removed. The Beehive in the small square and the one at the Church Hall continue to give a reasonable show as do the Garden barrow displays in Market Square but they will be removed shortly and the Beehives will remain in situ and will be planted with winter pansies. The containers in front of the shops, in front of Greengates and the containers at the top of Urquhart Road all the summer displays have been removed and replaced with winter pansies.

The flower bed at the top of Urquhart Rd and the flower bed at the Sailor statue will be emptied and replaced with spring flowering plants.

We are indebted to the business fraternity and members of the public for their donations and contributions in support of the floral displays.

We also would like to thank those members of the public who continue to support MAIGs activities through the MAIG support fund which pays out £250 each month in prize money.

Members of the public will be aware of our new Electric vehicle which has replaced our diesel tractor. This has been well received by the volunteer watering team and has made such a difference to those who turn out daily for watering the plants. Our latest grant funding from the Vattenfall Unlock your Future to install Solar Panels on our garage/implement shed will be installed w/c 1st November. Once fitted this will reduce our carbon footprint to virtually zero.

Now that the summer displays are down the real work begins with emptying the containers, recycling the compost, cleaning and storing the Begonia

tubers taking cuttings and generally putting everything to bed for next spring. We are always looking for volunteer helpers at these busy times and anyone with a spare hour or two please contact our Flower convener Moira Gregg on 872711 or email blankets@bopenworld.com

Moira and her team had a successful plant sale recently with all the plants sold within a very short time. Money raised by the sale of plants will go towards the refurbishment and maintenance of the Christmas Illuminations which are after nearly 20 years in use are becoming a little tired.

Once again, the golf Club are kindly gifting the Community Christmas tree for the Square which will be erected on Wednesday 25th. November and the street Christmas Illuminations will go up on Sunday 28th. November.

Regrettably because of the current Covid situation the usual participants involved e.g. the Academy Musicians, Rotary, the BBQ have all indicated they are unable to be present and for this reason there will be no public switch on event for the second year.

Sheena Clarke has been fairly busy co-ordinating the volunteer pilots and elderly residents for their out and about trips around the town. Although the colder days are approaching fast nevertheless on good sunny days with the wrap around fleece to keep out the wind's passengers will still be able to get out and about. Anyone wishing to have a trip out and about should contact Sheena on 873034

Daviot Community Trust

The muddy part of Aberdeenshire Council's Core Path which connects with the Trust's new Chestnut Path was successfully completed on Saturday, 16th. October. Please see the website for photographs etc. www.daviotcommunitytrust.org

Only essential maintenance and repair work will be done during the winter period.

The Trust will be taking up a stand at the Daviot Day event in the Daviot Hall on Saturday, 13th November when hopefully some new volunteers may come onboard.

Meldrum Paths Group

Community E-bike /Bike Scheme

We are awaiting the funds of the secured the grant to create a base for the bike operation which includes a container, training and conventional bikes. Working is getting done in establishing prospective suppliers.

Grant funding applications are being pursued for e-bikes with the aim to get the project fully operational by for Spring/Summer 2022.

When established we will looking for people and groups to get involved.

MMW (Oldmeldrum/Daviot/Inverurie Active travel route) -

The contact for the new path construction at Uryside to link with the new Ury pedestrian bridge has been given the contactor with the work to be done in Spring 2022.

Awaiting updates as to when the new Ury pedestrian bridge will be built.

Awaiting the outcome of the ongoing issues with Aberdeenshire Council and Barra Farms with regards to the recently installed path.

Community Path Links

Daviot/Oldmeldrum/ Inverurie – see comment in MMW.

Oldmeldrum/Pitmedden/Undy/Tarves - further discussions with land owners planned early Nov.

Active travel route to Denwood from Oldmeldrum

Awaiting confirmation of meeting date from MDBCC.

Oldmeldrum Green Growing Space

SCIO

We are pleased to advise our application to OSCR for SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation) has been accepted. This we a surprise after being advised there was a three month backlog.

Site – Meadows Vale

Lease. Expression of interest form for the lease for Meadow Vale is in the system for processing with Aberdeenshire Council.

Planning Application and Design.

Topographic survey of the Meadow Vale site has been done.

A wish list for the site has been drafted.

Plans are being worked on.

It is our objective to get the planning application lodged by mid-December.

Media sites

Our Media sites are being worked on.

Funding raising

Funding raising ideas and activity is being geared up. This has involved networking meetings with the funding rising groups of other allotment groups in Aberdeenshire.

Noted interest for an allotment

A list of names for noted interest in an allotment has been started.

Treasurers Report

Willie emailed round a copy of the current account and the balance as at 26th October 2021 is £17,283.27

Willie asked Jan who to write the cheque for the Lighthouse contribution to. Jan will check and email Willie to confirm. **ACTION JAN**

Secretarial Report

Jan advised we are still waiting for the community payback team to carry out the work they are going to be doing in Oldmeldrum. Jan will chase this up and try and get a start date. **ACTION JAN**

Planning Report

John gave a report on the planning applications for October 2021. John advised us that the wind turbine at Mains of Cairnbrogie had been granted via appeal. The reporter stated they felt Aberdeenshire Council has been unreasonable with this application and also granted the applicant their expenses. Cllr Hassan informed us that we can all watch the Formatine Area Committee live online. He also stated he felt the person who granted planning through the appeal should be using the same

information as the cllrs were given at the time. Cllr Gifford agreed with this.

Jan asked if there were any questions from members on the email we received from Isabel Page re her planning application. There were no questions from any members. Jan will write back to Isabel to confirm.

ACTION JAN

AOCB

Shona asked the members present for support in gifting our village orderly a sum of money when he finishes with us in the next few weeks. Shona suggested £50 and all members present agreed. Jan and Willie will organise this.

ACTION JAN/WILLIE

Willie asked the members present for support with a flyer that is going to be produced to ask for manual help or financial help with the community garden. Jeff stated this is very important and all members present agreed.

Barry asked who is organising the fireworks in Daviot. It was confirmed as being DAIG.

Gary Oliver asked if the Community Council would consider submitting their planning application for the allotments on their behalf. All members present agreed to this proposal.

Jeff stated he is very upset with Chapelpark no longer gifting the land for the bus hub as promised. It was stated this has been brought up many times over the last 10 months and how disappointing it is.

It was mentioned that the hedge at the Redgarth is requiring to be cut back. It was asked if we could write to the owner and ask for this work to be completed. All members agreed. Jan will email the owner. **ACTION JAN**

Date and time of next meeting

23rd November 2021 at 7.00pm