

Minutes of Meldrum Bourtie & Daviot Community Council Meeting

Tuesday 25th April 2023
7.00pm – Daviot Village Hall, Daviot

DRAFT

CC Members Present: - Shona Presly, Jan Chalmers, John Pirie, Gordon Duncan, Murray Tennant, Colin Wallace, Willie Sinclair and Yvonne Oliver

Apologies: - James Milton, Ken Gordon and Alastair Massey

Members of Public: - Gary Oliver, Andrew McCartney, Jim Bruce, Irene McDermott, Colin Winton and Sheila McBain

Councillors: - None

Shona opened the meeting by reminding members they can only propose or second minutes if they attended the meeting the minutes correspond to. Shona also reminded everyone to be as concise as possible so we can ensure we can always finish meetings by 9.30pm.

Minutes of March 2023

Proposed: Murray Tennant

Seconded: John Pirie

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were declared.

Matters Arising

Cllrs Ritchie and Johnston have outstanding queries which will hopefully be answered at our May meeting. Cllr Ritchie is to give an update on the SORN car in Baker Street and Cllr Johnston is to give an update on the report regarding Chapelpark from the last ward meeting.

ACTION CLLRS RITCHIE/JOHNSTON

Statement of Outstanding Business

There was nothing to report this month.

Members of the public

Jim Bruce, Irene McDermott, Colin Winton and Sheila McBain brought up the following points regarding the bus service:

1. The medical provision for the Daviot Community has not been taken into consideration when making the new timetable.
2. There are long waits between one bus and the next, sometimes 5 hours of a wait to get back from Inverurie to Daviot.
3. There are only 2 services on a Saturday morning with no return journey.
4. The connectivity between the buses is not working correctly. The connecting bus to the next town is often missed due to the Daviot/Rothie timetables.
5. It is felt there has been a lack of planning which is now creating isolation.

MAIG

The recent good weather has permitted the group to tackle replacing the polythene cover on the damaged polytunnel, I am pleased to report that the project is now complete and just in time to give additional space for the expanding number of plants now growing on before transplanting into their display baskets and containers.

As previously reported, we hope to have a few displays ready for the coronation event.

Following the grant funding from Nescan Seed Hub to assist with the purchase of gardening tools, I am pleased to report that tools have now been purchased and a final project report will be submitted to the NESCAN team. A new garden tool shed has been built by 2 of our volunteer team and will be fitted out in the coming days.

Although our litter-picking event on Saturday 15th April was well advertised on FB, Meldrum Connect, and public posters the response from the community meant that only 3 adults turned up to assist the 8 MAIG volunteer team. Nevertheless, a considerable amount of rubbish was collected sufficient to fill the container supplied by the council.

Our committee convener for Keep Scotland Beautiful attended a Zoom meeting recently, it was highlighted that funding was available from the Royal Horticultural Society if 3 organisations from the same community

were seen to be working together. It is proposed that MAIG will convene a meeting with the Chair of the William Forsyth Community Garden and the Chair of Oldmeldrum Green Growing Space to investigate if there is an opportunity to pursue funding for each of the said organisations.

Daviot Community Trust

Work Parties

Saturday morning work parties started on 15th April with a general tidy up where most necessary. This was followed on Saturday with more work on the informal paths through the woodland.

AGM

This was held at the Church Annexe on Wednesday, 19th April when all 11 directors agreed to continue in office. There were no other nominations from ordinary members.

Committee Meeting

This commenced immediately after the AGM. Plan to develop the upper terrace which is above the Maintenance Facility shed was further discussed from suggested plans from three directors. Professional plans will be developed from those to enable a final choice to be made.

Among other items, the Chairman again emphasised the urgent need to recruit more volunteers from the community to assist with ongoing maintenance and other duties as a number of the current team have been involved for over fifteen years and are getting less able. If you think you can help us, please ring Peter McHattie on 07923452733 or email: pmchattie@hotmail.co.uk

Treasurers Report

Willie emailed the members with the report prior to the meeting. The balance in the account as at 25th April 2023 is £19,608.15.

Willie and Jan confirmed we have been allocated the Tidy Village money once again this year which we are very grateful for. Jan suggested we use Meldrum's for a village orderly again and all members present agreed. A discussed was held around the week he would work and it was agreed 1st May for 3 weeks, 19th June for 6 weeks and 28th August for 4 weeks.

Secretarial Report

Jan confirmed she has reported the pothole on the crossing and the large potholes in Baker Street Car Park.

Cllr Hassan emailed Jan info from the waste team on the sweeper. They advised due to resource levels they aim to visit Meldrum on a 6-8 weekly cycle. The email also says they usually have litter picking and street cleansing resources in Meldrum 5 days a week.

Aberdeenshire Council has confirmed they will aim to have jettors sent to the recycling point to clear the nearby drains and gullies ASAP.

Police Scotland has confirmed they have spoken with the driver of the van parking on Albert Road at the corner of Kirk Brae and they hope this situation will rectify quickly.

Jan confirmed the Coronation event will be going ahead on 7th May in the square. There are 150 tickets sold and hoping for a dry day.

James has dropped the Coat of Arms flags to Jan and we will discuss how to publicise these at the next meeting. **ACTION ALL MEMBERS**

Jan informed the members Ann Ramsay has responded to our queries about Chapelpark planning conditions. Firstly we queried how 3 parking spaces being moved to open space has been deemed as a non material variation, especially when this site hasn't provided the 40% open space policy states and this will mean the open space is now even smaller. Ann Ramsay answered "the planning service agreed the changes were not a material change to the permission."

Our second query was regarding the emergency access point. Ann Ramsay replied "I have received the RCC drawing which shows the route of the emergency access. I will therefore look at discharging that condition and the plan will be made available online."

Our third query was regarding the connection to OP5. Ann Ramsay replied "I am satisfied this plan provides a future link to op5. It is not reasonable to request the link goes further south into the OP5 site as it is for the developer of the OP5 site to ensure that from their site any link meets with the Chapelpark link."

Planning Report

John gave a report on the planning applications for April 2023. He advised a list of grants awarded by Formartine Area Committee were

published today and these included the CC Coat of Arms flags and finger posts.

AOCB

Shona advised Westbank Care Home has a new manager, her name is Ann Milne.

Shona asked if anyone knew where the table and chair from the Town Hall is as James was asking. No one present knew but there was a suggestion to ask Elaine Brown or try Aden Country Park as they used to store Council items.

Gordon Duncan gave an overview of a Sustrans webinar he attended on 19th April. Climate change was a hot topic as was walking and cycling paths. Grants are now available to help with cycle loan schemes. Gordon also advised us Aberdeenshire Council have received a grant of £1,000,000 from Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks to boost storm resilience plans. The plan is to buy 100 battery generator packs for home use and 86 for sheltered housing complexes.

Murray asked for support to erect the new noticeboard at the entrance to the Daviot Community Trust walks. All members present agreed.

Murray advised the Council has said they have fixed the holes in the chute at the park and have given it a 5 year lifespan.

Murray also suggested the green bench scheme which works well in other areas. The idea is for people who need a lift to another town to sit on the green bench and if a car passes they stop to ask where they want to go. If they are going to the same place the driver would take the person with them.

Date and time of next meeting

23rd May 2023 at 7pm