

**MINUTES OF THE 301st BUSINESS MEETING  
OF THE  
STONEHAVEN AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

HELD IN THE COWIE LOUNGE OF THE INVERCARRON RESOURCE CENTRE  
ON TUESDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2006

PRESENT:

**Community Councillors:** Derek Stewart, Sarah Dickinson, Raymond Christie, Duncan Cursiter, Ditta Neumann, Margaret Ross, Allan Cairnduff, Peter Bellarby and Lyn Jardine

**Kincardine & Mearns Councillors:** George Swapp (Mearns North) and Jack Morrison (Stonehaven Central)

**Minutes Secretary:** Monica Haddock

Sergeant Wallace from Grampian Police and three members of the Press were in attendance. One member of the public was also in attendance.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Action/Date</b>
	Before the meeting started, the press took photographs of Sophie Ramsay being presented with the Hannah Dyson Youth Award 2006 and also of the winners of the Best Domestic Garden Christmas Decoration Award 2006. No one from Robertson Bakery or Kincardine Community Hospital was present to collect their shield.	
<b>1.</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	
	Apologies were received from Dougie Dykes, Ian Hunter, Jane Davidson, Pam Dobbie, Sean Fraser, Mary Jackson and Councillor Wendy Agnew.	
	At this point, the Chairman said he had a very sad event to report. Nigel and Isabel Parkes 18 year old son had died of meningitis and it was agreed that the Community Council would write to them to offer their condolences.	Derek Stewart 21/2/06
<b>2.</b>	<b>Resignation of Secretary</b>	
	The Chairman said he was very sad to hear that Dougie Dykes had tendered his resignation as Secretary to the Community Council from the date of the next AGM. He said that Dougie had been a big help to him over the past years and that the Community Council should write to him expressing their thanks.	
	He went on to ask if anyone knew of someone who would be willing to take this task on.	All Members
	Peter Bellarby said that there had been changes to the constitution regarding elections within the Council and he hoped that Dougie Dykes would continue as Secretary until April.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Minutes of Meeting held on 10 January 2006</b>	
	Sarah Dickinson pointed out that an error had been made in page 7 of the Minute where her name should be Dickinson and not Davidson and also that the wording of what she had said should be changed. The words "planning lots of" should be replaced with "identifying". The Minutes were proposed by Allan Cairnduff and seconded by Margaret Ross.	

Peter Bellarby apologised for the fact that the reports had not been attached to the agenda as had been agreed at the last meeting. This was because Dougie Dykes was abroad and Pam Dobbie was ill.

At this point, Sarah Dickinson said that she felt the Community Council should have acknowledged Sophie Ramsay, and her parent's, attendance at the meeting and that she would have liked to have given her a round of applause. It was agreed to do this for next year's winner of the Hannah Dyson Youth Award.

#### **4. Crime Prevention**

Before giving his report, Sgt Wallace asked Councillor Swapp if he had received a response to his query about the speed camera at Mondynes having a cover over it. Councillor Swapp replied that he hadn't and Sgt Wallace said he would chase this up. The reason for the camera being covered was because BEAR Scotland had put up a sign that disguised the fact that there was a camera behind it and Grampian Police felt this was unfair to motorists.

He then went on to give his report. Last month there had been some vandalism around the Recreation Grounds. Between Sunday 22 January and Monday 23 January 4 caravans had had their windows broken. The same names keep coming up on Police lists and Sgt Wallace said these youngsters would be reported to the Children's Panel if they managed to prove their involvement. He stressed that Stonehaven's youths were actually very good compared to other areas. He said Friday nights between 10-10.30pm seemed to be the worst time. There had been an increase in trouble in the Bernham/Farrochie district of the town.

Sgt Wallace advised that Grampian Police were concerned about the number of drivers seen not wearing seat belts or using mobile phones whilst driving. They had run a two-day initiative on 16-17 January during which time they stopped 54 people for not wearing seat belts and 7 people who were using mobile phones. The majority of people stopped were men.

Allan Cairnduff asked Sgt Wallace about the problem of dog fouling. Sgt Wallace replied that Council Officers could now prosecute people for this offence as well as the Police. The difficulty was in getting evidence of offenders. Allan said that the signs around town concerning dog fouling were out of date and should be updated.

#### **5. Waste Management Public Meeting Outcomes**

The Chairman said he had received e-mail from Christine Gore, Director of Planning and Environmental Services, which he read out to the Community Council. Aberdeenshire Council requested the Community Council to suggest a site where the additional recycling centre could be placed. After some discussion, it was unanimously agreed to write to the Council suggesting the Council Yard at Kirkton Road. It was also agreed to suggest to the Council that the Saturday morning waste collection be moved from the Leisure Centre car park to the Council Yard and that Wednesday pm be also included.

Dougie Dykes  
21/2/06

The Chairman asked if the Community Councillors wanted to ask the Council to reinstate weekly collections and a vote was taken on this. With the exception of Raymond Christie, the Community Councillors voted not to ask the Council to do this.

At this point, the member of the public who was present, asked to speak. He said that he disagreed that a lot of people were happy with the new waste management arrangements. He said that he hadn't spoken to one person who was happy with it. He said that the Community Council who were defending the new waste management system at this meeting didn't deserve to be Community Councillors at which point several Community Councillors said they objected to his remarks. Councillor Morrison then said that Stonehaven and District Community Council conducted itself in a very professional manner and he praised the Community Councillors for all the hard work they did for the benefit of the town. He went on to say that he felt things would settle down once the Redcloak recycling facility was opened.

Margaret Ross  
& Lyn Jardine  
1/3/06

Lyn Jardine suggested that the Community Council put a questionnaire on-line requesting feedback from the public so that they could be better informed as to public opinion of the new waste management scheme. The Chairman said he thought this was a good idea and Margaret Ross agreed to work with Lyn to set this up. Lynne Jardine would join the Newssheet and Communications Committee to action this.

#### **6. Scottish Executive Discussion Paper on Role of Community Councils**

Peter Bellarby said this tied in with correspondence received from David Davidson MSP (item 13d) where he asked questions about the paper. This has to be responded to by 28 February so after discussion, because of the short timescale it was agreed that Derek Stewart would circulate a list of questions he had drawn up and other Community Council members could add questions of their own.

Derek Stewart  
21/2/06

#### **7. Proposed Wind Farm at Clochnahill**

The Chairman said that the representatives of the wind farm had given a good presentation to and it was felt that the wind farm was very small and not in our area so there was no need to do anything further about it. Members were in favour of the project.

#### **8. Protocol for Community Councillors Representing the Community Council**

Sarah Dickinson said that at the Area Committee meeting on 17 January 2006, she felt that the Chairman had addressed the Committee and expressed a view differing from the one she had understood the Community Council had agreed upon. The Chairman read out his statement on the point raised and it was clear what the intention was. In light of this she was proposing a protocol for Community Councillors representing the Community Council to be added to the Standing Orders. This was seconded by Peter Bellarby and was approved by Members. Peter Bellarby went on to say that he had a proposal of his own to table but Raymond Christie said that was not competent as Peter had not given notice of his intention to do this.

#### **9. AGM and Ordinary Election Arrangements**

Peter Bellarby advised that there had been changes to the constitution since the last AGM. This year there would be (a) the Chair's report; (b) the Treasurer's report; (c) the appointment of an auditor; and (d) to conduct other business.

Other changes included the election of office bearers, which would be at the April Business Meeting this year. Peter recommended that an advert be placed in the local press on 3rd March announcing the AGM and the forthcoming Ordinary Election to try to attract people to offer their services as Community Councillors. It was hoped that Dougie Dykes would agree to do this.

Dougie Dykes  
21/2/06

## 10. Reports and Project Update:

- (a) Raymond Christie reported that he had been at the Association of Scottish Community Councils conference held at Pitlochry in November. He had heard a talk by Andy Whitelaw about Common Good land in Scotland in connection with the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003. Andy Whitelaw had said that awareness and uptake on this had been low. He said that in the case of Stonehaven, he had found that there were areas of Common Good land even though Aberdeenshire Council said there weren't any. He said that the Council holds £1.4 million in Common Good funds. Raymond thought it would be a good idea if Andy Whitelaw gave a talk at the Community Council Forum. Dougie Dykes  
21/2/06
- (b) The Chairman said that his report on Planning had not been completed yet but he would do so this week. He noted that the Scottish Executive had upheld the Cowie Wastewater Treatment Plant Appeal. Derek Stewart  
21/2/06
- (c) The Future of Stonehaven – Sarah Dickinson submitted a report that the Committee had now spoken to the Ury Players and Dunnottar Church. She expressed disappointment that the Stonehaven Business Association refused to meet with them. With Dougie Dykes resigning from the Community Council, that left the group short of a member so she asked for volunteers from the rest of the Community Council.
- (d) Horizon Group – Allan Cairnduff said that a report had been circulated regarding this. Pam Dobbie has asked Sarah Dickinson to mention that a letter had been received from the Mackie Rugby Club complaining about dog fouling in Mill O'Forest Park. The Chairman said that a letter had also been received from the Invercarron Resource Centre complaining about various issues – (a) dog bins not being emptied enough and not enough of them around town; (b) lack of litter bins at Kingsgate; (c) chewing gum on the street and (d) gangs of youths hanging around the bus shelters outside Farmfoods, which some people found very intimidating. Allan Cairnduff said that new notices should be put up telling people the penalties for dog fouling. Sarah Dickinson said that the Community Council should write to William Munro, Area Manager for Kincardine and Mearns, to draw this to his attention. Dougie Dykes  
21/2/06
- (e) Fossil Group – The Chairman said that this had been a very successful group and that they were now finished their work. Sarah Dickinson commended the group for their efforts.
- (f) DDA – The Chairman advised there was nothing to report on this issue.
- (g) Dunnottar Woodland Park Association – a report had been circulated.
- (h) Transport – a report had been circulated. Peter Bellarby commended Aberdeenshire Council for the improvements made on bus information. He said the next issue was trains and in particular why the through train from Stonehaven to Dyce had stopped running.
- (i) Community Planning – a report had been circulated.

## 11. Correspondence IN requiring action:

- (a) Peter Bellarby read out a letter from Doug Paton advising of his dismay at the choice of the site for the proposed Skatepark. He said that the town should be given the chance to vote on this.
- (b) The Chairman read out a letter from Ann Rodger complaining that Stonehaven doesn't yet have a Skatepark.
- (c) Derek Stewart and Pam Dobbie agreed to attend the Community Council Forum meeting to be held on 23 February 2006. The Chairman said he wanted Common Good Land in Stonehaven to be put on the agenda.
- (d) B&Q Awards – Allan Cairnduff asked that he be given the application form for the Horizon Project but Raymond Christie advised that he had handed it into the Community Centre.
- (e) Community Safety Group Annual Seminar – Duncan Cursiter agreed to attend this.
- (f) Community Development Group meeting – Raymond Christie agreed to attend this.

## 12. AOCB

The Chairman advised that there had been two requests for donations received by the Community Council but it was agreed not to give donations.

The meeting was closed at 21.45 hours.

### **Addendum:**

A. Correspondence/Brochures IN for information only & available on file:

- a. 7/12 – Minutes from Invercarron Resource Centre Committee meeting
- b. 11/1 – BT Openreach business
- c. 12/1 – K&M Community Learning Partnership meeting minutes 23 Nov 2005
- d. 13/1 – Co-op group initial response re our complaints about Alldays Store
- e. 19/1 – Grampian Fire & Rescue – Consultation presentations at Stony Fire Station 21 Feb
- f. 20/1 – Aberdeen Airport Master Plan Public Consultation sessions
- g. 24/1 – Royal Mail initial response re our complaint about Mail Pouch Boxes
- h. 2/1 – Leaflet on Antisocial Behaviour
- i. Scottish Health Council Newsletter
- j. Postwatch Scotland Newsletter

B. Correspondence ‘signed’ OUT: As agreed at meeting on 10 January, Plus:

- a. 11/1 – Co-op re Alldays store in Market Square
- b. 11/1 – Royal Mail re Street Storage Boxes
- c. 31/1 – Area Manager re costs incurred in holding Public Meeting on Waste Management Issues