

**MINUTES OF THE 308<sup>th</sup> BUSINESS MEETING  
OF THE  
STONEHAVEN AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

HELD IN THE COWIE LOUNGE OF THE INVERCARRON RESOURCE CENTRE AT 7.30PM ON  
TUESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2006

**PRESENT:**

David Fleming (Chairperson), Raymond Christie, Sarah Dickinson, Jane Davidson, Linda Digney, Ian Hunter, Michael Innes, Lenny Lawrence, Ditta Neuman, David Wood

**Kincardine and Mearns Councillors:** Cllr Wendy Agnew, Cllr Mike Sullivan, Cllr George Swapp

**Minute Secretary:** Linzi Dykes

**Also present:**

Sgt. Grant Wallace, Alastair Black and Andrew Sheridan, Aberdeenshire Council

2 members of the Press, 5 members of the public.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Action</b>
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**1. Welcome, sederunt, apologies and declarations of interest**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave a special welcome to the Isabel Parkes who has been absent recently.

Apologies were received from Ian Balgowan, James Cleves, Peter Bellarby, Teresa Coffield, Lyn Jardine and Councillor J. Morrison.

Councillor Agnew indicated a declaration of interest relating to the two supermarket proposals under item 8 'Planning'.

**2. Previous Minutes**

**Approval:**

Correction to the Minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> August as follows:

Page 6 – 'Ombardsman' should read 'Ombudsman'.

Approval of the Minutes was proposed by Sarah Dickinson, seconded by Linda Digney, and agreed unanimously.

**Matters arising and follow up of action:**

There were no matters arising from the Minutes that were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

**3. Resignation of Teresa Coffield**

The Chairman advised the Council that he had received a letter of resignation from Teresa Coffield in which she stated that she was unable to give the Community Council her full attention as she was no longer in Stonehaven as often. He had accepted it with regret.

**4. Co-option**

Sarah Dickinson proposed Steven Hurrell be co-opted as a new member. Raymond Christie advised that a Notice of Motion requires to be put to the Council *prior* to the meeting and so suggested that this item be postponed until the next meeting.

**5. Crime Prevention – Report by Police**

The Crime Bulletins 19<sup>th</sup> June – 2<sup>nd</sup> July and 3<sup>rd</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> July had been circulated with the previous Minute and Crime Bulletin 17<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> July had been circulated with the September agenda along

with a report on vandalism detection rates in Stonehaven.

Sgt Wallace talked through the statistics in this report and advised that a schedule of the crimes detected showed that the majority were discovered on a Saturday or Sunday and it could be surmised that this was due to drunken behaviour. The question was asked "Where do we go from here?" Sgt Wallace advised that he would be happy to sit down and discuss these issues at a separate session with the Community Council to take things forward.

Kevin Hutchens (member of the public, and Chairman of the Kincardine and Mearns Community Safety Group) reported that he had met with Inspector Jim Gordon recently and had a request had been made for more bobbies on the beat. This request was then referred up to Superintendent Gordon at Inverurie but the issue of resources was flagged up. He advised that he had also written to Cathy Jamieson, Minister for Justice and was awaiting a response.

Sgt Wallace reiterated that staff resources *were* an issue. It was the consensus among the Council that prevention is better than cure and a high Police presence could be all that is needed to reduce crime numbers.

Sarah Dickinson advised that concerns were raised by both the Horizon group, who felt that vandalism demoralised them in the work they carried out and also by the Future of Stonehaven Group who receive regular comments regarding the lack of 'bobbies on the beat'.

Jane Davidson queried whether the 'Bobby on the bike' still patrolled Stonehaven and Sgt Wallace confirmed that these patrols *were* still carried out.

The Chairman requested that the conversation on this subject be brought to a close and therefore Sarah Dickinson proposed that the following representations be put to the Grampian Police Board:-

- (i) Requesting a review on the number of 'bobbies on the beat', given the 50% increase in vandalism and other anti-social behaviour in Stonehaven in the last year;
- (ii) To express concern at the lack of local knowledge of those dealing with Police enquiries in call centres
- (iii) To review the process of involving parents in cases where vandalism is caused by youths
- (iv) To consider action taken on Publicans serving members of the public already over intoxicated

**David  
Fleming**

This proposal was seconded by Michael Innes and carried unanimously.

6. The Chairman introduced Alastair Black, Waste Manager (Services) and Andrew Sheridan, Transport Co-ordinator, Aberdeenshire Council to the meeting. A list of questions had been put to Mr Black and his staff in the Waste Management Team prior to the meeting and it was agreed to go through these and allow the Council to hear and discuss the answers given. The Q&A document is appended to these Minutes.

Additional questions were asked throughout the discussion. A member of the public queried if there was any criteria that was followed when considering whether a family is eligible for a second bin or not. Mr Black advised that each situation was looked at individually and a waste analysis carried out. Any member of the public with any queries/concerns over their bin provision should contact Mr Black and he would feed it back through the system.

It was agreed, however, that the Community Council write a letter to Aberdeenshire Council requesting that criteria be drawn up and published to assist members of the public in

**David Fleming**

understanding whether they are eligible for a second bin or not, and to increase the openness of the procedure.

Another member of the public expressed his concern at the lack of outcome from the public meeting held in January by Aberdeenshire Council regard Waste Management. Alastair Black could not confirm that all the queries had been resolved to the satisfaction of the author(s).

The Chairman questioned the issue of refuse pick-up days and routes and asked if this information was documented anywhere for the public to refer to. Mr Black advised that this information would be available on the website once it has been revised. However, he agreed to see what was available meantime.

Garden waste and composting was also discussed. A member of the public queried why Aberdeenshire Council were the only Council out of 31 not to supply garden waste bins for each household. Mr Black advised that this was due to budget constraints. The Community Council felt that the current policy for composting did not meet the needs of the public and therefore Ian Hunter proposed that a letter be sent to Aberdeenshire Council requesting they consider 'offering to supply every household with garden waste bin with a view to having a regular collection'. This proposal was seconded by Linda Digney and the motion carried unanimously.

**David Fleming**

The Chairman asked Mr Black if he had any figures relating to the percentage of householders contributing to recycling and Mr Black agreed to look in to this.

Lenny Lawrence asked if Yellow Pages were able to be recycled and Mr Sheridan confirmed that recycling containers designated for these directories are put out at the recycling points around about the same time that new Yellow Pages are distributed.

The issue of the cost of special collections was discussed at length and it was agreed that the whole scheme was relatively new and so when the initial period comes to a close the policy should be looked at and refined accordingly.

Mr Black went on to advise that the new recycling centre at Redcloak will open for the first time at the end of October and opening hours will be as follows:-

Monday – Friday      10.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.  
Saturday and Sunday    10.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.  
Between 1<sup>st</sup> May and 30<sup>th</sup> August the centre shall also open between 6.00 p.m and 8.00 p.m.  
Monday – Friday.

Mr Black confirmed that everything including batteries, electronic goods and chemicals that came from a domestic source will be accepted at the centre. The only substance not catered for is asbestos, since this required a specialist removal service anyway.

## **7. Adopt-a-Street Campaign**

Sarah outlined what this scheme involved, and reported that Aberdeenshire Council had awarded £800 from the Top-Up fund to assist them in purchasing items such as tabards and gloves etc. The Business Association had also been approached and were to discuss it at their forthcoming meeting. It was felt that this could make a great difference but Sarah asked that the Committee be augmented to run this scheme. A paper would be presented to the Council at the October meeting with an update.

**Sarah  
Dickinson**

**8. Update of Committee Activities:**

**Planning – David Fleming**

The Chairman advised that a letter had been received from the National Planning Framework and was available for viewing.

With regards to Planning Applications, a list of all the ongoing applications was circulated. If anyone was interested in finding out more they should speak to him directly.

**9. Transport – Peter Bellarby**

In Peter's absence Ian Hunter advised that they were currently working on a consultation document with Aberdeenshire Council. A report would be presented to the next meeting.

**10. SusSET**

Jane Davidson gave a verbal report about the SuSET visit to Stonehaven. It was noted that there had been very positive feedback received from the visitors from Poland, Sweden and Greece.

**11. Future of Stonehaven**

Sarah Dickinson advised that at the end of the consultation, approximately 50 groups will have been approached and feedback received. She felt however that the consultation now needs to come to an end now and therefore she proposed the following motion:-

*This Community Council agrees to the following timetable for the completion of the Future of Stonehaven Consultation*

- *Close consultation phase with groups at the end of September 2006. Meetings in the diary for early October 2006 can proceed but more meetings will not be arranged after the 30th September*
- *Close Zoomerang Survey to individual residents on the 30th September or on the day of last scheduled group meeting.*
- *Analyse and write up survey results through October/November 2006*
- *Hold Public Meeting to present survey results before end of November 2006.*

The motion was seconded by Ditta Neuman and the motion carried unanimously.

All other agenda items were postponed.

The meeting was concluded at 9.45p.m

**Date of next meeting**

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October