

**STONEHAVEN AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the  
337th Business Meeting held at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2009  
in the Cowie Lounge of the Invercarron Resource Centre**

<b>No</b>	<b><u>Notes</u></b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Presentation of a Cheque to Stonehaven Sea Scouts</b>  David Fleming presented members of the Stonehaven Sea Scouts with a cheque as a donation towards the funding of the new safety boat. He said the whole Council strongly supported the excellent work done by the Sea Scouts in developing the confidence and skills of young people in the town.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Welcome, apologies and declarations of interest</b>  Present: David Fleming, Ian Balgowan, Ian Hunter, Michael Innes, Alistair Lawrie, Robert Michie, Ditta Neumann, Allan Sutherland, David Wood, Sam Dickinson and Jenni Keenan.  Kincardine and Mearns Councillors: Cllrs. Peter Bellarby, Graeme Clark and Mike Sullivan.  P.C.s Stuart Akers, Gary Thompson, Ian McKinnon.  Apologies: Karen Allan, Raymond Christie, James Cleves, Linda Digney, Lyn Jardine, Lenny Lawrence, Billy Mackenzie and. Cllr. Wendy Agnew.  No declarations of interest were made.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Minutes of the meeting held on January 13<sup>th</sup> 2009.</b>  Under item 9.2, it was proposed by Allan Sutherland and seconded by Michael Innes that it should read:  <i>Cllr. Mike Sullivan apologised for not having been able to provide a response this month and committed himself to obtaining the details from officers at Viewmount for the next meeting.</i>  With that amendment, the minutes were agreed to be correct. Their approval was proposed by Allan Sutherland, seconded by Ian Hunter and unanimously approved.	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Crime Prevention – Report by Police.</b>  P.Cs Gary Thompson and Ian McKinnon gave a briefing on Operation Piston, which was aimed at intelligence-led action to curb bad driving behaviour in the 16-25 age group. They stated that in Aberdeenshire 37% of those killed on the roads were in that age group, compared with 25% nationally. Operation Piston asks all residents to report instances of bad behaviour common from such drivers, whether or not an actual offence had occurred. It has been found that gathering such data, and then being able to identify likely perpetrators, had a very marked effect in achieving a later successful prosecution for dangerous and unlawful driving.  There has been little intelligence so far coming from the Stonehaven area, and the Police are now asking the public to phone into the Police call centre (0845 600 5 700) or Crimestoppers with information.  David Fleming said he was sure that the community would support such an appeal, and asked all present to spread the word.	

## Committee Activities

### 5. Planning

#### 5.1 Structure Plan

Cllr. Mike Sullivan, who has just recently been appointed to the Strategic Development Planning Authority (SDPA), gave a short talk on its role. He felt that the proposed level of development in the Charleston/Drumlithie corridor was too high, and he was pressing for some of it to be moved into the Aberdeen/Peterhead corridor. The Structure Plan was due to be agreed by Aberdeenshire Council and Aberdeen City Council soon, and sent to the Scottish Ministers for approval on 27<sup>th</sup> February.

After that, it was likely that the Scottish Ministers would set up a timescale for a further consultation.

5.2

#### Local Plan Consultation 2

Ditta Neumann gave a detailed report and presentation on the results of the survey of residents that she had organised, and there was a lengthy discussion on the findings. The survey had (at the time of the meeting) almost 1900 responses, and Ditta and her team were congratulated on the success and thanked for the huge effort involved.

Note: Rather than report the findings here, readers are referred to the detailed report of the work of Ditta Neumann's group, which has been circulated subsequently, and is available on the Community Council's website.

Most of the findings were seen as incontrovertible by all those present.

There was some controversy over the coastal area around the Stonehaven Golf Course. Representatives of the Golf Club who were present expressed the view that the area should be developed, since that would enhance the facilities and improve the viability of the Club. Other members of the public present expressed concern at the proposed change to a much-loved view.

Ditta Neumann proposed, and David Fleming seconded, that the Community Council support the statement that all 10 of the areas described in the report as "to be protected" should be so nominated in our response to the Aberdeenshire Council Planning Team. It was agreed unanimously.

David Fleming proposed, and Alistair Lawrie seconded. that, for the areas where development is suggested, all those that had a rating of over 60% disapproval should be so nominated in our response to the Aberdeenshire Council Planning Team. This leaves only 4 areas (Spurryhillock, Field 52, Lower Cheyne next to A90 and the School Road site) where the Community Council would favour any development. This vote was agreed by all expect Michael Innes, who abstained.

It was further agreed that a letter to the Planning Team should be composed and circulated electronically to members for comments prior to dispatch. This letter should include the various reasons for the views taken as stated by members and members of the public during the discussion. Members were warned that its dispatch was urgent, and therefore responses need to be made promptly.

Ditta  
Neumann

5.3

#### Other planning applications

5.4

None that had been received by the Planning Committee were considered as being worthy of debate or objection.

#### Satellite Dishes

David Fleming explained that the motion on the agenda arose as a result of dishes appearing in very obtrusive positions in the Town's Conservation Area. Their positioning is the responsibility of the householder. Some installers, particularly

those from outside the town contracted by the larger TV providers, were not taking enough trouble to minimise the visibility of the dishes. The Planning Enforcement Officer had already spoken to some residents.

David Fleming therefore proposed, seconded by Allan Sutherland, that:

*This Community Council supports efforts to ensure that the installation of satellite dishes does not detract from the Conservation Area architecture in Stonehaven, and asks residents and installers to be mindful of the likelihood of enforcement action against obtrusive installations.*

The motion was agreed by all except Michael Innes, who abstained.

Note: Since the discussion on the Local Plan had taken the bulk of the time for the meeting, later items on the agenda were curtailed.

## **6 Transport Committee**

### **6.1 Formation of Transport Forum**

Ian Hunter said that the date for this has been now been fixed 2nd March at the Community Centre. All were invited.

## **Business Matters**

### **7 Business Issues**

Not discussed

### **8 Stall at the Feein' Market**

After some discussion, it was proposed by Ditta Neumann, and seconded by Ian Balgowan, that the Council should hold a stall at the market. Members were asked to make time available to help man the stall. The motion was agreed by all except Ian Hunter, who abstained.

**Lyn  
Jardine  
to pay  
booking  
fee**

### **9 - 12 Items not discussed**

The meeting closed at 9:53 pm.

### **12. Date of next meetings**

The next Planning Committee Meeting (starting at 7:00) and the Agenda Meeting (at 8:00 p.m.) will be held in the Invercarron Resource Centre on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2009.

The next Business Meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th March 2009 at 7:30 in the Cowie Lounge of the Invercarron Resource Centre.