

Meldrum and Bourtie Community Council

Meeting Monday 16th August 1999, Town Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carole Elrick, Stanley Glennie, Margaret Green, Wullie Law, Frank Mathers, Stanley Niven, John Pirie, John Wilson, Mark Young.

ALSO PRESENT: Cllr. Loveday, Mike Newman & Simon Padfield (Daviot), Tracey Stuart plus one.

MINUTES OF MEETING 21st June 1999: Were agreed to be a true record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:-

KIRK STREET

J P had written to Mr. Mitchell (Roads), copying the letter to Mrs Presley and Cllr Loveday. Subsequently a meeting took place which the CC was not aware of in advance. Mr Mitchell had been apologetic that the CC had not been informed. At the meeting, the consensus was that the bottom of the street should be blocked off and the street revert to being two-way. The police, fire brigade, refuse collection services etc. would be consulted as would be the CC. Cllr. Loveday said that letters notifying interested parties had been sent out. The CC had not yet received any letter and it seemed that the CC had been sidelined.

Cllr. Loveday said that the Roads Dept. had admitted that the one-way system in Kirk Street probably did more harm than good, while S G indicated that a petition had been signed by Back Wynd residents about the traffic which might result in Back Wynd should Kirk Street revert to a two-way system with the lower end closed.

S N raised the issue of walls in Cowgate which are showing signs of damage. He had a portfolio of photographs showing the damage. Cllr. Loveday said that traffic problems were to be considered at the beginning of next year. The CC would continue to press the issue of traffic problems in OM.

MILLENNIUM

J P enquired as to whether there were any local arrangements for bonfires/beacons or 'happenings'. M G said that the Rev Stoddart was expected to light a beacon on the golf course. No progress had been made on any CC project, the indicator cairn on Barra Hill, the Battle of Barra commemorative cairn and the resiting of Bruce's Seat. A council official had pointed to a cost of £700 for a cairn.

COAT OF ARMS

S N informed the committee that Carnoustie Castings could carry out the repair but most readily with the plaque at their premises. This appeared to be a considerable undertaking. J P mentioned that he had pointed out the matter to councillors on their bus trip and that it might be productive to bring the matter to the council's attention. When the library moves out of the town hall and refurbishment takes place a good opportunity to have the scroll repaired would arise. J P would write to the council.

WIMPEY

J P outlined recent developments. Intervale have supported the contents of CALP and have appealed against the non-determination of their application. A meeting, which was very poorly attended, had been held at Inverurie Town Hall with the Reporters for the CALP public inquiry. In the case of Oldmeldrum, the non-determination appeal will be incorporated in the public local inquiry into CALP.

Cllr. Loveday informed the committee that there would be a meeting of the Infrastructure Services Committee, on Thursday 19th August at Woodhill House, at which the council's responses to objections to parts of CALP would be finalised. M N asked whether, if the southern zone was to be withdrawn from CALP, Intervale's involvement would end. Cllr. Loveday was unsure, and said that the matter was now in the hands of the Scottish Executive via the Reporters.

Several thoughts were floated, both developers to get 200 houses and OM to get an effective bypass, and its Southern junction with the A947 to be at Stoothies (junction of the A947 and the A920).

SCHOOLS

J P reported that T Mitchell thought that when the new primary school entrance was constructed it might well be that Meadowbank would be linked to Provost Florence Drive and some one way measures implemented in the area.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTING

M Y had applied for a grant and £800 had been obtained. This had to be matched by the CC but he thought the money for this could be drawn from the Common Good Fund. This would allow three extra strings of lights to be bought. The cost of stringing them up remained. M Y hoped that this could be minimised and suggested that the CC could seek the services of a local electrician. F M agreed to speak to one.

AASP/ALP

J P had received comments and incorporated them with his own. The resultant document had been sent to the council.

NEW BUSINESS:-

FINANCES

An administrative grant of £532 had been received; consequently, the bank balance was £879. J P asked F M to identify a sum for doing the routine duplication and posting of minutes. The remainder of the minute secretary's fee was agreed for payment.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL FORUM

The CC had been asked to comment on the conclusions of the Mackintosh Report on Local Government. J P would reply. Comments from the CC were required on the draft Formartine Area Plan. A group was formed to formulate the CC response. F M was willing to chair the group which would meet before the next CC meeting. S N, M Y and M N volunteered to join the sub-committee. (J Main later added).

This group would also compose a reply to the 'Celebrating our diversity, securing our future' questionnaire from the council. Funding for CC projects was available. F M and S N suggested that a community newsletter and/or notice board was a worthy undertaking. Willing hands were needed.

FORMARTINE AREA PARTNERSHIP

J P said that the partnership vetted CC projects but that several of those submitted had been ineligible. F M mentioned that the Tennis Club hoped to raise funds for floodlights for the courts. The CC wished it well in such an enterprise and would assist if an opportunity arose.

FORMARTINE AREA COMMITTEE

The public (and J P) had been excluded from a discussion on Wimpey/Invervale

CORRESPONDENCE:-

A questionnaire, much delayed, had been received concerning policing. S N would complete it and raise the issue of having a police presence at some CC meetings.

The CC was now covered by Aberdeenshire's insurance policy.

Land reform intentions of the Scottish Parliament, copies were available.

PLANNING:-

Oldmeldrum is to have eight 'affordable homes' built on Provost Florence Drive. Cllr. Loveday said that they will be for rent and they cannot be sold for 10-15 years.

A O C B:-

MONYANA

J P reported that the fence was still in the wrong place but that the council were not to pursue the matter further. Monyana had argued for its retention as existing and J P had seen the council's response letter.

MEADOWS VALE SURROUNDS

A complaint about seeding weeds had been received. However some cutting was now taking place but C E said that the agreement as to which areas would be cut seemed to have not yet been met.

ROSE BANK BUSHES

A resident had pointed out the height of some of the bushes in the middle of Rose Bank. These were not helpful regarding road safety, particularly with children, especially as Rose Bank is not mandatory keep left around the bushed area. She had been advised who to contact and S G reported that the council had promised action.

DISTILLERY BURN

A student project had found this burn to be in a very poor state largely due to organic waste and elevated temperatures. SEPA were aware of this.

STATUS OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL AREA

Cllr. Loveday suggested that the constitution of M&BCC should be modified to cope with its area becoming that of his ward. He hoped that Bob Tinch, J P, and himself could meet to discuss this. Possible CC membership groupings were discussed and J P would attempt a rewrite of appropriate sections of the constitution.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday 20th September 1999, [Upper] Town Hall, 7.30pm