

# Meldrum and Bourtie Community Council

Meeting Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2000, Town Hall

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Stanley Glennie, Mrs. Green, Paul James, Frank Mathers, Senga Penman, John Pirie, Mark Young

**APOLOGIES:** Wullie Law

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor John Loveday, Mike Newman (Daviot CA)

**MINUTE OF MEETING 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2000:** It was approved.

## **THE LOCAL TRANSPORT STRATEGY:**

An interesting talk was given by Ewan Wallace of the Transportation and Infrastructure Department of Aberdeenshire Council. It was noted that Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City are developing complimentary transportation strategies. This is involving extensive consultation at the present time, the deadline for comments being 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2000. They are trying to arrive at a modern transport system for the North-East of Scotland and it was noted that there are 29,000 Aberdeenshire commuters and 16,000 Aberdeen commuters. A consultation questionnaire was issued to the members and a more detailed explanation given in respect of each of the questions. A sub-committee comprising Paul James, Frank Mathers and Mark Young is to liaise and to report to the next monthly meeting.

## **MATTERS ARISING**

These are substantially or wholly dealt with under other business arising.

## **AASP and ALP CONSULTATION**

1. The Chairman indicated he had put together all the various comments raised at the recent consultation meeting and sent these off to the Council, including the list of suggested streets for 20mph limits. It was noted from Councillor Loveday, in relation to comments raised during the consultation about lower speed limits, that there is only £15,000 available for the whole of Formartine Area to implement such schemes. It looks however as if the A947 through Oldmeldrum will be reduced shortly from 40 mph to 30 mph.
2. The Chairman reported in respect of the industrial estate application of Intervale, he had sent a letter giving the view expressed at the consultation meeting that the Intervale proposal was seen to be fine though not the retail or petrol filling station aspect as this would affect local businesses. Terms of a letter from Scotframe to the Council was mentioned at the meeting. The Chairman summarised what happened at the departure meeting regarding this application.
3. It was noted the public inquiry resumes on 31<sup>st</sup> October.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. It is anticipated that the October meeting of the Community Council will be the Annual General Meeting. J. Pirie, as Treasurer, is to work on completing the annual account.
2. The Chairman reported that the Scheme for new Community Councils is out for comment at the present time. It is due to apply from April, 2001. The Chairman reported on the election basis and that any comments require to be with the Council by 31<sup>st</sup> October. The proposal is that the area will essentially be the same as the local Councillor's ward. After discussion, it was agreed that Daviot will form part of our Community Council area. This followed Mike Newman's view that with reducing members in Daviot Community Association, it seems obvious that a Community Council there would not be sustainable. The North Bethelnie area looks as if it may be excluded and treated as part of Fyvie. Contact is to be made with the residents in that area. The Community Council would follow their preference, if any.
3. It was noted we are unlikely to obtain Council money for Christmas lights/decorations. It is hoped at least lights such as were put up last year in the Square can be repeated this year. Mark Young will deal with this.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Ellon Times newspaper celebrates 10 years. Frank Mathers is to reply to their request for information for a special supplement.
2. An invitation has been received from Ellon Community Council regarding attendance at a coat of arms dedication service to be held soon.
3. A letter has been received from Aberdeenshire Council about beacons throughout the country - this is to be passed to Ewen Webster given there was a large bonfire at Lochter last New Year.
4. (a) Report regarding Community Council Forum on 13<sup>th</sup> September. The Chairman reported on the formulation of the Formartine Area plan which invites comments from any Community Council or from members of the public who can make comments via the Community Council. This is a more specific plan than the local one and is essentially a rolling plan rather than a static one.  
(b) The Council is compiling photographs of each community. Various suggestions were made as to what photograph would best portray the village. The Heritage Group of to be contacted to deal with this.
5. Impetus expected from Community Councils where money should be spent or cuts made in the forthcoming year. Councillor Loveday indicated 8 million to 9 million pounds of additional cuts will be required if finances stay the same

as they are at present. Effectively the Council are looking for a wish list. The meeting indicated guidance would be needed as to what might be appropriate choices. It was reported that a request had been made at the Community Council Forum for this to be produced.

#### **FORMARTINE AREA COMMITTEE MEETING**

There have been two meetings, one reported that the school and academy buildings have received full Planning Permission. Paul James mentioned the suggested management structure for the new academy which is of a "collegiate" nature rather than the traditional headmaster one. This is felt by the School Board not to be the most beneficial. Further consideration is being given to this by Aberdeenshire Council.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS**

1. Tourist signs are up now for the Redgarth Hotel.
2. It was noted late objections or letters in respect to planning applications will be allowed, if they are relevant.
3. The Chairman reported that he had strimmed the overgrown parts of the Barra Hill walk. Historic Scotland are happy with the siting of the indicator plaque as is Scottish National Heritage. We have to await the views of the Stephen family.
4. Bruce's Seat - this could be shifted with the use of appropriate equipment.
5. Repair to coat of arms - door to door collection deferred.

#### **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

1. House at Greystone - refused.
2. Daviot quarry house - refused.
3. Wimpey Industrial Estate - matter noted. Possibly tactical.
4. Application by Scot Pigs for two houses at Paddock Ha - noted.
5. Application by John Mackie for a conservatory at 8 Benview Gardens - noted.
6. Application by Bain Glazing for signs at their unit.
7. Greenford application - apparently there has been a fresh application published in the paper last Friday but not on the actual list received by the Chairman though list is only to 15<sup>th</sup> September. There is a departure notice here and there is only probably 14 days to object. Councillor Loveday has not seen the application but has received several calls from anxious neighbours. A discussion ensued as to what the likely new route of the road is. It was decided that though the route aspect may now be acceptable, an objection should still be put in as an industrial estate is the place for such development. Noting from Councillor Loveday, the Council's policy is one that certain country locations may be suitable for light industrial use. There is a noise aspect here where the premises may be in use from 7 am onwards shifting steel with a forklift truck. It is noted it is a very conspicuous site.

#### **A O C B**

1. Councillor Loveday reported he had asked for a report on the condition of the Town Hall. This has been carried out by the Principal Building Surveyor. Generally it is not bad. There are, however, leaking roof problems and also repair is needed not only to the clock but also to the coat of arms. Urgent work is needed to make the building watertight. The clock is to be sealed and the glass panel replaced. Roof repairs will cost about £20,000. There is also a bit of timber treatment work to be done, including a little dry rot. There also needs to be painting done and the toilet, etc. upgraded. Total cost will be £33,000. The Council does not have £33,000 at the present time. The cost will increase appreciably more if it is left undone. The building is currently B listed. There is apparently another £15,000 of other work, which is preferred work though not immediate.
2. Community Education to the Town Hall. Councillor Loveday indicated he had ascertained as part of the PFI Scheme related to the extension to the primary school, a senior officer had decided that community education would be shifted to the Town Hall without any consultation. He has put a stop to this. The portacabins need to continue in use. It would be very difficult to deliver 40 children aged 3, 4 or 5 in a car to the Town Hall where there is very limited parking. Councillor Loveday does not want any changes to the Town Hall without consultation. For instance, part of the carpet in the lower hall - which took a long time to try to have laid in the first place - has been taken up and replaced with some vinyl material. Space will have to be found onsite for the relocation of these portacabins.
3. Councillor Loveday reported that someone is coming to clear stones, etc. from beside the Bourtie churchyard.
4. Councillor Loveday reported that the one way system for Kirk Street should start within the next week or two. Likewise for Meadowbank.

**Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2000, Town Hall, 7.30pm**