



Royal Burgh of Arbroath Community Council

Minutes of the public meeting on Tuesday 7th March 2023

Abbott Street Lounge, 16 Barbers Croft, Arbroath, DD11 1HB



*** The recording failed so Minutes have been written from memory and may not be in the correct order. I am confident I have captured the essence of discussion but please feel free to contact me with any additional details I may have missed.

Welcome and apologies

Present: **Members:** Julia Smith, Alex Smith, Fiona Doran, Steve Charlton, Jacqui Douglas, Rogan Frith, Jamie MacKay
Councillors: Serena Cowdy, Brenda Durno,
Communities Officer/Police Liaison/Other: Mhairi Dickson
Number of Members of public: 10

Apologies: **Members:** Arthur Grant
Councillors: Martin Shepherd
Communities Officer/Police Liaison/Other: Community Police

Minutes of previous meeting: Proposed by Julia Smith and seconded by Jamie MacKay

Matters arising from previous meeting:

Ukrainian Housing project: Mhairi Dickson briefly reported that there was a delay with the project

Replacement bins for High Street: It was agreed that the existing Community Council logo would be used

Ongoing but no updates at present: Bike lights (Rogan Frith) and Accessline review: Cllr Martin Shepherd:

Plaque for rail accident in 1906: Cllr Serena Cowdy: Gave a brief update that this was being considered as part of other works and will update at future meetings.

Ethie woods tree felling: No further action needed as no concerns

East Muirlands Road parking issue: Jamie MacKay to liaise with Cllr Shepherd and Mhairi Dickson to complete funding application

Treasurer's report:

Treasurer not present: No spending to report

Planning: Debbie not present and no planning reports discussed

Correspondence

Scouts use of Keptie Pond: Issue raised by George Still of Arbroath and Montrose District Scouts. Scouts are in communication with Angus Council to arrange permission to use the pond for water sports as they have done for many years.

New Items for discussion

Karty Kapers: Cllr Durno is looking

SSE Communities Fund

Tara from Hillcrest: Applied for funding to pay for outdoor improvements and garden furniture for residents to improve social interaction. Happy to provide future updates and welcome us to come along for a visit.

Mo Douglas and John McVeigh from Arbroath Ski Club: Local voluntary club usually based at RM Condor. Introducing roller skiing as a unique way to bring exercise to you women who fall out of sport. Alternative and fun way to get around in community. Also welcome us to come along.

Jamie Mackay has now taken over the role to oversee the Seagreen funding distribution. She provided an update on the Microgrant Round 3 with a few organisations who hadn't attended the public meetings still to receive their funding.

Discussions also took place around the next phase of funding. This is likely to be Macro grant funding to be announced in the next few months with timing to be discussed further.

Councillor updates

Cllr Brenda Durno talked about budgets and securing funding for the harbour. She is looking for support running the Karty Kapers event. Jacqui Douglas would like to see this developed into a free at point of use fun day and is happy to work with Cllr Durno with support from Mhairi Dickson. Discussions took place around whether this could coincide with the Lifeboat day in June or if it would be better to wait until later in the year.

Cllr Serena Cowdy: Gave an overview of her case work for the month and spoke about the budget, confirming that 'we' as Angus Council administration had successfully passed the budget for the coming year. This included some valuable additions to help tackle the cost of living crisis, like the extra £100,000 that's been allocated to the Welfare Rights team, to hire an extra staff member for two years.

Cllr Lois Speed emailed an update as she couldn't make it: it has been a busy time with ongoing case work and attending various council and community group meetings. It has been a particularly busy fortnight due to council budget setting process and budget meeting last week. There are growing challenges across the council and impact on services, however, I was pleased that the administration accepted my amendment to freeze school meal payments and stop a budget saving project that may have led to individuals being charged extra for paying their bills eg rent, council tax or other services in cash. (This agreed amendment will help reduce cost of school day and help families effected by cost-of-living crisis and those who need to pay by cash).

Police Report Read by Jacqui Douglas highlighting school visits to highlight issues with bullying, drug misuse and stranger danger; patrols focusing on school areas and dangerous parking; cuppa with a cop 23/03/2023

AOCB

Jacqui Douglas raised that discussions around Community Council members communication and meetings needed to be discussed: this did not become a topic of discussion either during the meeting or after.

Next meeting Tuesday 4th April 2023 from 6.30pm (for 7pm start) at Abbott Street Lounge, 16 Barbers Croft, Arbroath, DD11 1HB