

## MINUTES OF MONTROSE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Thursday 15th May 2025

At The Playhouse, The Mall, Montrose, DD10 8NN

### **Present:**

Ross Thomson (Chair), David Wood, Gail Penman, Jennie May, Pip Hills, Dawn Neill  
Councillors: Kenny Braes, Tommy Stewart, Iain Gall and Bill Duff

### **1. Chairman's Welcome**

Ross Thomson (Chair), welcomed the members of the public attending the meeting

### **2. Apologies**

Maggie Braid, Kirsten Tomlinson, John Tomlinson, Charlotte May, William Nicoll, Archie Shepherd and David Paton

### **3. Junior Community Council update**

Cherrylynne Shepherd updated the meeting. Thanks were given to all those Councillors in attendance. Borrowfield were lucky to receive one of the Microgrants and we were shown a lovely short video. Ross suggested sending the video to SeaGreen to let them see how some of their money is being spent. Cllr Kenny Braes also suggested sending this to the Family Education & Justice committee (Cllr Louise Nicoll).

### **4. Minutes of last meeting**

These were taken as read and approved. Ross Thomson proposed, Dave Wood seconded.

### **5. Matters Arising from Previous Meeting**

- A. Ross attended a meeting at the community flat in Borrowfield where there was discussion about trying to establish a Neighbourhood Watch for Borrowfield. Catherine Johnstone.....Ross to contact her now that she is back in post.

In former years there were up to about a dozen Community Wardens but due to spending cuts we are down to about three and they are also managing parking. There was some discussion about all the issues and the upshot is that in general the community is feeling very dissatisfied.

Cllr. Bill Duff questioned whether there was still a mobile CCTV unit. No-one seems know where it is. Montrose currently has around 9 or 10 CCTV cameras.

- B. Flood Bus came to Montrose Cinema.

- C. Promenade steps fixed.

### **6. Treasurer's Report**

Roy Gill provided a report to the meeting as follows:

- Closing balance as at 31 March £7339.05
- Accounts audited and sent to Angus Council on 23/04. Currently awaiting confirmation and receipt of annual £774 grant
- £9000 Seagreen Microgrant funds received 08/05 (4<sup>th</sup> round £36,000)

## **7. Councillors Report**

Cllr Tommy Stewart. Small recess so nothing to report until our next meeting.

## **8. Questions from the floor**

- Issue with lack of bins in Murray Street near Johnston the Newsagent. Cllr Tommy Stewart to investigate.
- Parking at the new development at the old Bond. Could there be double yellow lines there? Again Cllr. Stewart to investigate
- Still an issue with the cleanliness of the bus shelters and the out- of- date timetables.
- Cllr.Bill Duff to contact Building Standards regarding the illegal access of 12/13 year olds entering the old Montrose Infirmary. Extremely dangerous.

## **9. Agenda items**

### **a. Grey Harlings project update (Dawn McNeill)**

Dawn reported on the evening event she attended recently on behalf of MCC. The current owners are looking to develop the existing building into un-manned high spec Air BnB. Looking at attracting golfers/visiting staff from the Montrose Port, local businesses etc. It was felt that maybe this is not quite meeting the needs of what is missing for good accommodation but certainly a step in the right direction.

### **b. ProMo Update**

Joan/Pip gave brief outline of where we stand with the properties we now have.  
Fabulous organiser in Cara Gall our Project Development Officer.

### **c. Seagreen Microgrant applications (Maggie Braid)**

In the absence of Maggie, Ross advised the meeting of the applications.

1. Southesk School – agreed £500 to start a Gardening Project (Agreed)
2. Montrose Sports Association £460 for non- swimming primary 7 school children for swimming lessons (Agreed to give £500).
3. Borrowfield Community Group £500 for starting a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme (Agreed). Ross suggested we also ask what further funding they may need and if it's something that we as a Community Council can help with out of our own funds.
4. Dave Clark, Montrose Burns Club Association. £400 for leaflets/upkeep of website etc. (more information required before making final decision).

Gail Penman wondered how the decisions were made for who was looking at the applications. After a short discussion it was decided that Gail would join Ross, David and Maggie as the Seagreen Microgrant sub-group. Ross explained that all they are doing with the applications is making sure there is enough information on them before bringing to the Community Council for final decision.

**d. Citizen of the Year (Ross Thomson)**

Linda Ogg (Montrose Stroke Club) gave an outline of what the Club does. It was started by CHSS with a small number of people and after a few years was handed over along with a donation of £500. Linda spoke of her Mum, Isabella Byers, who works tirelessly fundraising, preparing quizzes and basically running the place. At 80 years old, and as a survivor of a massive stroke herself and several TIA's, she is constantly e.mailing companies asking for funds and is always looking for things for the members (now 30) to do at no cost to them. Linda and her sister spoke so highly of their Mum and wanted to put her forward for the Citizen of the Year award.

**10. Police Update**

A brief report was read out.

**11. Correspondence**

- a. Invitation to Air Museum on 24th May – Maggie to represent
- b. Courtesy e.mail from Peter Flanagan – involved with issue of flooding at Borrowfield. He advised there will be upcoming works at the end of the year. He will keep us posted with developments.
- c. E.mail from the office of Tess White MSP.  
A constituent has raised several times the issue of dog fouling and the general cleanliness of the High Street. Kathryn Lindsay, CEO Angus Council, reassured her that the High Street is cleaned daily and that there had recently been a cleanliness audit carried out and it showed a good standard of cleanliness and was awarded a B grade.

**12. Planning Report**

Nothing to report.

**13. AOCB**

- Issue with Park Run having to be cancelled because of some travellers – unfortunately that land is owned by the Crown Estates and it can take up to three weeks to get permit to move them.
- Market Arms outside seating – owners led to believe they can only have their seating out a few times a year because of licensing laws. Cllrs all said that this wasn't the case if they have a permit. Ross to get back to them.

**Date of next meeting**

Thursday 17 July 2025 @ 6pm following the Junior Community Council meeting.

Apologies in advance from Ross Thomson and Cllr.Kenny Braes

Meeting closed at 8.22pm