

Annual General Meeting of Cockburnspath and Cove Community Council

Wednesday 10th February, 2021 at 7pm, by Zoom

Minutes

- 1 **Apologies and Attendance:** Apologies were received from J Virtue, D Bouchard and K Nelson. In attendance were P Hood (Chair); N Simpson (Co vice Chair); S Hay (Co Vice Chair); K Tulloch (Secy); M Black; J Fairbairn; R Laird; A Thackery; A Cockerell; J Sutton (CDF); S Fletcher; J Lister; Cllr H Laing (SBC); 3 members of the public.

KT spoke to the GDPR briefing paper recently circulated and the ICO insurance re breaches of GDPR. All members have agreed to have their email addresses available to the public as has Cllr Laing. Members of the public will be included where appropriate by Bcc. Members of the public will be referred to in minutes as "MoP" and when a CC member resigns (ie A Thackray's last meeting tonight) her email address will be removed from the CC address book. KT also advised members of the public that we record our meetings and recordings are destroyed once minutes have been approved.

Members of the Community Council agreed to abide by the Code of Conduct for Community Councillors. R Laird is still to receive a copy on PH's return.

- 2 **Minutes of Previous Meeting** were agreed as correct (February 2020).
- 3 **Matters Arising** – none
- 4 **Chair's Report** – highlighted the difficulties but also the successes of the last year, with COVID, shop closure, wind farm money management etc but said that the community spirit had been tremendous and thanked all members of the CC and volunteers for all their work. She spoke about the work of the CDF and how this had assisted many projects to move forward (See CDF report below) and the forthcoming Community Action Plan delivery. She thanked S Fletcher and volunteers for their work in the foodbank. She spoke about a priority within the next year which is to look at improved wind farm benefit management and thanked Helen Laing, our SBC Councillor who has advised and stood beside us through the difficult year.
- 5 **Vice Chair(s) report** – NS had previously circulated his report and the following items were included:
 - Mowing budget and spending: on track as expected but slightly less due to lockdown
 - Two new walk behind mowers and a new strimmer purchased, and received funds for trailer and snow plough attachment for tractor, which have been delayed due to Brexit.
 - No further news on garage plot(s) - currently with lawyers. BHA seemed to wish the CC to pay for the additional plot which they agreed to take on at no cost in order to maintain it.
 - Mtg with Officer from SBC regarding moving part of the SUW at the sea braes, but attempts to do so have failed. Work has successfully taken place to drain and improve the path between the SUW and Cove however.
 - Allotments – asset transfer agreed in December (12th) which was the final day Transport Scotland had to respond. No further communication has been received from Transport Scotland despite best efforts and some frustration as to being able to access the land. See general meeting.

- Also recognised the part that community spirit and co-operation has played during the last year, in particular over the shop.

Vice Chair report (SH) –

- Spoke re estate management ie regular grass cutting using tractor and ancillary equipment
 - Exhaustive conversations with SBC re potholes, grit boxes and general appearance of the village.
 - General volunteering to assist those in need with small tasks.
 - Christmas lighting work
 - New snow plough has arrived at Sheriffs, and will be fitted to the tractor soon
 - Trailer remains in Ireland due to Brexit difficulties
 - Fuel costs have increased for tractor, but this is due to use of green diesel now.
 - Presented mower and tractor budget which showed an expenditure of £3823.34 over the last year, with an income of £8515. Balance is currently £5574.43 with £4500 ring fenced to pay for snow plough and trailer.
- 6 **Treasurer's Report** – KN had sent a very full report which she will speak to at the March meeting and answer any queries. Current balance of CC account is £1001.40 and of Community Benefits Account £203,606.37. Full year end accounts will be prepared at year end (March 21). Full report is available separately.
- 7 **Secretary's Report** – KT had presented a report previously circulated covering work for the CC and also as the CDF admin over the last year. Thanks go to Cllr Laing and SBC Officers who have assisted with issues over the last difficult year and also to Alison Thackray who is retiring as email secretary after this meeting. S Fletcher will take on this function on a temporary basis until another volunteer can be found.
- 8 **CDF Report** – JS had circulated a report of her work over 2020, including the following major projects;
- Representing Cockburnspath and Cove CC at Area Partnership review and Localities Fund review processes.
 - Attendance at Vision for Eyemouth and surrounding areas
 - Transport initiative – involving joint work with BAVS
 - Health and Social Care initiative – joint working with SBC
 - Community Shop – a long but successful role in supporting the Shop Management Team
 - Tourism Initiative – SOSE programme for sustainable tourism – currently being undertaken
 - Work toward digital community engagement.
 - Resilience assistance/newsletters/funding via BAVS for COVID related expenditure
 - Assistance to Allotments Society obtaining funding from Fallago Rigg and other sources
 - Further work towards community engagement.
- 9 **Election of Office Bearers:** Advice from SBC during the pandemic is that elected CC members and office bearers to continue until August 21. This CC are due to stand down now, but members have agreed to continue in their roles until August, given the difficulties with holding elections. Therefore office bearers remain the same for the next 6 months. P Hood (Chair); N Simpson and S Hay (Co Vice Chairs); K Nelson (Treasurer); K Tulloch (Secretary).

10 AOCB

Everyone was thanked for their roles over the last year and the considerable progress that is being made towards a better year ahead which will include engagement towards the completion of a Community Action Plan.

P Hood was also thanked for her Chair role over the last year, in particular the last 3 months which have had their issues with time differences!

K Tulloch

Secretary

Cockburnspath and Cove Community Council

10th February 2021.