

## **Craigiebuckler and Seafield Community Council**

Minute of the Virtual Meeting of Tuesday 1st August 2023

### **Present**

William Sell (WS), Margaret Meikle (MM), Cameron Campbell (CC), Robert Frost (RF), Keith Watson (KW), Craig Melville (CM), Jane Ormerod (JO), Karen Reilly (KR), Karen Finch (Community Council Liaison Officer) Ward Councillors - Martin Greig (MG)

### **Apologies**

Cllr John Cooke, Cllr Ken McLeod, Cllr Jennifer Stewart.

WS asked for volunteers to take the minutes. RF volunteered for this meeting, and KW and KR for the next two meetings.

### **Police Report**

The Police were not present, but the report was emailed to the community Council.

### **Adoption of the Minute of the Meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023.**

Proposed by KR

Seconded by CC

There being no amendments, the minutes were adopted.

### **Treasurer's Report**

CC reported that the balance is £1,352.86 and since then three sums have been spent:

£72.89 for a commemorative plaque.

£89.50 for the commemorative tree (with discount and includes planting).

£65.00 for printing 1000 core path survey leaflets at RGU (CC obtained discount on the normal external rate).

Payment of the costs associated with the Hostinger Website: - No figures available at the date and time of recording notes for the minutes of this meeting.

It was agreed in principle to fund Christmas lights – approx. £300.

Discussion on funding the Craigiebuckler Church coffee morning -

MG to come back with further details before a decision is made.

CC informed the meeting that ideas are required for other projects that can be funded by the Community Council. These will be discussed at the next meeting.

## **Correspondence**

WS stated that all items of emailed correspondence were forwarded to the members.

The initial consultation on the new Local Development Plan has started and runs until 25th September. This is a five-year process that will see the next Local Development Plan issued in 2028. It is important for community councils to comment on the designation of land for development. Parts of Hazlehead Park are allocated for development in the current 2023 plan that was recently approved by councillors.

## **Northeast of Scotland Climate Action Network – Just Transition Funding Opportunity**

CM outlined the funding opportunity from NE Scotland Climate Action Network. Ideas for future projects were discussed, such as charging points, cycle shelters and planting wildflowers in the local area.

## **Transportation**

CM detailed changes to the local bus service, 11, 11A, 15 & 15B

- 11/11A - Bank Holiday service will now be 2 x hourly instead of 2 x 30 minutes frequency.
- 15 - EX Balnagask 16:00 (Monday and Tuesday school days only) now starts 16:11 Victoria Bridge.
- 15 - Sat: Balnagask Circle (departs 8min later) 18:55, 19:25, 19:55 & 20:25.
- 15/15B - Saturday EX Countesswells 20:15 now departs 20:20.
- 15/15B - Bank Holiday timetable will now operate hourly instead of every 30 minutes.

The Traffic Commissioner has approved these changes, and they will take effect on the Sunday 20th August.

Following the consultation period, [Aberdeen City Council](#) provided all feedback received to [First Bus Aberdeen](#), and while the operator considered this feedback

they are progressing with all the changes advised in the briefing note dated June 16, 2023. Further details can be found on our website.

### **Matters Arising from the Meeting of 6th June 2023**

Core Path System – The survey closed on 31st July. A total of 170 people returned the survey forms (45 paper forms and 125 on-line survey forms).

The core path from Craigiebuckler Avenue to Hazledene Road - This popular amenity has been upgraded by the installation of proper drainage. The path was levelled with hardcore and tarred. This work was funded through bus lane fines, and it makes the area fully accessible to everyone.

Location of Bus Stops - New permanent bus stops have been installed on either side of the road near the Aldi store on Countesswells Road.

Friends of Walker Dam group were contacted - Mr. Alan Davidson (Chair) has expressed an interest to join our next community council meeting. It has been proposed to put a laminated poster about the History of the Walker Dam in the noticeboard at that location.

Dog Fouling notices - Official council signs are faded and require replacement. CM has identified the locations where signs need to be replaced.

Community Council Website - The new domain has been set up and the old website link is automatically directed to the new website.

Need to update governance - GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations) is now UKGDPR – All are to be available on the website, as are the Annual Treasurer's Reports. There is a need to convert the minutes of the Community Council's meetings to HTML format.

### **Discussion with City Councillors.**

There were discussions about when fossil fuel boilers will be phased out, and the challenges and cost of installing heat pumps.

Speeding on Springfield Road was discussed. It was agreed that the temporary flashing speed signs were effective at reducing the speed of traffic. However, this measure was only effective whilst the speed signs were in place.

The road traffic collision of two vehicles on Craigiebuckler Avenue, where airbags were deployed and the police were in attendance, was discussed.

KW again raised the issue of speeding traffic on and around Springfield Road, and specifically the stretch of road between the BP filling station and the Springfield Ave junction, which has no traffic islands to aid the many pedestrians and cyclists who cross between the two footpaths.

The temporary electronic signs installed, following complaints of speeding in the area, have been effective as a short-term measure but KW felt that a longer-term solution was required, especially with the large number of pedestrians and cyclists, and the increase in traffic associated with the new residential developments at Braeside and the site of the former Tree Tops Hotel.

The road traffic collision between two vehicles on Craigiebuckler Avenue was discussed. KW also made the meeting aware of another incident where a car exiting Craigiebuckler Avenue had apparently damaged the garden wall of the house on Springfield Road adjacent to the Rubislaw Park footpath. He questioned whether these two RTS (very close to each other) in an area where speeding is known to be an issue will trigger some intervention by the police, i.e., speed checks?

The James Hutton planning application for an access road -

MG informed the meeting that this application will be decided upon at the next planning committee meeting on 24th August.

The problem of a 2-meter-high flag sign at the Acona filling station site.

The meeting was informed that, after falling, it obstructed the pavement and reduced visibility of motorists in the vicinity of the filling station.

MG will follow up on the Dandara development regarding the following issues - The north SUDS pond, which has not yet been fully completed, and the core path beside the SUDS pond and Countesswells Avenue still needs to be upgraded.

KR mentioned that one pavement on Woodburn Avenue has been resurfaced and asked if the one on the other side of the road will also be resurfaced. MG confirmed that parts of the pavement are due to be resurfaced.

KR passed on a concern from a local resident that Groats Road is in a poor state of repair. MG promised to follow up on that issue.

It was agreed that WS should be reimbursed for the Zoom license a total of £119.

WS asked Community Councillors to encourage volunteers in our local area to join the Community Council as associate or co-opted members.

### **Planning Report** (screen shared)

RF reported that the planning application, on the site of the former Tree Tops Hotel, for the construction of 77 units (44 houses & 33 flats) - including a six-storey block of flats - was approved, after a site visit by the Planning Committee on Thursday 8th June, by 6 votes to 4.

The proposed affordable housing (required to comply with the Town and Country Planning Act) at Braeside Primary School (application 221310) was also approved.

The Senior Planner, Matthew Easton, was contacted to explain why a decision notice has not been published on the council website. He confirmed that “The decision of the planning committee was a ‘willingness to approve’, subject to the signing of a legal agreement between the Council and the developer to secure financial obligations and other matters.”

Permission is not issued until the legal agreement is complete. The drafting of the agreement can often take several months, and in this case, the agreements for both the Treetops and Braeside sites will need to be agreed for the permissions to be issued. Once the legal agreements are complete and registered, the planning permissions will be granted, and a decision notice published.

## **AOCB**

WS thanked all present for their attendance and declared the meeting closed.

**Next Virtual Meeting:** Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7.00 pm