



MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 29 October 2014
at Tarland School.

PRESENT: Cllr. Katrina Farquhar, Simon Welfare (Chairman), Sue Erskine (Treasurer), Joyce Lovie, Veronica Ross, and 2 members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Peter Argyle, Cllr. Geva Blackett, Anke Addy, Alec McVean, Evelyn Smith, Police Scotland.

1. Police Report

Incidents reported since the meeting in September included thefts in the centre of Tarland from a secured container and from unsecured property and vehicles. Some bicycles were also stolen but these were recovered and returned to the owner. The police wish to remind householders throughout Cromar to protect their property by ensuring that it is secure, especially since it is dark earlier in the evenings. Concern was expressed at the meeting about noise from some motorcycles and cars in Tarland.

2. Cromar Report

2.1 MacRobert Trust Developments

The plans submitted to Aberdeenshire Council for the refurbishment of Douneside House have been modified in the light of a revised estimate of the future demand for hotel and conference facilities in the area. A new application has been submitted to Aberdeenshire Council's planners, which does not now include the construction of a restaurant, extensions to the apartments at Casa Memoria, nor the building of a lodge below the Gatehouse. Renovation and remodelling of Douneside House itself, however, along with repairs and alterations to existing properties surrounding the house, will go ahead early in 2015 if planning permission is granted. The work is expected to take 9 months.

2.2 Recycling Scheme

Aberdeenshire Council's new household recycling scheme was due to start on 7 November. Cllr. Farquhar said it was working well in other areas.

2.3. Roads etc.

Cllr. Farquhar reported that Aberdeenshire Council's Principal Roads Engineer for the area had now returned to work and that he was sorting out the problem of dim street lighting in Duncan Road, Tarland. Sue Erskine suggested that the communities in Cromar should be consulted about whether street lights should be turned off late at night. Cllr. Farquhar offered to find out how pilot schemes had gone elsewhere in the county and the Community Council decided to discuss the matter further at a later meeting. A 'staggered gate' is to be erected on the path behind Duncan Road to prevent children riding their bicycles straight on to the street. Cllr. Farquhar said that the Roads Department had ruled out the suggested widening of Burnside Road at its junction with the bridge principally on the grounds of cost. There was dismay that no progress had been made with plans for Aberdeenshire Council to adopt the road at Balmuir Wood and the meeting was told that consideration of the adoption of the road in front of Tarland Church will probably have to wait until the cemetery extension is built.

2.4. Tarland Playpark Pavilion

An external power source has been fitted to the pavilion at the request of the Tennis Club, but the building has again been vandalised with graffiti. The Community Council plans to consult with interested parties about the future of the pavilion and the bowling green this winter.

2.5. Cromar Remembers

The Community Council agreed to donate £100 from the proceeds of the Cromar Remembers commemorative concert on 15 August to the Logie Coldstone War Memorial Fund. Discussion of how to spend the rest of the money was deferred until after the Chairman has met officials of Aberdeenshire Council in the New Year to discuss the restoration of First World War gravestones and other memorials in Cromar.

2.6. Christmas Trees

As in previous years, Christmas trees for Logie Coldstone and Tarland have been generously provided by the Tillypronie and MacRobert Trust Estates.

2.7. Tarland Trails Donation

The project has thanked the Community Council for its donation of £100 towards the cost of an archaeological survey of Drummy Wood.

This has now been carried out. Fundraising has been going well and work to create the Trails is likely to go ahead soon.

2.8. Fast Broadband

Cllr. Farquhar said that BT planned to bring superfast broadband to the area in the Spring of 2015.

2.9. Playpark Plaque

At Nigel Healey's suggestion, the Community Council will ask Aberdeenshire Council to move the plaque commemorating the provision of the Tarland Playpark to mark The Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977 to a more suitable site away from the recycling area.

3. Appointment of Community Council Secretary

The Chairman agreed to continue to undertake the role until someone can be found to undertake the job.

4. Tarland Welfare Trust

Nigel Healey, Chairman of the Tarland Welfare Trust, reported that the MacRobert Hall was busy. The Hogmanay ceilidh was already being advertised, the Citizens Advice Bureau was holding successful Friday outreach sessions in the Hall, wi-fi had been installed and funds were being raised for a new heating system.

5. Planning Applications

The following planning applications were discussed:

LOGIE COLDSTONE

Installation of Ground Mounted Solar PV Array Carrue Dinnet Aboyne
Aberdeenshire AB34 5LX Ref. No: APP/2014/3450

Removal of Condition 4 (Occupancy Condition) of Planning Permission
APP/2006/0797 Site Adjacent To North Nib Logie Coldstone Tarland Aberdeenshire
Ref. No: APP/2014/3765

TARLAND

Alterations and Extension to Douneside House, Formation of Balcony to Casa Memoria, Alterations to Morven Cottage, Road Surface Improvement to Drop-Off and Car Park Areas Douneside House Tarland Aberdeenshire AB34 4UL Ref. No: APP/2014/3635

Alterations and Extension and Internal Alterations to Douneside House
Douneside House Tarland Aberdeenshire AB34 4UL Ref. No: APP/2014/3636

Next meeting: at Tarland Primary School 14 January 2015.