

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 12th December, 2012
in the Logie Coldstone Primary School**

PRESENT: Cllr Katrina Farquhar, Simon Welfare (Chairman), Anke Addy, Sue Erskine, Nigel Healey plus 2 members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Cllr Geva Blackett, Cllr Peter Argyle, Archie Leith, Evelyn Smith, Grampian Police

- 1. Community Garden:** Lizzy Shepherd, from Tarland Development Group, gave a presentation on progress with the planned Community Garden for Tarland, which will be located on the land allocated for allotments on the Village Farm site. The MacRobert Trust is fully supportive of the project and a lease for the land is being negotiated with TDG. Essential elements of the community garden will be a large polytunnel with irrigated, raised beds; external, raised beds; a communal shed and meeting place; communal tools and propagator; a wheelchair accessible toilet; wheelchair accessible paths in key areas of the garden; deer- and rabbit- proof fencing; vehicle access with parking for the disabled; and permanent planting to screen the polytunnel. The aim is to facilitate local fruit and vegetable production in an otherwise challenging climate. The garden will also include a space with seating and decorative/sensory planting for rest and relaxation open to all in the community. A plan of the garden is attached to these minutes.

The community garden model will involve individual or group members renting raised beds to grow food for their own consumption; they will also be required to contribute to communal garden maintenance tasks. Members will be able to contribute to shared growing areas (e.g. herbs and soft fruit). The initial development phase of the community garden will be led by the current TDG project steering group which will include a part-time project manager. Once the infrastructure has been established and the garden is open, a Garden User Management Committee will be elected from the membership of the community garden. The management committee will make all day to day decisions on how the garden operates and two representatives from the committee will also be members of TDG. The community garden will be a sub-group of TDG, operating at arm's length but reporting back regularly on progress.

Courses and talks on horticultural topics will be held at the garden and will be open to both members and non-members. The garden will operate as a not-for-profit, community-run project which, after the initial set-up costs, should be self-financing through membership fees and charges for workshops. Grant funding has been obtained from Climate Challenge Fund for the bulk of the costs (for infrastructure, equipment and initial project management costs) and other applications are outstanding.

- 2. Cromar Report**

- 2.1 Traffic Calming etc:**

- 2.1.1** Footpath to the Knappieround Car Park: Nothing further.

- 2.1.2** Redundant Ordie phone box: Initial negotiation would have to be between BT and the CCC as BT will not dispose of redundant phone boxes to individuals. Meanwhile, it was decided that local residents should be given a final chance to indicate their preference for removal or retention prior to further discussions.
- 2.1.3** Logie Coldstone residents have requested a road kerb from the bridge to the school to encourage road vehicles to take a wider line around the corner. This will be added to the items for consideration during the Principal Road Engineer's visit.
- 2.2** **Post Office Closure:** Although arrangements to establish a 'Post Office Local' service in the Toy Shop are progressing well, its availability is not expected before March due, in part, to the requirement to carry out a six week public consultation.
- 2.3** **Logie Coldstone Hall:** The Hall has been granted funding from LEADER and Aberdeenshire Council.
- 2.4** **Drummy Wood:** Disappointment was expressed at the lack of progress in repairing damage to the paths following the logging operations.
- 2.5** **Logie Coldstone War Memorial Fund:** The General Registry Office in Edinburgh is to be visited to search for evidence of the origins of the fund. Meanwhile, it is being assumed that it can be used for general expenses associated with the War Memorial.
- 2.6** **Tarland Play Park Litter:** The litter has abated but this may be due to the onset of the cooler, wetter weather.
- 2.7** **Coull Right of Way:** The MacRobert Trust is to examine the issues.
- 2.8** **Coull Hall:** No further news.
- 2.9** **Jubilee Wood:** The Jubilee Wood boundary has been defined.
- 2.10** **Village Farm:** It is understood that the contractor has withdrawn from the Village Farm project, as have the affordable housing funders. However, the planning application process will be completed.
- 2.11** **Facebook:** A Cromar Community Council Facebook page was proposed. It would be used for publicising time-sensitive information, such as local planning applications, to the Cromar community and for giving a wider distribution to material received from Aberdeenshire Council. In addition, it is hoped that it might become a means for the community to raise their concerns with the CCC.
- 2.12** **Aberdeen Arms:** Community concern has been expressed at the chimney structure that has recently appeared: this was felt to be inappropriate to a listed building and to be too prominent on the Tarland skyline. The Community Council has written to Aberdeenshire Council's planners to comment on the two planning applications that have now been lodged. (see further in 'Planning Applications and Building Warrants, Section 7)

3 Tarland Welfare Trust/MacRobert Memorial Hall: The Trust has now drawn down all the funding offered for the Hall renovation and has satisfied funders that their money was spent in accordance with their conditions..

Forty (hopefully) more comfortable chairs have been purchased for the Upper Hall with generous help from Aberdeenshire Council and the Youth Cinema Group.

4 Tarland Development Group:

4.1 Community Garden: Although substantial funding has been obtained for the Community Garden, more needs to be sourced. A planning application has been lodged with Aberdeenshire Council.

5 Cairngorm National Park Authority:

5.1 Local Plan Appeal: The judgement against the Local Plan challenge is now being appealed. It is likely to be several months before a conclusion is reached

6 Police: Grampian Police were unable to send a representative to the meeting but repeated their warning about maintaining premises security during the day as during the hours of darkness.

7 Planning Applications and Building Warrants

Tarland

29.10.12	Site to North West of Wester Braehead (formerly Woodside Cottage) Tarland	Planning permission for alterations and extension to derelict former cottage to form dwelling house and change of use of agricultural land to domestic garden ground
30.10.12	Woodend Cottage, Melgum Tarland AB34 4UX	Amendment to Building Warrant reference number BW/2010/5037 - Amend floor construction from suspended timber to concrete slab/screed with under floor heating
02.11.12	Ranna Farm Tarland	Building warrant for erection of general purpose store
30.11.12	Aberdeen Arms Hotel 31 The Square Tarland AB34 4TX	Planning application for installation of extractor flue and signage
30.11.12	Aberdeen Arms Hotel 31 The Square Tarland AB34 4TX	Planning application for erection of signage

Logie Coldstone

19.11.12	Land Adjacent To The Prem Logie Coldstone Tarland AB34 5PQ	Planning application for erection of horse shelter (Retrospective)
21.11.12	Newkirk Croft Logie Coldstone AB34 5PQ	Building warrant for extending existing dwelling with minor alteration to existing part
03.12.12	Land North of Craigievar Logie Coldstone AB34 5PQ	Planning application for erection of dwelling house and change of use of land from agricultural to domestic garden ground

The Community Council has objected to both of the Aberdeen Arms' planning applications on the following grounds:

- The proposed development is inappropriate to a listed building.
- The application is not retrospective but the flue has already been constructed.
- The flue as constructed does not comply with the drawings associated with the planning application.
- The signage is not appropriate to a listed building.
- The proposal detracts from the architectural integrity of Tarland Square
- There has been no 'change of use' application.
- The proposed opening date of the Chinese restaurant is in advance of the determination of the planning applications.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 16th, 2013 , 7pm at Tarland Primary School