



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 28 October 2015
at Logie Coldstone Hall.**

PRESENT: Simon Welfare (Chairman), Cllr. Katrina Farquhar, Anke Addy, Sue Erskine, and Alec McVean & 1 member of the public (Nigel Healey).

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Peter Argyle, Cllr. Geva Blackett, Joyce Lovie, Veronica Ross, Evelyn Smith & Police Scotland.

1. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting on 23 September 2015 were discussed, amended and approved.

2. Police Report

Police Scotland reported that the Cromar area continued to have little crime, although recent incidents included damage to a property on Melgum Road, Tarland, on three separate occasions. Operation Cedar continues in line with Police Scotland's campaign to reduce road casualties. A letter from Chief Superintendent Campbell Thomson at the Inverurie Police Office about strengthening local policing was considered and noted. Mr Thomson said that the new North East Division of Police Scotland, also to be known as A Division, shall begin work from 1 January 2016. It will be based at Queen Street, Aberdeen. There will be no change to Local Area Command Structures and Police Scotland remains committed to ensuring that its plans are relevant to community concerns.

3. Cromar Report

3.1. Tarland Playpark

The Community Council welcomed the progress being made in bringing the bowling green and pavilion back into use. The bowling green has been mown and discussions with members of the now defunct bowling club about its equipment etc. are underway. Aberdeenshire Council officials are arranging for the facilities in the pavilion to be upgraded in line with safety standards. Another meeting to discuss setting up a sports hub in Cromar will be held at 7pm on

Monday 7 December in the upstairs room of the MacRobert Memorial Hall, Tarland.

3.2. Superfast Broadband

Members of the Community Council were delighted to tune into the 'Better Broadband Aberdeenshire' satellite broadband system that is being tried out in Logie Coldstone Hall.

3.3. Tarland Christmas Lights

Nigel Healey said that discussions with Aberdeenshire Council about the proposals for a more spectacular display of Christmas lights in the village were continuing and it is hoped that there will still be time to floodlight the Old Kirk over Christmas. The Chairman added that a Christmas Market in Tarland Square had been suggested for 2016.

3.4. Tarland Hanging Baskets

The Community Council agreed to ask Mr Jack Nalepa to take down the hanging baskets. Thanks were expressed to Megan Albon for watering them and to Duncan Chapman of Hardgate Smithy, Migvie, for kindly mending the water bowser without charge.

3.5. Tarland Bus Services

Concerns about the bus service between Tarland and Aboyne – particularly its punctuality in meeting connections in Aboyne - have been passed on to Aberdeenshire Council which is monitoring the situation.

3.6. Tarland Infrastructure

The Chairman was arranging to meet with Ralph Singleton of the Roads Department of Aberdeenshire Council to discuss a number of issues about School Road, Tarland, which had been raised by a member of the community. Concern was expressed about the speed of some cars using the drive to Alastrean House and this has been brought to the attention of the MacRobert Trust Estate. A few more trees are to be taken down on the site of the cemetery extension once conditions have been removed. No date has been given for the start of works there. Nigel Healey said that while the main sign indicating that the Public Toilets were still open had been removed, there were other similar signs still remaining. The Community Council agreed to discuss refurbishing the horse trough and inscriptions on local monuments and raising fallen gravestones in the Old Kirkyard at a later date. Nigel Healey said that the seats in the Square had been removed for painting by Aberdeenshire Council (they have since been returned) but that there was no sign that any restoration work had been carried out on the Jubilee plaque before its re-siting.

3.7. *Logie Coldstone Events*

A busy calendar of events has been scheduled for the Hall by the Logie Coldstone Trust. These include the popular Community Café on 4 December.

3.6. *Pittenderich Forest Scoping Report*

The Community Council was pleased that the report took community concerns about log lorries travelling past Tarland Primary School into account and it looks forward to commenting on the draft Forest Plan in due course.

4. Community Council Accounts

The Community Council accounts for the period from 1 June 2014 to 31 May 2015, drawn up by the Treasurer Sue Erskine, were discussed and approved.

5. Tarland Welfare Trust

Nigel Healey said that the Trust would soon be applying to Aberdeenshire Council for permission to install a new heating system in the Hall. (The application has now been submitted). There were plans, too, to provide a hearing loop. Tickets for the Hogmanay dance were selling fast.

6. Tarland Development Group

The Community Council congratulated the Development Group on its very successful Food & Music Day. The Chairman has written to Chris Redmond about concerns raised about the safety of the car park at the Tarland Trails.

7. Cairngorms National Park

Cllr. Farquhar said that the next National Park Partnership Plan was being discussed.

8. Planning Applications

The Community Council discussed the following new applications but decided to offer no comments on them:

DINNET:

Birsemuir. Dinnet, Aboyne AB34 5LU. Erection of Dwellinghouse for Person in Agriculture Without Complying with Condition 1 (Occupancy for Agricultural Worker) of P/PPA/001/9 of APP/2005/3396 for Erection of Dwellinghouse and Garage.

LOGIE COLDSTONE:

Renewal of Planning Permission APP/2012/2701 for Alterations and Extension to dwellinghouse Townhead Logie Coldstone Tarland AB34 5NS Ref No: APP/2015/3114.

TARLAND

Tree Works Land at Tarland Cemetery Tarland Ref. No: TRE/2015/0066

9. A.O.B.

The Community Council welcomed the publication of a leaflet detailing the locations of Public Access Defibrillators in the area and also the news that new ones were being installed. Cllr. Farquhar was congratulated upon her appointment as Aberdeenshire Council's Scottish Wildcat Champion. Alec McVean asked Nigel Healey if he had yet established whether Tarland is the oldest village in Scotland. Mr Healey said that his researches were continuing.

Next meeting: Tarland Primary School on 2 December 2015 at 7 p.m.