



MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 16 MARCH 2016 AT LOGIE COLDSTONE HALL

PRESENT: Cllr. Geva Blackett, Cllr. Katrina Farquhar, Simon Welfare (Chairman), Joyce Lovie, Alec McVean, Veronica Ross, Bill Higham (Aberdeenshire Council), Lizzy Shepherd (Aberdeenshire Council) & 4 members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Peter Argyle, David Ellis, Evelyn Smith, Sue Erskine & Police Scotland.

1. Tarland Bowling Green & Pavilion

Bill Higham of Aberdeenshire Council Landscape Services (Marr) presented a paper on options for the future use of Tarland's currently redundant bowling green, which is owned by the County Council. One possibility would be to maintain it in the short term to allow community sports groups to come forward with proposals and funding to develop the area. A deadline would be set for applications. During this time, the Council would cut the grass on the bowling green each month and the outhouses and sheds associated with the green would be maintained at the current standard. The surrounding fence would be left and the gate kept locked to restrict access to the area. Another option would be to remove the fence and tarred path, to fill in the ditch and level the area before returning it to grass. A further suggestion was to turn the green into a wildflower meadow with picnic benches sited within it and pathways running through. Alternatively, the area could be planted with shrubs or trees, again with picnic benches. Lizzy Shepherd, Area Project Manager for South Marr, said that Aberdeenshire Council was also taking steps to make the nearby pavilion more accessible to the community. The Community Council decided to launch a community consultation about the proposals for the bowling green at the Tarland Development Group's Community Groups Event on 14 May. Responses will be assessed by the County Council.

2. Tarland Cemetery Extension

Mr Higham said that progress was being made with the extension to the cemetery at St. Moluag's Church, Tarland.

3. Police Report

Police Scotland said that crime levels in the Cromar area have remained relatively low, but that there had been incidents reported, locally and in the wider Aberdeenshire area, in relation to thefts of motor vehicles and from motor vehicles. Positive lines of enquiry had been followed and persons were in custody for some of the crimes and enquiries into others were continuing. The police wish to remind members of the public to ensure the security of their homes and vehicles and not leave valuables on display. Road traffic incidents have increased recently and motorists are reminded to observe the speed limit and drive according to the prevailing road and weather conditions. Operation Manosa has been launched to target acquisitive crime, in particular housebreaking and the theft of bicycles. Since 1 January, 60 bicycles with a total value of more than £30,000 have been stolen. Tips on how everyone can improve security can be found on the Police Scotland website at <http://www.scotland.police.uk/whats-happening/news/2016/february/operation-manosa-launched-to-tackle-acquisitive-crime>

4. Cromar Report

4.1: Resilience & Flood Plans

Mr McVean said he was studying resilience and flood plans drawn up by other communities in Aberdeenshire with the recent experiences of flooding in Cromar in mind. He agreed to report back to the Community Council with thoughts and proposals at the next meeting.

4.2 Etape Royale

Cllr. Blackett said that the organisers of last year's Etape Royale were planning to run the event again on 18 September, thanks to the sponsorship of Quilter Cheviot and the support of Aberdeenshire Council. Local communities had benefited from generous donations from the organisers and she appealed to cyclists to sign up and for sponsors of water stops to come forward. More information is available at <http://www.etaperoyale.com>.

4.3 Logie Coldstone

Among the events scheduled for Logie Coldstone Hall is a concert by Aly Bain & Phil Cunningham on 18 May. For further details see http://www.logiecoldstone.org/LCT2014/lct_phil_and_aly.php. Cllr. Farquhar said that the line of the new path from Logie Coldstone to Tarland had been agreed with landowners.

5. Tarland Development Group

The Community Council agreed to take part in the Community Groups Event on 14 May. The Chairman reported that he had received an email from Chris Redmond about the Tarland Trails. The damage done by the recent bad weather was being repaired, thanks to the efforts of 25-30 volunteers on 27 February and Ian Ross. The car park had been extended and fencing installed to address the Community Council's concern about safety at the car park/trail exit. A generous donation of £1000 from the Finzean Community Association was being put towards the repair bill. Future plans include the surfacing of the access track with tarmac. The Trails have since reopened.

6. Planning Applications

The following planning applications were discussed:

CORSE:

Alterations to Existing Access Road Land Adjacent To Oldmill
Lumphanan Banchory AB31 4SA Ref. No: APP/2016/0649

Re-tarmacking of Existing Bellmouth and 25 Metres of Driveway and Formation of
Timber Stacking and Turning Area Access To Colmuir Cottage Chraad Forest
Cushnie Alford Aberdeenshire Ref. No: APP/2016/0430

TARLAND:

Installation of Replacement Boiler Flue Alastrean Care Ltd Alastrean House Tarland
Aberdeenshire AB34 4TA Ref. No: APP/2016/0602

7. AOB

The Community Council endorsed Alec McVean's call for local residents to report potholes to Aberdeenshire Council.

Next meeting: at Tarland Primary School on 20 April 2016 at 7 p.m.