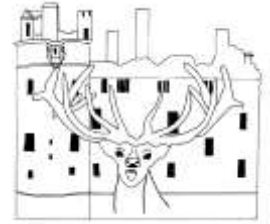




HUNTLY COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Minutes of the November 2010 meeting of Huntly Community Council held in the Council Chamber, The Stewart's Hall, Huntly on Thursday 18 November at 7.30 pm

1. Welcome and Apologies

Present: Hilda Lumsden-Gill (Chair); Tony Gill (Vice Chair) Bob Ness (Treasurer); Mary Burgerhout (Secretary); Hazel McIntosh; Freda McRae; John Greer; Karen Reid; Trine Luno; PC Neil McAdam; Pat Scott; Cllr Joanna Strathdee, Cllr Moira Ingleby, Cllr Alastair Ross

Apologies: Kathryn Henderson

Hilda welcomed members, PC McAdam, Pat Scott of the Huntly Express, and Councillors Strathdee, Ingleby and Ross to this, the last meeting of 2010. She advised that Lizzy Shepherd of MAP was not able as arranged to come and talk about Community Planning.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes were proposed for acceptance by John Greer and seconded by Freda McRae.

3. Guest Speaker

In the absence of Lizzy Shepherd (see above), it was agreed to invite her to give a short talk at the January meeting.

4. Notice of Motion

As the Community Council is under its quota of 12 members, it has an option to co-opt a member/s for one year The Rev Norma Milne has completed a nomination form, and has been proposed by Hazel McIntosh and seconded by Freda McRae. All agreed with the principle of co-option and Norma was duly co-opted until May 2011, when she will have the opportunity to be elected as a full member. Mary will write confirming her co-option and inviting her to the next meeting.

5. Matters Arising

- a) **Police Issues** PC McAdam presented his report. In the 28 days to 18 November, there were 22 crimes, 9 of which were "priority". There were 7 acts of vandalism. Of the 22 crimes, 7 have been detected so far. There were no shoplifting incidents in November, and just 3 in the last part of October.

PC McAdam responded to concerns raised at the last meeting: a) provided road sweeping vehicles are large, well-lit and travelling slowly, it should not be a hazard if they are for operational reasons driving the wrong way in a one-way street; b) there is no blanket law re dogs on leads; c) caravans parked in car parks is a council and not a police matter; d) parking advice, enforcement etc will be implemented once the RTMR report is published; there will be a Cycle Safety awareness session, in conjunction with the Road Safety Officer, at the Farmer's Market on 4 December.

The issue of the recent "hijacking" incident near Huntly was raised. PC McAdam advised that if someone is involved in such an incident, they should get away from the scene as quickly as possible. Motorists should keep car doors locked and open their window only fractionally if they are forced to stop. Mention was made of the robbery earlier in the week at the Huntly Hotel, and a telephone scam which can cost the victim £315.

Hilda circulated the Northern CJA's Community Payback Bulletin which details the projects undertaken across the North of Scotland.

b) **Market Muir Update** Tony reported there had been a committee meeting on 15th November (next one February 2011); two fundraising events are scheduled for 2011 so far – a coffee morning in April and a quiz night in September. The weather has hindered further work by Landscape Services on the topsoil which is not of good quality in any case (the rugby team have complained that it is stony). The pitch is not anticipated to be ready for playing on till the rugby season starts next September. Talks to take place with Planning Officer in due course re replacement of the pavilion.

c) **Updates from Marr Area Office/Aberdeenshire Council** Hilda read out the responses received to queries from the October meeting: a) Sandy Grant has advised that fences will not be erected around children's playparks; b) Ralph Singleton has stated that the continuous yellow line in Bogie Street was repainted on a like-for-like basis (disputed by members) but acknowledges it contradicts the accompanying signage, and will look into correcting this; c) Response from HDT re various issues: huntly.net website - they will amend to allow us to update it ourselves; Road Traffic Management Review - they will chase up report (see f. below); EIS – they have noted there will be a public meeting on 22nd November (Donald Boyd to attend).

- Aberdeenshire Council 2010 Budget Briefings – Hilda and Mary (and John if available) to attend the briefing on 29th November at Alford.
- Various traffic restrictions in/around Huntly
- Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005 – Asda applying for Variation to Premises Licence (last date for objections was 4th November). Cllr Strathdee said she would contact Inverurie ensure all correspondence is sent to Mary and not Avril which has been the case despite being informed of the change of Secretary
- Consultation – use of public PCs in Aberdeenshire Libraries
- ACSEF – reminder of Planning Modernisation Group Forum 24th Nov
- Various emails from Woodlands Group – Tony advised that tenders have gone out for work due to start in Battlehill in the new year; groups with expertise need to be set up to manage the Battlehill and

Meadows woodlands. A general discussion ensued re the state of individual trees and the ground in general around the Avenue area; Freda circulated a booklet of photos prepared by Patrick Scott showing the poor conditions in the area.

- Weekly Scottish Government Round-Ups/Planning and Building Consultations
- Association of Scottish Community Councils – reminder of annual national conference and ballot

d) **Community Planning**

- Draft Aberdeenshire Plan 2011-2015 – Hilda to comment on this
- Dates for 2011 Forum Meetings (9th February and 11th May)
- MAP newsletter available to view online
- Link to November Community Planning E-Bulletin
- Community Orchards – training days and events

(Cllr Strathdee left the meeting at 8.30 pm)

e) **Coat of Arms** A folder of documentation etc has been created and will be stored in CC cupboard; the Chamber walls have been updated with photos etc. The remaining funds will be used to hang the framed Letters Patent in the Stewart's Hall and have a display case made for the flag. We have been verbally advised by Planning that permission for the former is not required, but asked to advise them in writing of our intentions. Hilda, Mary and PC McAdam to meet with joiner Duncan Anderson on 22nd November to discuss requirements etc. Hilda read out the thanks received from Jacques Coetzer for the publicity/souvenir material sent to him, and advised that the Acting Head Teacher of Gordon Primary had written to thank us for the donation to the school choir.

Hilda read an email from Donald Boyd re displaying the Coat of Arms (and the antler logo) on new litter bins planned for the town. All agreed this was a good idea – Mary to confirm this to Donald and request that CC see the proposed design and be advised how many are planned/at what cost.

Tony advised that HDT have apparently been in discussion with Aberdeenshire Council re incorporating the Coat of Arms on new signage.

f) **Road Traffic Management Review** Donald Boyd has advised the report will now not go to committee until 25th January. Frustration was expressed at the delay, particularly given that the original process was started many years ago. Cllr Ross confirmed that other towns eg. Alford have had similar experiences with such reviews.

g) **Town Barriers** All barriers have been recovered and a protocol is in place to record numbers borrowed, by whom, date of return etc. Two keys for the depot are now held by Hilda and Mary.

h) **EIS 2011** A public meeting will be held on 22nd November to determine level of interest and support. A general discussion ensued on

options for the event – suggestions made to be taken forward to the meeting. Hilda advised that funding and increased red tape are challenging issues, as is getting enough volunteers to organize the event. Meantime, the CC's raffle licence will be renewed.

i) **Marr Area Partnership – Proposed Changes** MAP is becoming a Company Limited by Guarantee and need to have a membership list. All agreed the CC become a member (joining fee £1) – Mary to complete form and send to Lizzy Shepherd.

6. **Treasurer's Report** There is £555 in the General account as well as £738 remaining for the Coat of Arms project; no change to other accounts.

7. **Correspondence**

- **For the Table** Aberdeenshire Council Public Performance Report 2009-10
- Planning applications 22.10.10 to 18.11.10
- Invitation to Huntly Marketing Network Event organized by HBA
- Deveron Arts – promotion re next event; advice of staff vacancy; launch of book "Artocracy"
- NHS consultation on Draft Strategy for Maternity Services 2010-15 – responses sought by 22nd November
- Public exhibition re proposed Cairnborrow, Huntly windfarm – various handouts following Mary's attendance at exhibition

7. **AOCB**

- Congratulations were offered to Rizza's who won the Halloween Window Competition
- Christmas Window Competition will be judged by members weekend of 11th/12th December and winner announced in Huntly Express of 17th December – Mary to remind members to participate
- Christmas night out will be on Friday 17th December at Café India
- It was noted that several street lights in the town are out of action – Hilda reminded members that there is a list of Council numbers for the public to call to report such issues
- PC McAdam, in response to a query about Tesco's trading hours. selling of cigarettes and alcohol, advised it was a trading and not a police issue
- A discussion took place about road safety/visibility at the garage in Deveron Road and the Tesco/A96 junction – it was confirmed that this will hopefully be addressed in the Road Traffic Management Review
- The next meeting will be held on Thursday 20th January 2011

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm with Hilda wishing all present a Merry Christmas.

ACTIONS:

- Write to Norma Milne to confirm co-option as CC member
- Pay Watt's for engraving of shield and deliver same to Rizza
- Remind members early December re judging of Christmas Windows/arrange for notice in Huntly Express
- Return completed MAP membership form to Lizzy Shepherd
- Respond to Donald Boyd, HDT, re litter bins/use of Coat of Arms
- Book Café India for Christmas meal