**Minutes of Meeting 25 May 2023**

**(held at Aboyne Library)**

**Attending**

Community Councillors

Steven Lindsay (SL/Chair), Martin Ogden (MO/Vice Chair), Grahame Wilson (GW/Treasurer), William Sutherland (WS), Mike Brown (MB), Volha (Olga) Druhakova (VD), Alastair Brodie (AB), Fiona Sawyer (FS/Acting Secretary), Bernie Cassie (BC)

Aberdeenshire Councillors

Cllr Sarah Brown (CSB)

Others

Chris Grieve, KCA (CG)

1. **Welcome, apologies and conflicts**

**Apologies:** Cllr Anouk Kloppert (CAK), Alison Pollock (AP)

**Absent:** Cllr Geva Blackett (CGB) on holiday

**Any conflicts of interest declared:** None

1. **Minutes of previous meeting - for approval**

Minutes of MDCC meeting held in March 2023 - approved as a true record subject to correction that WS leaving MDCC, not GW, and to correct date of last meeting. WS nominated, GW seconded.

1. **MDCC AGM and elections**

Discussed timing of closing date for nomination, ballot date and requirement for elections.

AGM to be held from 7 – 7.15pm on 22 June 2023, immediately followed by June general meeting.

1. **Matters arising/actions status**

Actions status (see Appendix for updated Actions Tracker following this meeting):

| **#** | **Topic** | **Action Item** | **Status** | **Resp.** | **Opened** | **Status** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Who’s Who for Aboyne | Create a list of representation of groups, organisations, clubs in Aboyne. | No recent action. | FS / AP | Sept ‘22 | Open |
| 3 | Mannequin or dummy camera. Response from roads department - not keen on dummy camera - purpose of speeding camera not to catch speeding but to reduce accidents. | FS to go back to CSB/roads department to ask for clarification as to why dummy cameras will not reduce accidents (rather than catch speeding). | CSB reported council are going to do a speed monitor. Date to be confirmed. Recent incident was caused by a deer not by speeding. | CSB | Mar‘22 | Closed |
| 4 | Dog fouling - Aboyne | 1. MDCC social media - ask for community’s help. 2. FS to Check MDCC account to see what work was done by Nick Moore with Aberdeenshire Council - check who contact at council was/which team. 3. SL to discuss with Aboyne Paths and Tracks group to check which team at the council they liaised with to get new dog bins. 4. Extra bins were discussed to encourage dog walkers to use bins | SL has emailed council. No response yet. | SL | Apr ‘22 | Open |
| 5 | Cafe 93 | SL to take up with Aberdeenshire councillors | Café 93 is now open at the Gliding Club – Facebook page is active. | CSB | Mar ‘22 | Closed |

Matter arising

WS stepping down from MDCC, to be replaced by CG as Kincardine O’Neil Community Association representative. Many thanks and much appreciation given to WS for his many years of service on MDCC. Many thanks to CG for stepping up to represent Kincardine O’Neil residents on MDCC.

1. **Correspondence and communications**
   1. **Request for your participation in the development of Councils new Local Transport Strategy (19 May 2023) - consultation closes 23 June 2023**

Share through social media and collate feedback around 20 June 2023. CSB noted that it is a lengthy survey, approximately nine parts.

AP to post on social media; AB to gather responses and respond to consultation. Located on Aberdeenshire Council’s Engage portal.

* 1. **Reminder: University of Aberdeen Climate Assembly Survey (19 May 2023) - survey closes early next week**

SL to look at the survey.

* 1. **Scottish Conference for Community Councillors ONLINE 10th June (17 May 2023)**

FS to attend.

* 1. **Marr Area Bus Forum - Tuesday 30 May 2023 (17 May 2023)**

CSB attending. Feedback from MDCC meeting for purposes of forum includes: poor quality buses, unreliable (break down), buses are frequently late or early or do not stop, expensive (highest price point in Kinker), much time wasted in Banchory. Query why need double decker to serve west beyond Banchory – Stagecoach argue need it for Peterculter. Noted that sometimes cannot get on 201 in Aberdeen because full with people travelling to Peterculter rather than using alternative local services. Stagecoach providing commercial service from Ballater to Braemar through the summer – people need to use it to demonstrate viability.

* 1. **Boundaries Scotland - Scottish Parliament consultation on provisional proposals for constituencies (17 May 2023) - consultation closes 17 June 2023**

No action.

* 1. **Scottish Government consultation updates (11 May 2023) - views and comments on the** [**Local living and 20 minute neighbourhoods: draft planning guidance**](https://scot.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=feffb8d81365d935d19ae1c3d&id=fd9289cfd1&e=98dec6e8cb) **- consultation closes 20 July 2023**

FS and LPP group to review.

* 1. **Balnagowan Forest Notification for certification (1 May 2023) - comments by 1 June 2023**

SL to review.

1. **Reports**
   1. **Police**

No report since last meeting.

Awaiting confirmation from AM as to whether the report could be made public, through our social media channels or if a redacted report would be a better option. AM response awaited.

* 1. **Treasurer (GW)**

GW reported accounts. Accounts for year have been verified and signed.

MO has had no response from SSEN regarding ringfencing a fund for diesel. Agreed to ringfence pending confirmation from SSEN.

* 1. **Aberdeenshire Councillors** 
     1. CGB Report

None received.

* + 1. CSB Report

Noted documents from roads and environmental spends – surface dressing and resurfacing works – demonstrates cost of maintaining roads network. More money in potholes and gullies budgets this year.

Kinord Drive – connecting path. Council have agreed to pay legal fees for land search to establish ownership or purposes of upgrading path.

No questions raised.

* + 1. CAK Report

No questions raised.

1. **MDCC sub-groups**
   1. **Resilience planning**

No update pending next resilience group meeting.

Resilience group was congratulated on what has been achieved since January 2022 including getting the four hubs up and running.

Next steps include final approval of hub operation plans and compiling volunteer lists.

Community household resilience, eg sandbags, floodgates – to raise awareness in early autumn.

CG noted that flooding to the east of Kincardine O’Neil during last event.

WS stepping down from resilience group, CG to join on behalf of KCA.

* 1. **Planning**
     1. Planning applications

Planning report noted. Also discussed under enforcement action – see below.

FS to forward comments on TRE/2023/0049 to planning officer as noted in planning report and VD email of 25/5/23.

* + 1. Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan

Planning report noted.

* + 1. Aboyne Local Place Plan

Planning report pre-read noted.

* + 1. Enforcement action

Planning report noted and discussed regarding Darroch Wood Estate, with pre-read email from VD.

CSB to request all-parties meeting with Aberdeenshire Council to discuss both TRE/2023/0049 and enforcement request.

* 1. **Defibrillators**

Kinord Hotel Defib pads will be changed shortly. No spare pads for that defib once the pads have been changed, however alternative defib in very close proximity now that the new defib at Dinnet Hall has been installed.

MO to apply to the Rotary Club for funding.

* 1. **Youth Engagement**

Meeting Friday 26 May 2023 of initial youth group inviting members of public. Proposal for a monthly café hub directly after school or in the evening – to be decided. MDCT to take on as MDCT project. Group needs to be constituted. Small amount of monthly funding to get off the ground.

Academy Head Teacher, Michael Foy, has informed the group that parts of the Academy building are being adapted to become a community hub café run by the students. Academy café expected to run for approximately two years. New youth group to cease new hub while Academy café set up.

* 1. **Communications**

No report.

* 1. **Local Energy**

Gliding club looking to instal solar panels to power clubhouse. Looking to support Gliding club – instal solar panels to supply electricity to Gliding Club. Discussed with MDCT. Once the Local Energy Group is more established could become MDCT sub-group.

New members have joined group including Mike Morrow (hydro wheel).

Member of Lumphanan CC interested in making contact – CSB to put in touch with MB and AB.

MB considering courses for training/registration for installation of batteries and for energy providers.

1. **Outreach update**
   1. **MDCT**

MDCT attending next two farmers markets to advertise sub-groups to potential volunteers.

MDCT vehicles – Aberdeenshire Council fleet manager has confirmed will continue regular servicing for the MDCT fleet.

16,000 trees being planted in Bell Wood, 100 trees at LadyWood.

Green Spaces Group to put up hanging baskets around village.

AB to ask MDCT when the bedding plants for the MDC communities will arrive (which include Kincardine O’Neil and Dinnet allocations).

* 1. **Victory Hall Trustees**

Nothing to report.

* 1. **Rotary**

Nothing to report – delete from next agenda.

* 1. **Community Centre User Group**

Nothing to report – delete from next agenda.

* 1. **Marr Area Forum**

AP and FS attended.

* 1. **Paths & Tracks Group**

SL reported update to meeting.

1. **Any Other Competent Business**

None.

1. **Date and Venue of Next Meeting**

**AGM** – 7-7.15pm, 22 June 2023 (Venue: Aboyne Library)

**Next general meeting** - 7.15-9pm Thursday, 22 June 2023 (Venue: Aboyne Library)

**Appendix - Updated Actions Tracker**

Updated with Actions from this meeting:

| **#** | **Topic** | **Action Item** | **Status** | **Resp.** | **Opened** | **Status** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Who’s Who for Aboyne | Create a list of representation of groups, organisations, clubs in Aboyne. | 10/23 - To think about how to do effectively  01/23 – FS is gathering information about all the community groups (including local housing groups). | FS / AP | Sept ‘22 | Open |
|  | Dog fouling - Aboyne | MDCC social media - ask for community’s help.  FS to Check MDCC account to see what work was done by Nick Moore with Aberdeenshire Council - check who contact at council was/which team.  SL to discuss with Aboyne Paths and Tracks group to check which team at the council they liaised with to get new dog bins.  Extra bins were discussed to encourage dog walkers to use bins | SL has emailed council. No response yet.  No information on MDCC account re Nick Moore contact at Aberdeenshire Council | SL | Mar ‘23 | Open |
|  | Request for participation in the development of Councils new Local Transport Strategy (19 May 2023) - consultation closes 23 June 2023 | AP to post on social media.  AB to gather responses and respond to consultation. |  | AP  AB | May ‘23 | Open |
|  | University of Aberdeen Climate Assembly Survey (19 May 2023) | SL to review |  | SL | May ‘23 | Open |
|  | Scottish Conference for Community Councillors ONLINE 10th June (17 May 2023) | FS to attend |  | FS | May ‘23 | Open |
|  | Marr Area Bus Forum - Tuesday 30 May 2023 (17 May 2023) | CSB attending. See minutes May ’23 for MDCC feedback to meeting. |  | CSB | May ‘23 | Closed |
|  | Scottish Government consultation updates (11 May 2023) - views and comments on the Local living and 20 minute neighbourhoods: draft planning guidance - consultation closes 20 July 2023 | FS and LPP group to review. |  | FS | May ‘23 | Open |
|  | Balnagowan Forest Notification for certification (1 May 2023) - comments by 1 June 2023 | SL to review |  | SL | May ‘23 | Open |
|  | Darroch Wood – planning issues | FS to forward comments on TRE/2023/0049 to planning officer as noted in planning report and VD email of 25/5/23.  CSB to request all-parties meeting with Aberdeenshire Council to discuss both TRE/2023/0049 and enforcement request. |  | FS  SCB | May ‘23 | Open |
|  | Defibs | MO to apply to the Rotary Club for funding. |  | MO | May ‘23 | Open |
|  | Bedding plants | AB to ask MDCT Green Spaces group when the bedding plants for the MDC communities will arrive (which include Kincardine O’Neil and Dinnet allocations). |  | AB | May ‘23 | Open |