

## **Echt & Skene Community Council**

### **Minute of Meeting held 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019 in Lyne of Skene Hall**

**Attendees:** Fiona Bick, Nick Pilbeam, Ian Macmaster, Brian Poppleton, Niall MacBeath, Steve Gibson, George Glennie, Cllr Iris Walker, Cllr Alistair McKelvie

**Apologies:** Klaus Wahle, Cllrs McKail and Aitchison, Paula Houston

**Minute of last meeting:** Approved with amendment to AOCB item regarding salt piles – the pile in Echt is in Barmekin Park and not at the hall.

**Police Report:** No police report was received.

**Feedback Garioch Area Community Council Forum 3<sup>rd</sup> December:** Fiona attended. The main topic was Speeding and Road Safety in Garioch Area with Community Policing Inspector Gareth Hannon. He received only 3 speeding complaints in November. In the last 6 months the police issued 24 speeding tickets, of which 8 were in 30mph zones, 10 in 60mph zones and 6 in 70mph zones. NESCAM vans also operate cameras and may have issued additional tickets. There was 1 fatality (at Garlogie).

Insp Hannon advised that he should be emailed to raise concerns about speeding, anti-social driving, etc. He suggested that if drivers are going too fast through settlements then a “Pop-Up Bob” (a life-size cardboard cut-out of a policeman holding a radar gun) was often an effective deterrent. He also informed us that police can prosecute for anti-social driving (e.g. noisy acceleration, back-firing exhausts) without having to prove speeding. 2 young drivers were recently charged for offences in Kemnay.

The Police and Aberdeenshire Council are trying to better co-ordinate and be more consistent in responding to road safety concerns by sharing information about complaints and speed survey data.

The police have been focussing on double-yellow line parking in Inverurie and have issued 20 parking tickets recently.

**Echt Remembrance Day Service:** George attended the service. A WW2 granite memorial has been added to the church yard following a campaign by a local resident with a family member who died. George observed that the minister conducting the service hadn't known the names of the WW2 war dead and that, very disappointingly, both the Council wreath and the church wreath were laid at the WW1 memorial, ignoring the new WW2 memorial. George agreed to approach the minister to try and ensure the WW2 war dead sacrifices are recognised in next year's service.

**CC Scheme of Establishment Review Recommendations:** Aberdeenshire Council is proposing the following changes to the Scheme:

- Removing the Schedules but retaining them separately as guidance so that updates don't have to go through the statutory change process.
- Moving to a single election date for all CCs to reduce administrative effort for Council staff
- Adding second homeowners to the list of non-residents that CCs may choose to allow as CC members
- Allowing AGMs to be held in either May or June to allow for more flexibility
- Updating Schedule 7 to empower CCs to enforce the Code of Conduct where a valid complaint is made against a member

## **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

### **Community Resilience Checks:**

Checks in Lyne of Skene and Echt are completed. Kirkton of Skene, Garlogie and Dunecht are yet to be confirmed.

**Skene School Crossing Safety:** SLOW signs have been painted on all the roads on the approaches to the school. The flashing lights are now working correctly. There have been no new complaints raised since the new patrol has been in post. **CLOSED**

**Forbes Park Landscaping:** No change since last meeting.

**Dunecht Estates Mobile Phone Mast:** Work started in November on the new mast near Dunwell Cottage. **CLOSED**

**Road Salt Piles:** The salt pile at Echt has almost all gone as members of the public have helped themselves to it. Roads department have not responded to email. **Action:** Iris Walker to seek explanation from Roads

**Echt Hall Car Park Fly-Tipping:** The Council Waste department responded to say the freezers/fridges won't be removed whilst investigations are still ongoing.

**Echt Hall Car Park Entrance Pillar:** The pillar has been stabilised **CLOSED**

**Echt Hall Public Convenience Demolition:** No change since last meeting. **Action:** Iris Walker will enquire about status.

**Flooding on Kirkton of Skene to Westhill footpath:** Iris reported that Roads department were considering whether a Section 99 notice could be served on the owner of the land adjacent to the flooding points. Fiona had a site meeting with concerned local residents and discussed potential mitigation measures such as a tie-in to the road drain and installation of a bridge/duckboards alongside the path. She also reported blocked drains close to the Westhill Community Church to Roads.

### **New Planning Applications:**

- APP/2019/2557 Erection of Dutch Barn at Cairnfield, Skene AB32 6YA – Prior Approval not Required
- APP/2019/2743 Alterations and Extension to Dwellinghouse – Millstone House, Dunecht AB32 7BS – No comment
- APP/2019/2725 & 2729 Alternations and link extension to dwellinghouse – Kirkwood Glebeland, Kirkton of Skene, AB32 6XE - No comment

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Cash in Bank: £1760.09 Cash in hand: £52.06

Since the last meeting the ICO has been paid £40 by cheque.

### **AOCB:**

- Barmekin Park, Echt – concerns had been raised by local residents regarding the large number of people apparently occupying one of the Council-owned houses. **Action:** Cllr Alistair McKelvie to follow up with Housing department.

### **Next Meeting**

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020 in Garlogie Hall