

Echt & Skene Community Council

Minute of Meeting held 30th April 2020 via Zoom

Attendees: Fiona Bick, Ian Macmaster, Niall MacBeath, Nick Pilbeam, George Glennie, Steve Gibson, Paula Houston, Cllr Iris Walker, Cllr Ron McKail, Cllr Alistair McKelvie

Apologies:, Klaus Wahle, Brian Poppleton, Cllr David Aitchison

Minute of last meeting: Approved.

Police Report: A police report was received in respect of mid-March to mid-April – there was one rural theft of a quad bike and generator, and one RTC resulting in slight injury. There have been more incidents of animals on the roads since lockdown began and traffic levels reduced, so drivers are advised to be wary.

COVID-19: The Lyne of Skene Hall Facebook page has a post with contact details of the LoS members for anyone needing assistance. Nick has made the Council Emergency Planner aware that our halls are equipped as Resilience Centres and are available for use if required e.g. as testing centres. Lyne of Skene has a number of volunteers willing to provide help.

Fiona has so far received 3 requests for assistance from Echt residents via Banchory Community Council, which Paula and George have actioned. Two have been for prescription collections from Banchory, one for shopping. Prescriptions for non-controlled drugs can be delivered to the Echt Village Shop for collection there but controlled drugs have to be collected by a named person.

Grampian Coronavirus Assistance Hub has given the ESCC 500 leaflets, which give the phone and website details. **Action:** Members to deliver these to local residents and place copies on the village noticeboards.

Bedding Plants for Settlements: Aberdeenshire Council has cancelled all bedding plant deliveries to community councils due to COVID-19. The members agreed to fund up to £100 for each settlement to buy plants themselves, although this won't be enough for communities to put on their usual displays. Ron advised that Ben Reid and Cove Nursery will sell/deliver bedding plants. Raemoir Garden Centre is also doing home deliveries. (Post-meeting note: Foxlane is also doing phone orders for timed collection.)

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Aberdeenshire Proposed LDP 2020 Consultation: The consultation process has been postponed due to COVID-19. The new timetable is yet to be announced.

Kirkton of Skene Football Pitches: The village football pitch is owned by Dunecht Estates and leased to a local volunteer, who will be continuing to mow it until the end of May. The Estate is hoping to find a junior football team willing to take on the lease (the pitch is only suitable for juniors due to the lack of on-site changing facilities). The Estate will maintain the pitch until a new tenant is found.

The Skene School football pitch was the venue for a number of teenage parties last summer and also on Friday 20th March. It's believed the most recent one was reported to police but the current COVID-19 restrictions have curtailed activities for now. **CLOSED**

Kirkton of Skene Playgroup: Fiona is trying to make contact with members of the committee to ascertain the status.

Community Resilience Checks:

Checks in Dunecht is still to be confirmed. **CLOSED**

Forbes Park Landscaping: No change since last meeting.

Echt Hall Public Convenience Demolition: No change since last meeting. The Pleasure Park is not being maintained by the Council at the moment either.

Echt Village Shop: The owner has been made aware that there is a local party that might be interested in taking over the business if he wished to sell. **CLOSED**

Flooding on Kirkton of Skene to Westhill footpath: No change since last meeting.

Kirkton of Skene Village Shop: No change since last meeting.

New Planning Applications:

- APP/2020/0670 Change of use of agricultural land to equestrian use and erection of stables (retrospective) – Land at Milton of Garlogie Farmhouse, AB32 6SD. No comment.

Treasurer's Report:

Cash in Bank: £1678.38 Cash in hand: £37.86

Future Meeting Dates:

Due to COVID-19 the Council has postponed CC elections to September and AGMs to October. The following revised meeting schedule was agreed:

18 th June	Dunecht
30 th July	Lyne of Skene
10 th September	Echt
29 th October	AGM at Garlogie

AOCB:

Echt Street Signs: The Council committed to providing new street signs for the four branches of the main crossroads in the village when the Forbes Park development was approved. So far only one sign has been installed – for Main Road East. **Action:** George to confirm agreed names of the other branches and report via Council Road Faults webpage.

Skene School Flashing Signs: The timing of the flashing 20mph sign north of Skene School has malfunctioned. **Action:** Fiona to report