

Fordyce, Sandend & District Community Council meeting

Thursday 12th January 2023 – 7.30pm

Present:

Cameron Ewen (CE)	Community Councillor - Chair
Bertie Robertson (BR)	Community Councillor – Vice Chair
John Anderson (JA)	Community Councillor - Secretary
Claire Meadows (CM)	Community Councillor - Treasurer
Ivan Owen (IO)	Community Councillor
Audrey Stewart (AS)	Community Councillor
Jenny Taylor (JT)	Community Councillor
Joanna Anderson (JoA)	Community Councillor
Ruth Pirie (RP)	Community Councillor
Colin Burch (CB)	CDCC - Chair
Ernest Kopp (EK)	CDCC

Apologies:

Jane Winfield (JW)	Community Councillor
Marion Timmins (MT)	Community Councillor
Stewart Adams (SA)	Aberdeenshire Councillor
John Cox (JC)	Aberdeenshire Councillor
Sandie Cummings (SC)	PA to Banff and Buchan Area Manager
Glen Reynolds (GR)	Aberdeenshire Councillor

Abbreviations;

Aberdeenshire Council – AC

Southern and Scottish Electricity Networks - SSEN

Fordyce and Sandend Community Council – CC

Sandend Amenities Council – SAC

Cullen and Deskford Community Council - CDCC

1. Chairman Cameron Ewen opened the Community Council meeting at 7.30pm. Apologies given for JW, MT, SA, JC, SC and GR.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting Thursdayth August 2022 acceptance proposed by JT and seconded by CM.

3. CM Reported that the bank balance was £6786.00. The annual accounts were then presented. This triggers the annual administrative payment from AC. CM stated that annual payment had been gratefully receive from Seafield Estate. Communication held with Seafield state to say thank you.

4. Correspondence: Scottish Water response to thaw and rise in burst pipes was circulated.

Funding opportunity – Coastal Communities Challenge Fund 2023 – 2024 information was cicultated.

5. Police Report; JA was remiss in not circulating the Police Report and apologised to the CC.

6. Matters Arising

a. Growing Living Greenspace Initiative – It was reported that the wider community engagement via the leaflet drop had prompted various comments to the planting scheme. This promoted a conversation on the results of the community engagement and a vote was taken to go with the majority of responders who welcomed the proposals. Some practical suggestions were incorporated into the scheme. For example no planting on the narrow verge on Seaview road, This planting scheme now to be initiated. Action CM, AS, JT

b. Dunes Protection Update – It was reported that AC have stated that they will not undertake any remedial work to protect the dunes in Sandend Bay. It was stated that contact had been made with Seafield Estate and it had been agreed that Seafield Estate would contact SEPA to determine if it would require a full process to move sand and shingle from the West side of the mouth of the Scatterry Burn to the East side, or if a simple statement of intent would suffice as it was merely moving material in existence on the beach to and adjacent part of the beach. Action JA

c. Seaview Road Slippage – It was reported residents and other members of the CC had been in contact to express concerns about the potential for the collapse of the only road giving access to the village. This at a location approximately opposite No. 56 Seaview Road. Concerns had also been expressed at the condition of the fence at the location with one fence pole in particular now suspended as the ground securing it has fallen away. This is immediately dangerous to all local residents especially as this part of the road has a tiny verge and anyone moving on to the verge should a car be passing is in risk of falling on to the rocks below.

It was reported that AC's response so far was that they were 'reactive' not 'proactive' and nothing would be done until the road collapsed. The inherent jeopardy to the local residents of losing the only access for emergency vehicles to the village has been highlighted to AC. It has also been highlighted that the additional cost that will ensue from this approach is poor financial planning. However AC are intent on not undertaking any remedial work to the road until its actual failure. It was decided to highlight the matter to all members of the community and potentially alert the media. Action JA

d. CC Noticeboard – It was agreed that the CC would contact various groups who had expressed interest in funding community projects. It was stated that noticeboards would be erected on the fencing around the campsite and in the harbour area. The Sandend Harbour Board Trust to work with the CC to establish a location. Action JA

e. Resilience Plan and Community Action Plan – Development of these two plans is a lot of work. Therefore a working group was established to develop the two plans. A working group meeting was set up outside the normal meetings of the CC. As a result of the conversation concerning the development of the plans it was highlighted that the CC required to meet more often than quarterly. It was proposed to meet monthly a vote was taken and agreed that the CC would meet monthly with working groups to meet as appropriate. Action CE, AS, RP, CM, JT, and JA

f. Licensing Board - No further action to be taken with regards to Licensing Board

g. Crows – This matter is not to be considered further by the CC and reverts to the landowner. Action BR

h. Slippage of Tiles – Communication from the owner of the castle expressing concerns regarding the CC's interest in the slippage of tiles was circulated. It was expressly denied that the tiles were a risk to local residents and information concerning maintenance of the castle roof was provided. It was decided that the CC would take no more action on the matter.

i. Community Council Action Plan – Dealt with in e. above

j. Fordyce Bridge Repairs – It was determined that this required more explanation and that CE was to talk to BR regarding taking specific photographs of the areas of the bridge that required repair. Action CE and BR

K. Seafield estates were reported to have given a donation to the CC. CM had written to Seafield Estates thanking them for the donation.

i. It was reported that audited accounts had been submitted to AC.

7. Local Updates and Reports

Dealt with in 6. above

8. Updates from AC Councillors

a. No Councillors present

9. Any other business – Covered under matters arising

10. Matters outstanding

a. Meeting with Duncan Leece still to be set up. Action JA

b. Rural internet poor. Digital Engagement Team to be contacted. Action unallocated

11. Next meeting to be held Thursday 23rd February 2023 in Fordyce village hall.