

Fordyce, Sandend & District Community Council meeting

Thursday 25th May 2023 – 7.30pm

Present:

Cameron Ewen (CE)	Community Councillor - Chair
Bertie Robertson (BR)	Community Councillor – Vice Chair
John Anderson (JA)	Community Councillor - Secretary
Ivan Owen (IO)	Community Councillor
Audrey Stewart (AS)	Community Councillor
Claire Meadows (CM)	Community Councillor - Treasurer
Jenny Taylor (JT)	Community Councillor
Joanna Anderson (JoA)	Community Councillor
Jane Winfield (JW)	Community Councillor
Ira Gorvett (IG)	Applicant for Community Councillor
Phil Meadows (PM)	Applicant for Community Councillor
Peter Coldwell (PC)	Environment Project Officer AC

Apologies:

John Cox (JC)	Councillor Aberdeenshire Council

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

Community Action Plan – CAP

Community Resilience Plan - CAR

1. Chairman Cameron Ewen opened the Community Council working meeting at 7.32pm.
Apologies given for JC

2. Minutes of the previous meeting 27th April accepted, Proposed by BR seconded by JW.

3. Balance £6193.81.

4. Correspondence:

Peter Coldwell confirmed that engineering for steps at Glenglasshaugh end of Sandend bay had been carried out. Tender documents to be issued. It was also stated that the same was true for the path to Findlater castle above the village. Pathways to be included in CAP meetings 15th and 22nd June.

It was reported that it is very difficult to get full addresses for FSDCC particularly in rural area. It was pointed out that AC Gazetteer System provides every single property in the Sandend, Fordyce and District - Neil Cameron Emergency Planning Officer is looking into this. Action JA to approach Neil.

Advisory markings to be discussed at Community Action Plan Meeting. Action JT, CM, JA

Shared Prosperity Fund - starting point is Community Action Plan. Action JT, CM, JA

Sandend Fencing - AC not treating as temporary but are treating as permanent. Planning department contacted to understand if the fencing is to specification required in conservation area. Action JA

Disclosure Certificates were discussed as part of the resilience planning project. Requirement, or not, for Buddy system would determine necessity.

5. Police Report

Police report was circulated to all members

6. Matters Arising

a. The Hardship Fund Late Submission

The Treasurer stated the facts of The Hardship Fund

Facts as understood are:

Funding awarded by National Lottery/Corra Foundation.

On application form FSDCC state we intend to help approximately 30 families or individuals if they meet criteria.

Scheme rules state; Award funding to residents by 30th June 2023

Obtain National Lottery/Corra Foundation written consent before making any significant changes to project.

Discussed at CC meeting and closing date of 30th April 2023 agreed

Due to data protection all application forms were to be submitted to Treasurer by hand to home letterbox, email, or post.

Additional CC member's name and contact given if people required 'help' (as per the attached, below.)

The Treasurer stated the timelines and processes around The Hardship Fund, advising that further to the disbursement of the monies, an additional application had been received, outwith the advertised timeframe.

There was discussion of how the community had been made aware of the availability of funding and of the process and timescale to be followed.

It was noted that Jan McRobbie, Area Committee Officer, Banff and Buchan had advised that, as it appeared the FSDCC had not met the terms of the agreement with National Lottery/Corra Foundation, contact should be made to ensure there was no requirement to pay back any monies, as the number of beneficiaries was significantly different to that identified in the grant application form.

Corra Foundation/National Lottery have come back and stated that whilst there was an infringement in that FSDCC thought the total sum could be divided equally amongst compliant applicants, they are taking no further action.

During discussion of the specific circumstances of the late application, on two occasions personal information was shared which ought not have been. Apologies were made by those who had done so.

It was agreed that the Secretary prepare a letter to be sent to the applicant, state the facts of the case and that the Community Council were not able to use our own funds as this would be in breach of the reasons the funds were issued to the CC

A discussion was held concerning an email that had been sent to the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Ms J McRobbie. It was stated that this email cast incorrect aspersions on the Treasurer and gave information concerning applicant's details and identities. It also implied that there was impropriety. It was stated that this was believed to be in contradiction to GDPR legislation. A motion was made to investigate the route for exclusion of someone from the CC

A CC Councillor left the meeting during the resilience plan discussion. A volunteer was sought to follow them and check on their wellbeing.

b. Dunes Protection Update
JA to contact SEPA Action JA

c. Seaview Road/ The Village Road Slippage

It was reported that AC have stated that they are reactive and not proactive and no further action would be taken until failure of road. It was also stated that AC are now stating that the temporary repair to the fencing is to be permanent. It is to be checked if this is in accordance with planning legislation. Action JA

d. Resilience Planning

Meetings with the wider community arranged for the 15th and 22nd June at Sandend Village Hall. Action CM, JT, AS and JA

e. Community Action Plan

Meetings with the wider community arranged for the 15th and 22nd June at Sandend Village Hall

f. Website Feedback

It was asked how many hits the website had received and if this was something that could be tracked. Action CM

JW missing from website who's who. Action CM

7. Local Updates and Reports

It was stated that the section of the pathway in Fordyce from Joiner's workshop beyond Bleachy is the responsibility of AC. Handrail requires replacing. AC, (Peter Coldwell), to be contacted. Action JA

It was asked if speed detection signs could be deployed in Sandend and Fordyce. Police/AC to be contacted. Action JA

It was reported that approximately thirty trees from the recent Greenspace initiative had been stolen. Police have been informed and meeting on site arranged. Action CM

Replacement bus shelters. AC have stated there is no budget line for bus shelters. Replacement bus shelters will require independent funding. This may well be an item in the CAP. Action CAP work group.

It was stated that the blue container outside Messrs.' Smiths is on the highway and should be removed. Roads to be contacted. Action JA

Planters in village will be planted by the SAC if they require any assistance they will ask. We are advised plants will arrive soon from AC. No further action

8. Updates from Aberdeenshire Councillors

No Councillors present

9. Any Other Business

Dealt with under section 7.

Meeting closed at 19.10hrs

!0. Next Meeting to be held Thursday 29th June 2023 in Fordyce village hall. Following on from the AGM at 19.30 hrs