

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9TH NOVEMBER 2017 IN THE HOLIDAY INN, WESTHILL

Community Council		
Name	Position	Present
Charlie Love	Chairperson	X
Heather Brock	Deputy Chairperson	✓
Heather Coull	Secretary	✓
David Ritchie	Treasurer	✓
Clare Davidson	Minutes Secretary	✓
Raymond Swaffield	Member	✓
Bill Loudon	Member	✓
Dawn Anderson	Member	✓
Kate Lumsden	Member	✓
Alan Eastell	Member	✓
John Long	Member	✓
Diane Priestley	Member	✓
John Thornton	Member	✓
Ken Stewart	Member	X
John Hunter	Member	✓
Daniel Hay	Member	✓
Mandy Duggan	Member	✓
Stuart Bews	Member	✓
Brian Colvin	Member	✓
Chika Edeh	Member	✓
Cllr David Aitchison	Ward 13 Councillor	✓
Cllr Iris Walker	Ward 13 Councillor	✓
Cllr Ron McKail	Ward 13 Councillor	✓
Cllr Alistair McKelvie	Ward 13 Councillor	✓

Members of Public/Invited Guests		
Aileen Swaffield	Margaret Thornton	PC Steve Middleton
Graeme Hooper	Heather Cook	Colin Davidson
Michael Hulse		

	<u>Item</u>	Action/ Attention
1	<p><u>Chairperson's welcome and opening remarks</u> Vice Chair Heather Brock opened the meeting and welcomed all Members, residents and Councillors. As there were a number of new faces, all attendees introduced themselves in turn.</p>	
2	<p><u>Election of Community Councillors and appointment of Office Bearers</u> Rolling over from the previous WECC meeting, nominations were required for the role of Secretary and Minutes Secretary. Heather Brock advised all that Clare Davidson had noted interest in the Minute Secretary position and Heather Coull has interest in the Secretary Position. At this point nominations were taken for both positions: Clare Davidson was nominated for Minutes Secretary by Kate Lumsden and seconded by Heather Coull Heather Coull was nominated for Secretary by Clare Davidson and Seconded by Dawn Anderson</p>	

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3	<p><u>Apologies</u> Charlie Love and Ken Stewart</p>	
4	<p><u>Review and Approval of the Draft Minutes of Meeting 12/10/17</u> Minor Typo's noted Proposed: Heather Coull Seconded: David Ritchie The minutes were approved by the meeting.</p>	
5	<p><u>Matters Arising</u> At this point the issue of the ATM's in Westhill was raised and discussed briefly</p>	
6	<p><u>Police Report</u> . PC Steve Middleton presented the report. <i>Post meeting Note: Report was circulated to members on 13th November</i></p> <p>Chika Edeh asked about support for those involved in domestic abuse. Steve advised of the support and the protection offered to victims of domestic abuse.</p> <p>John Thornton sought clarity on incidents where the victim does not seek to press charges. Steve clarified that as soon as the police are in receipt of information regarding an incident taking place they will take action.</p>	
7	<p><u>Update on Gateway Art Project</u> Kate Lumsden advised the Community Council that a draft contract had been prepared and there is a video call scheduled to take place with the artist on Monday 13th November AM. Once all the details have been agreed the contract will be signed, and the detailed design will commence in the new year.</p> <p>KL has requested if anyone has old leaflets or photos of Westhill, if these could be given to be used during the design stage.</p> <p>The question mark where the sculpture will be placed has been knocked over. It is felt the question mark has served its purpose and David Ritchie will remove it from site. All at meeting are in agreement with this.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">KL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ALL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DR</p>
8	<p><u>Update on Kingsford Stadium Development</u> Heather Brock advised that WECC had received no new information regarding the deferment of the application. The next full council meeting will be held on the 11th December. However, to the knowledge of the WECC, there has been no new date set for the application to be determined by full council.</p>	
9	<p><u>Planning Watch</u> 4 new applications have been lodged since the last meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ref. No: APP/2017/2701 - Alterations and Extension to Dwelling – WECC have no comments 2. Ref. No: APP/2017/2619 – Demolition of Bridges Nursery and Erection of 2 Dwelling Houses – John Long provided a brief of the application. No Objections have been lodged. Height of the homes will be 3 stories. Details as on Aberdeenshire Council website. WECC have no comments 3. Ref. No: APP/2017/2536 – Erection of Building for retail – John Long provided a brief of the application. John Thornton raised the issue of litter. WECC will submit a comment regarding the control of litter. 4. Ref. No: APP/2017/2765 – Domestic Building, Hilltop Gardens - John Long provided a brief of the application. There was a previous application APP/2016/0814 for this proposal that was refused in June 2016. WECC raised an objection and Aberdeenshire Council refused the application due to the proposed development being on public open space and was contrary to policy requirements related to development on public open space. Cllr Walker clarified the land designation has not changed and is still public open space. WECC will submit an objection to the current application based on the land designation remaining the same as stated last year. 	<p style="text-align: center;">HC</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HC</p>

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	<p>WECC have declined a private meeting with the applicant however the applicant is welcome to attend any monthly meeting.</p> <p>WECC have submitted an objection to the proposed sign at the Kingshill development on the A944 Ref APP/2017/2581.</p>	
10	<p>Events</p> <p>Christmas Lights & Tree. The electrical Pat Testing (as required by Council) is being done with assistance of the Westhill Men Shed on 10th November. The lights will be put up on Friday 17th November. FES are helping this year and supplying a van, 2 men and a platform ladder. David Ritchie will be putting lights on the small Christmas tree on raised bed on Westhill Drive during weekend of 25/26 November and will put a note out asking for assistance to help with this. Dunecht Estates are giving us a Christmas tree again. Planned date for putting it up at shopping centre is Friday 1st December. Confirmation required if FES will help with this this year.</p> <p>Christmas Event Action from previous meeting complete and checklists have been sent. The tree lights switch on will take place on 9th December 1630 – 1730 at the shopping centre. Band booking is still to be confirmed – Heather Brock has agreed to do this. Hot Chocolate to be arranged, last year the Holiday Inn did this – Heather Brock / Clare Davidson to arrange. Chika was welcomed to input to the event as part of the church. Meeting to take place in the holiday inn (lounge) on Thursday 19th November (attendees: Heather.B, Diane, Dawn, David, Margaret and Clare) to finalise the arrangements for the event. Email to be sent out to all members requesting assistance on the night (9th Dec) Kate Lumsden is looking for volunteers to help hang the baubles etc. at the shopping centre 10.30am Wednesday 6th Dec. Cllrs are aware of the request from Aberdeenshire council that we pay for the electricity for the xmas lights, starting from xmas 2018 However, there is no official word that this will happen.</p>	<p>DR</p> <p>HB</p> <p>HB/CD</p> <p>HC</p>
11	<p>Ward 13 Councillors' Reports</p> <p>Cllr Ron McKail</p> <p>Safe Drive Stay Alive 2017 has seen another successful year, and has been a great week for all those involve. We have had approx. 4,784 pupils from across Aberdeenshire, City and Moray local authorities attending. The free show to members of the public was held on Wed 8th Nov, approx. 250 people attended, a great turn out and an increase on last year. The new Safe Drive film was in place for this year's show and certainly gave a fresh new element. Sponsors for this year were Nexen and Suncor. We will require sponsorship for 2018 and the steering group will seek to do this in early 2018.</p> <p>Contactless card wallets – Westhill library staff were very helpful.</p> <p>GoodPoint (Fire Stick) to test fire alarms are being distributed to vulnerable adults by FRS and by Community Health Partnership.</p> <p>Banners for schools to promote safety for our school children – Parents dropping off their kids outside school. GNMCSG will provide our community bobby with 5 banners for erection outside primary schools to discourage offending parents from stopping outside school and causing a safety issue. There have also been complaints that parents are parking their car on the pavements in Westwood drive and blocking driveways. This is being followed up with Steve Middleton.</p> <p>Speed Awareness Courses – Following this up with Police Scotland and SG</p> <p>Volunteer awards –Nominated 2 Westhill residents Russell Gray and Chris Pinnell. Attended 2 Diamond Wedding anniversaries to represent the council.</p>	

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	<p>As Deputy Lord Provost represented the council at the launch of the promotion for Garioch Run. Represented the council leader at the Oil and Gas Awards and on Sunday will lay a remembrance wreath at Midmar Church</p>	
12	<p><u>Website Report & Communications Group</u> No report received.</p>	
13	<p><u>Treasurer's Report and Bulletin Updates</u> <u>Treasurer's Report:</u> We have received the promised £10,000 from the Shire Council Top-up budget towards the Gateway Art project. The November round of donation requests have been reviewed by myself, Charlie and Heather. I proposed that the total we can easily afford to donate in this financial year is between £4000 and £5000, which will be approx. 40% of the expected Bulletin surplus. The list of 7 proposed donations has been circulated to members. They total £2300, which leaves a similar amount for the May 2018 round – <i>David Ritchie</i> <u>Bulletin Report:</u> Distribution of winter issue should be starting on weekend of 24th November. Community Councillor personal details will be removed from the bulletin. Contact details will be provided for office bearers only. DR distributed contacts for all CC members to all members present. Heather Coull advised her email address is incorrect, to be amended.</p>	
14	<p><u>Sub-group Reports</u> <u>Litter:</u> Our Litter Pick took place as planned in October and collected a considerable amount of litter, particularly along the sides of the A944. Within the Denman Woods we found a "picnic den" with a vast collection of bottles and cans and the remains of food but more worryingly was the lifebelt that had previously been removed from the lifesaving post at the pond. The missing one had been replaced, presumably by the Council, so we decided to leave the recovered one near our ordered skip and contacted people who we thought may be able collect it. We do not know if this was carried out. Our volunteers filled our skip with the collected rubbish and some went the extra mile by separating bottles and cans to take them to recycling points. We have been contacted by the manager of the Westhill Costa Coffee Shop. He said he is keen to have his staff take part in a litter pick and asked if we can help and supply some kit. We have agreed to do this when he can arrange a suitable date. No objection to this. He is also very keen to find a local company who could use his spent coffee grounds. He thought that some farmers do use these and asked if we could help find a contact. Currently, he said that these are sent down south to be burned as bio fuel but felt that a local use would be a greener option. Cllr Walker and Cllr McKelvie will look into this Our next Litter Pick will take place on 18th November. This will be the last one for this year, as we break over the winter months and start again in February. - <i>Aileen & Raymond Swaffield</i> <u>Christmas Lights:</u> As above in Events <u>Bulbs & Baskets:</u> No Report Received <u>Art Project:</u> As above in Events</p>	

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15	<p><u>Community Council Handbook</u></p> <p>David Ritchie directed all to the welcome pack emailed out to all members which contained the link to the handbook. DR took the meeting through the main points within the handbook and discussed aspects which all members should be aware of; such as the role of the Community Council. It was highlights that (as above) WECC will not publish members personal details. Members to read the handbook and revert with any questions or queries, or raise at the next meeting.</p>	
16	<p><u>Correspondence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Application Letter – Hilltop Garden (as discussed above) • Proposed changes to Stagecoach bus service - Consultation took place. John Long advised there is a lot of information on the website describing the changes to the route. The route will require new bus stops and the elimination of existing stops. Cllr Walker advised the new route will take 1 hour 20 minutes from Westhill to the City Centre. There will be no bus stops in Skene. New route is proposed to commence in January 2018. Any comments to Stagecoach by Friday 17th November. WECC will not comment, only individuals. • Aberdeenshire Council Policy – Festive Lights – WECC will form a response and circulate to members for comment. Cllr Walker has requested flexibility on dates to have lights on (currently 1st December) 	
17	<p><u>AOCB</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Thornton raised the issue around the mobile banking facility. The mobile bank is in Westhill Monday mornings and Wednesday afternoons. There is an issue with people queuing for long periods of time and the van leaving without fulfilling the queue due to timetable. WECC will compose a letter to RBS regarding this issue. Cllr McKelvie advised of cross party attempting to discuss with the banks however this is not progressing. • Sign at the rear entrance to the shopping centre car park has moved forward to discourage parking at the loading bay. Yellow hatching will be painted at the Home Bargains loading bay. Number plate recognition with a maximum stay of 3 hours has been proposed at the shopping centre main car park. 	
	<p><u>Date of next meeting</u> Thursday 14th December 2017, Holiday Inn, Westhill Drive</p>	

Clare Davidson
Minutes Secretary

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	GENERAL FUNDS	ADVERTISING PRE-PAID FOR WINTER 2017 ISSUE	LITTER CAMPAIGN FUND	GATEWAY ART PROJECT	TOTAL
FUNDS IN BANK AT 12/10/17	20958.21	5173.00	751.24		26882.45
<u>Receipts in period 13/10/17 to 9/11/17</u>					
Garioch Area Top-up Budget grant for Gateway Art Project				10000.00	10000.00
<u>Payments in period 13/10/17 to 9/11/17</u>					
Jamie Cameron (Aberdeen Art) - gifts for Audrey & Becky	-800.00				-800.00
Donations to 7 Community Groups (see list in minutes)	-2300.00				-2300.00
FUNDS IN BANK AT 9/11/17	17858.21	5173.00	751.24	10000.00	33782.45

Funds in bank include £18,493.3 in Santander Business bond at 0.50% interest