

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8TH MARCH 2018 IN THE HOLIDAY INN, WESTHILL

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

Members of Public/Invited Guests		
Freda Imrie	Heather Cook	PC Steve Middleton
Aileen Swaffield	Linda Lawson	PC Samuel Cockburn
Margaret Thornton	Vernon Cruden	Alison Reid
David Thornton	Moira Lawson	Helen Palmer
Keith Sinclair	Mike Forbes	John Allerton
Aileen Shinnie	Karen Souter	John Imrie

	<u>Item</u>
1	<p><u>Chairperson's welcome and opening remarks</u> Chair Charlie Love (CL) opened the meeting and welcomed all members, residents and councillors. CL advised the meeting will enter into a closed session at 8:30pm to discuss internal WECC matters. Therefore there will be a change to the order of the agenda sent out. Proposer for this amendment :Raymond Swaffield Second: Daniel Hay</p>
2	<p><u>Apologies</u> Ken Stewart Heather Coull Cllr David Aitchison</p>
3	<p><u>Review and Approval of the draft Minutes of Meetings</u> Monthly WECC meeting of 8th February 2018 Corrections on Pages 2 and 6 made Proposer: Heather Brock Seconder: Bill Loudon</p>
4	<p><u>Matters Arising</u> Update on Kingsford Stadium Development</p>

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8TH MARCH 2018 IN THE HOLIDAY INN, WESTHILL

	<p>CL advised there is nothing in front of the community council to consider in relation to the Kingsford Stadium development. We are aware the Scottish government will not be calling in the application. Therefore WECC await any further developments or proposals to Aberdeenshire Council and will consider in due course.</p> <p>Mike Forbes (MF) asked what the process for considering new information is. CL advised when there is an item in front of the community council to consider it will be considered within the WECC and a view will be formed in relation to planning.</p> <p>WDCSH – Daniel Hay update on visit DH attended this meeting, where all the sports leaders are discussing ways to get young people involved in sports activities. The main items were: they are looking to provide bursaries for people undertaking the sports leader courses as there is not a high level of uptake in this. They run courses on First aid (over 2 evenings, twice this year), disability inclusion, and safe guarding courses. There is also the positive coaching and sport injury prevention courses. WDCSH are looking to improve the Westhill 10k and retain visitors after the race is complete. AGM on 28th March. CL Thanked DH for the feedback.</p> <p>Consultation on Proposed Traffic Regulation Orders (dealt with) John Thornton (JT) reviewed the proposal discussed at WECC’s previous meeting 8th February. JT replied to the Council stating there was no objection for WECC on this proposal.</p> <p>Broadstraik Issue At WECC’s previous meeting an unpaid bill from Broadstraik Inn was discussed. CCs will be aware of correspondence relating to that. WECC have sought advice from Area officers and Councillors on this matter, WECC are preparing a letter stating we regret some of the content of the correspondence sent to the Broadstraik Inn. However WECC still looking to be paid for the advert placed.</p> <p>Westhill Health and Welfare – Retirement Fair DR/ JT/CL are unaware of any further information on the retirement fair due to be held on 13th May.</p>
5	<p><u>Alison Reid – Westhill Academy Head Teacher</u> Alison Reid introduced herself to the WECC and thanked the community council for having her along to speak. Alison has been in post at Westhill Academy since August 2017. Prior to joining Westhill Academy she was a Quality Improvement officer and before that she was a deputy head at Portlethen Academy for a number of years. Has also worked in Kemnay Academy and at various shire primary schools as a music teacher. S4 – S6 Attainment is still very strong when compared to city, shire and national. The big topic has been the school uniform. Various consultations were carried out and they are now at the end of that process. The result is a new uniform will be introduced in August 2018. What that uniform will look like has been consulted on and the pupils have opted for a traditional style of black trousers/skirt, white shirt with an optional blazer and a school tie – design of this is in development. There is a sweatshirt alternative to the blazer. Black footwear. This should be accessible for everyone at all price points. As discussed with Cllr Walker, there is a need to make families aware they may be eligible for a clothing grant, which can contribute up to £50 a year towards school uniform. Alison has asked that members and residents get the word out to families that could benefit from this that they may be eligible. Westhill Academy will also put out various communications to families as well. Something that is coming up a lot is litter around the community. The school and elected members have been looking at options such as additional bins around the shopping centre. A consistent message is sent to pupils on the issue of litter. If there are any ideas please let the school know. Alison is looking for support when it comes to the exam time and pupils head off on study leave. Pupils call it ‘muck up day’. There is an impression among some adults and parents this is a bit of fun and encourage it, however this is disruptive to the community and is not a true representation of the pupils in the school. Friday 27th April is the concerning date. Pupils involved in this could face exclusions. Looking for support from the community on this.</p>

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8TH MARCH 2018 IN THE HOLIDAY INN, WESTHILL

	<p>PC Steve Middleton advised that if this does get out of hand pupils could be charged with breach of the peace. PC Middleton asked Alison to get in touch with Inspector Darren Bruce and request support on the date.</p>
6	<p><u>Planning Watch</u></p> <p>Two objections were put in -Westdyke Way, objection based on the public open space. -Men's shed extension – objection is based purely on the colour of the cladding. A letter was subsequently received from Ian Scott, Aberdeenshire Planning, proposing grey as an alternative; this is accepted by the architect. If this change is put in place WECC objection will be lifted.</p>
7	<p><u>Ward 13 Councillors' Reports</u> <u>Cllr. Ron McKail</u> <u>Flooding Issue</u> Resident on Brodiach Road reported flooding concerns as a result of the thaw and a heavy flow of water coming off adjacent fields. Not just into a property but also a lot of water on the road. Visited family and appreciated the concerns that their property was at risk of being flooded. Contacted council officers who proposed a home visit to advise the property owner what steps could be taken to minimise flood damage.</p> <p><u>Snow Clearance</u> For the recent winter spell snow clearance of roads and pavements was more effective than the cold spell in December. Snow clearing vehicles were very visible. Pavements and roads in the parts of Westhill I visited were gritted and it had the desired effect.</p> <p><u>Year of Young People 2018</u> Recognising the achievement of young people in 2018 is a Scottish Government programme and there is committee set up being led by Rev Stella Campbell, Chris Pinnell Scouts and Rotary and Mr and Mrs Bedwell (Lions) to promote a programme of events in Westhill. I was at the meeting last night. The committee would very much appreciate meeting with WECC; share ideas; get WECC's support etc. Suggestions are to have a variety of awards for example : Lions Club, Rotary Club and the Parish Church might sponsor an award or awards to recognise the achievements or the contribution of young people. Young Environmentalist; Young Musician; Young Carer. Young Sports person These are simply suggestions and not written on tablets of stone. I was asked to mention tonight the possibility of promoting and publicising Year of Young People 2018 through the Bulletin and could WECC also be involved. Members of the group (Stella/ Chris) would be very pleased to receive an invite to speak to WECC councillors.</p> <p><u>Kingsford Stadium</u> Received a large number of emails requesting that I did not support any future planning applications. I've replied to most I've received.</p> <p><u>Cllr. Iris Walker</u> <u>Pot holes</u> Entrance to Westhill Academy has been reported. This repair would come from the Education budget so conversations are ongoing between Education and Roads. Please continue to report individual pot holes in the area using the online reporting tool.</p> <p><u>Meeting with HT</u> As previously planned, I met with Alison Reid, HT, at the Academy. We discussed local concerns about litter both at the shopping centre and Arnhall Moss/route to Tesco. It was agreed that Alison would discuss with pupils how they could get involved through some of the existing curriculum work / 'Green Schools' initiative. Extra bins at the shopping centre and routes from there to the school were also discussed with Alison agreeing to include a 'bin audit' as something pupils themselves might want to get involved in.</p> <p><u>Arnhall Moss</u></p>

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8TH MARCH 2018 IN THE HOLIDAY INN, WESTHILL

Many thanks to Ken Stewart and Philip Wilkie who have agreed to monitor the condition of the ponds at Arnhall Moss. They attended a site visit on 20th February with representatives from the council, Scottish Water and SEPA.

The Arnhall Moss Advisory group have been updated and a date for their next meeting is being arranged via Steve Grey from Aberdeenshire Council who has taken over from previous council rep, Emma Williams.

Freda's Trees

Beside the old vets there was a batch of trees which Freda Imrie and some other residents campaigned to keep. These have been cut down, Cllr Walker is trying to find out why this happened. There is a meeting with MJ Mapp on 4th April to get more information on this.

Hilltop Lamp posts

Concerns raised on the condition of the lampposts. Trying to get more information for Aberdeenshire council. Next Tuesday at the Garioch area committee we're being asked to agree budget lines for various works, there is a sum of money set aside for Lawsondale lighting improvement. Suggested fixing the worst at Hilltop and leave the better ones in Arnhall but this was not accepted. Cllr Walker will keep at this one.

Carnie pitch

Work on the Carnie pitches has started over the last few days for constructing the new surface.

Resilience Groups –

Cllr Walker is going to circulate the locations of all the grit bins if the community council would like to conduct an audit on the locations and if more are required.

Cllr. Alistair McKelvie

Current weather conditions are pre occupying many of us, and Council officers, who are stretching resources to keep our roads and pathways passable.

Cllr McKail has previously stated the statistics of area we have to manage, primarily to keep the A and B road network supply chain moving, and accessibility to facilities like schools, hospitals, etc. At a recent Winter Maintenance update, Cllrs were given a briefing of Weather statistics, External Forecasting Agencies and the Internal management tools (15 weather stations across the Shire), which enables Officers to drive resources to the most needed areas.

This has been a more difficult winter than in recent years, and it has brought a focus to mind, that the Council cannot deliver or cope with all the demands that we as communities would like, or might expect. I am aware that we have many vulnerable young and older residents that need some form of support when conditions like those we are experiencing now prevail for days at a time.

I am seeking therefore that starting with our Community Councils and voluntary bodies; we look to start up self-help groups, to protect those in most need. This can be less able individuals, elderly residents, or street clearing, or any other barriers to accessibility. Many of us, myself included, take for granted, the ability to drive, or walk to shops, or the usual facilities in our communities, when it is nigh impossible for many other less able individuals. Access to paths, roads, and shops is vital for many, and within Westhill and District, we have many community- spirited groups that I hope will identify and assist in this quest.

Shire Council has a Volunteer Welcome Pack for any resident/s, either individuals, or in groups, or streets where neighbours are currently organised. This Pack include provision of training, hi-viz tabard, gloves, shovel etc., and can be found on the Aberdeenshire website. CL requested additional information on this to post on the WECC website and social media.

As I write this report we are still unaware of any decision by the Scottish Gov't, to 'Call in' the Kingsford Planning decision, and I understand that this is imminent. Some of you may be aware that the Shire Officers have maintained the objections, previously submitted, and have made representation to the Gov't on that premise. I would like to thank the many individuals who have written to me to express their views, and I have hopefully managed to reply to everyone, so far.

We have now began the work and consultations for the next 5 year development plan (2017-2022) and now is the time that you our public, and residents, can have your say on our Communities growth.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8TH MARCH 2018 IN THE HOLIDAY INN, WESTHILL

	<p>Community Councils are involved as are officers in Community roles and our own Planning Officers. You can engage via your Council's, or via the Shire website, www.aberdeenshirecouncil.gov.uk/councilplan.</p> <p>Over the last 6-9 months, Westhill schools have seen a number of changes in Senior personnel, with new Heads being appointed to Westhill Academy and the Primaries at Elrick and Westhill, This month Cllr McKail and I will be part of the interview process to appoint a new Head to Crombie Primary, as the current Head is to retire. Quite a change indeed and I am sure we wish them all every success in their leadership and education of our future generations.</p> <p><u>Cllr. David Aitchison</u> No Report Received.</p>
8	<p><u>Treasurer's Report and Bulletin Updates</u> <u>Treasurer</u> Nothing to report. The normal financial summary for the transactions since the Feb meeting is attached.</p> <p><u>Bulletin</u> Spring Bulletin was delivered by printer on the planned date, Friday 23rd February. The majority of distributors would have done them that weekend, before the snow arrived during the week after.</p> <p>Deadline for Summer issue is Friday 4th May. Delivery by printer should be 25th May. This issue will include the Gala week programme as normal. Gala Day is Saturday 9th June, so most residents should get their Bulletins around 2 weeks before then.</p> <p>We have been contacted by a lady who runs the Scottish Community Councils website. They would like to put together a written case study for the Showcase section of the website on community council-led publications and the impact they have on their communities and would like to feature the Westhill Bulletin and Westhill and Elrick Community Council. Waiting to hear what is required from me. CL thanked David for his hard work on the Bulletin and the recognition is well deserved.</p>
9	<p><u>Police Report</u> PC Steve Middleton presented the police report PC Middleton advised regarding the issue with parking on double yellow, if someone takes a photo of the car on the double yellows and supplies the car registration, time and date to him he can issue a ticket. There is an issue with cars parking in bus stops. This can cause an unnecessary obstruction and if the bus company provided CCTV with car registration, time and date it can be dealt with. Speed camera survey will be conducted on Old Skene road near Dawson, should have results for the next meeting. JT raised a request from the Evening Express to send them the monthly police reports. PC Steve Middleton advised they would be required to submit a freedom of Information (FOI) request. WECC cannot forward these reports on. JL advised of a PayPal scam which is going on where PayPal are sending letters to home addresses requesting the recipient to call a premium rate number.</p>
10	<p><u>Sub-group Reports</u> <u>Litter</u> Our first Litter Pick of 2018 was scheduled for 17th February. On checking the extent of the remaining snow and ice coverage the previous day, we decided to proceed. We circulated all volunteers of the conditions and suggested that if they had any doubts, not to turn up. In the event, we were surprised at the good turnout and we collected a skip full of litter. Most of the volunteers gathered for a natter at the end exchanging news of their festive breaks etc. The next Litter Pick will take place on 17th March RS took the opportunity to flag up the Bus Forum is on 22nd March, 7:30 at Westhill Academy. RS normally would attend but won't manage this meeting. HB and DH will attend. RS is looking to advertise the meeting on the Website and on Facebook. Aileen Shinnie raised point that Stagecoach is reducing the Westhill bus service.</p> <p><u>Gateway Art Project</u> I have spent most of the last week chasing Aberdeenshire Council to get signed permission for our application to Tesco. We applied to "Bags of Help" to ask for funds towards the landscaping round our</p>

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8TH MARCH 2018 IN THE HOLIDAY INN, WESTHILL

	<p>sculpture. This has been sent away and we have applied for £4K. Reply from Land scape services regarding funding for landscaping around the sculpture, stating there is only money for the other side of the road.</p> <p>Cllr Walker will check with the Area Manager at the next Ward meeting. We were promised by Doug Milne that money would be available as it is for the 50 years of Westhill. However Ian Welsh is going to check if there is anything in the budget.</p> <p>A mound would be helpful to increase the height of the sculpture. Would Bert McIntosh assist here? STV have contacted me and are planning an interview for a piece they are planning.</p> <p>Holger will return in April with mock ups and drawings. He has asked how many streets are in Westhill. DR has this for the Bulletin distribution and will advise Kate Lumsden (KL).</p> <p>Westhill Art Project</p> <p>KL meeting with various groups to make and string Easter eggs and will be asking for volunteers to help to hang them at the shops on Monday 26th March 10am.</p> <p>New WECC Constitution</p> <p>A subgroup was formed consisting of DR, DH, John Imrie (JI), JT and RS.</p> <p>JI and JT have started to go through the new model constitution and standing orders. The new model constitution and standing orders have a number of inconsistencies, anomalies and errors in them. JT has reverted to Alison Cumming at Aberdeenshire Council and has requested her to provide clarity. Once these points have been resolved, a first draft will be created and it will be discussed and updated as required by the subgroup prior to submission to WECC and Aberdeenshire Council.</p> <p>The model constitution requires to have the AGM in June each year, after the end of the CC financial year on 31st March. Currently we have 20 CC positions, but the new Community Council Membership Numbers document states that WECC membership is 17. At the next election in 2020 or earlier if required, if more than 17 apply there will be a public ballot. This has never been required before by WECC, A ballot will extend the period of time required to elect the community council members. The new constitution and associated documents must be completed by early September so that they can be adopted at the AGM in September.</p> <p>Cllr McKail – If WECC would like retain the 20 councillor positions then WECC can appeal against the 17 maximum per the new SoE.</p>
11	<p><u>Correspondence</u> None to discuss</p>
12	<p><u>AOCB</u> Uncollected Rubbish at Westhill Shopping Centre</p> <p>HB provided photos of the overflowing bins at Westhill shops recently. JT contacted MJ Mapp and advised they said it had been cleared on Friday evening. However it would appear this didn't happen as it was still there on the Saturday. Cllr McKelvie was in the area and saw the mess. He found an operative, who advised he was unable to contact MJ Map at weekends, and there was minimal assistance and there is no cover for sick leave or holidays provided.</p> <p>RS believed he saw a new face collecting rubbish so a new person may have been employed, following retirement of one of the 2 janitors.</p> <p>WECC will monitor this and report back.</p>
	<p><u>Date of next meeting</u> Thursday 12th April 2018, Holiday Inn, Westhill Drive</p>

Clare Davidson
Minutes Secretary

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8TH MARCH 2018 IN THE HOLIDAY INN, WESTHILL

TREASURER FINANCIAL REPORT	GENERAL FUNDS	ADVERTISING PRE-PAID FOR 2018	LITTER CAMPAIGN FUND	TOTAL
FUNDS IN BANK AT 8/02/18	20378.11	18375.00	739.27	39492.38
Receipts in period 8/02/18 to 8/03/18				
Bulletin advertisers-Spring issue	862.00			862.00
Bulletin advertisers- 2018 prepayments		910.00		910.00
Transfer of spring issue pre-paid adverts to General Funds	4821.00	-4821.00		0.00
Payments in period 8/02/18 to 8/03/18				
Sundry admin Expenses	-10.00			-10.00
Meetings room hires	-84.00			-84.00
XIC- Bulletin spring issue printing	-5952.23			-5952.23
Bulletin sundries and postages	-79.88			-79.88
Kate Lumsden- reimburse Art Project sundries	-15.48			-15.48
Xmas Lights and Tree sundries	-32.05			-32.05
Gateway Art Project-sundry expenses	-12.50			-12.50
FUNDS IN BANK AT 8/03/18	19874.97	14464.00	739.27	35078.24

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