

# GRANTOWN ON SPEY and VICINITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Minutes of Meeting held on 20 March 2018 at the Court House, Grantown at 1900hrs.

<b>Present:</b>	Barry Main (BM)	Chair
	Bill Sadler (BS)	Vice Chair
	Linda Coe (LC)	Secretary
	Beatrice Oliphant (BO)	Treasurer
	Catriona Brown (CB)	
	Ewan MacGregor (EM)	
<b>In attendance</b>	Jeannie Munro	Resident
	Margaret Ross	Resident
	Liz Henderson	CNPA (Items 1 to 6 only)
	Andrew McCracken (AM)	WTAA (Item 2 only)
	Matthew Hawkins	WTAA (Item 2 only)
	Naomi Miles	WTAA (Item 2 only)
	Kenny Rodgers (KR)	NHSH (Items 2 and 3 only)
	Boyd Peters (BP)	NHSH (Item 3 only)
	Peter Grant	Resident (Item 3 only)
	Fiona Grant	Resident (Item 3 only)
<b>Apologies:</b>	Kenny Kinnaird (KK)	
	Muriel Cockburn (MC)	Councillor

### **1. Welcome**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

### **2. Willow Tree Allotments Association**

AM briefed the CC on the Association's proposal for about 10 allotments on land behind Grant House and considered there would be sufficient demand for these allotments. He emphasised it was early days in the Project and that the first step was to secure sufficient funding to enable it to seek planning permission, which he hoped to do later in the year. AM said that they still had to discuss access to the site with Seafield Estate. The Grantown allotments would be modelled on the allotments scheme in Kingussie.

Highland Council must manage waiting lists for allotments and take reasonable steps to address high levels of demand for allotments under provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015. HC expects local associations to do all the preparatory work. AM believes HC has a strong commitment to making land available where demand for allotments can be demonstrated. AM also believed the NHS would be supportive. In due course he hoped the CC would be able to provide a letter of support. At this time the CC was only able to state it was supportive in principle of allotments in Grantown.

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## **3. New Hospital, Provision of Community Care and Ian Charles Hospital**

BP gave a presentation on the proposals for end of life care in Granttown on the closure of Ian Charles. In this regard the Working Group would be supported by a project officer funded by Macmillan. The aim was to improve on the current arrangements by better identifying those in need of these services. As part of formulating this plan the project would be working closely with organisations like the Highland Hospice.

The premise was that suitable local care whether at home or in dedicated accommodation was preferable to being in hospital. To achieve this aspiration there would need to be an increase in community nursing staff and two further beds needed to be provided in Grant House. These Heather Beds would be provided by HC and would be available to provide palliative, including end of life, care.

BP acknowledged that staffing both at Grant House and in the community nursing team was a challenge, but this was being addressed. The CC advised BP that it had been assured that Ian Charles would not close before the new hospital opened and following BP's presentation requested that Ian Charles should not be closed until the staffing to provide community care was in place. The CC further concluded that it needed to ensure that HC undertook the work required at Grant House.

KR explained that Ian Charles was effectively owned by Scottish Ministers having been transferred to the Secretary of State for Scotland under the provisions of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1947 and then to Scottish Ministers following the Scotland Act 1998.

The intention was to refurbish the Health Centre making it separate from the hospital. In due course the hospital would be sold. Using the provisions of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, the CC was advised that an appropriate body needed to express an interest in the building in the near future, pending investigations as to whether the community had a future use for it.

**Action: All**

## **4. Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 February 2018 were approved.

**Proposed: EM; Seconded: CB**

## **5. Matters Arising**

**5.1 Joint Meeting with GI** This would be held on Tuesday 10 April at 1930 or after the AGM whichever is later. EM and BO have indicated that they cannot attend, and CB remains a maybe.

**5.2 Parking** BM is still waiting for revised plans from Bill Lobban following the Meeting back in October. CB agreed to follow up with MC.

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**Action: CB and BM**

**5.3 Skating Pond** BM reported that Basil Dunlop had confirmed that there was only funding for 3 days' work. EM raised the matter of WREN funding and BM agreed to pass on details to Hilary Swift who was coordinating the works at the skating pond on behalf of AWT.

**Action: EM and BM**

**5.4 Letter to RBS** BM agreed to circulate both his letter to RBS and the response.

**Action: BM**

**5.5 Tree Survey** BS agreed to follow up with HC.

**Action: BS**

**5.6 Hedge Trimming** BM following up with Seafield Estate.

**Action: BM**

**5.7 Flower Containers** EM reported that there had been a good take up from youth groups. He would discuss further with BO to incorporate into the Gardens Project.

**Action: EM and BO**

## **5.8 GoSVCC email account**

EM suggested that the gmail account be retained and that LC have sole access as the administrator. She would forward relevant emails. In LC's absence EM would be the administrator.

**Action: LC and EM**

## **6. Windfarm Community Benefit**

LH advised that she had been investigating this matter since the presentation on Clash Gour. She had made some notes which she gave to LC as background for the Clash Gour Community Liaison Group which had its first Meeting on 27 March.

## **7.Co-opting further Members**

BM advised that Martin Bradshaw was willing to be co-opted to fill one of the two vacancies. The CC approved the co-option of Martin Bradshaw.

**Proposed: BM; Seconded: EM**

## **8. CC Representation at Area Meetings**

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The CC discussed the various Meetings at which the CC required to send a representative. A problem was that some Meetings were during the day which meant that retired members would have to attend. BS would attend future AOCC and Planning Reps Meetings as well as the B&S CC meeting on 24 April. LC would represent the CC on the NHS B&S Project Ream meetings and the Clash Gour Community Liaison Group. The Planning Sub Group would manage HC and CNPA Planning Meetings between them.

## **9. Treasurer's Report**

BO advised that the CC had received a £500 discretionary grant from HC which was for the Gardens Project. She advised that there was £3,267.01 in the bank.

## **10. Planning Report**

BS advised that there were 3 planning applications this month. The CC discussed its concerns regarding the Birchview proposal which risked becoming a party house in an inappropriate part of Town. BS agreed to discuss further with BM, and notify HC of the CC's concerns.

**Action: BM and BS**

BS also advised the CC that he was investigating a telecoms mast which had appeared on Dreggie. The CC discussed whether having a meeting dedicated to Planning would be a good idea. It would be sensible to invite Gavin Miles from CNPA and someone from HC.

**Action: BM and BS**

## **11. Community Asset Transfer**

The CC discussed the need for a better understanding of the processes under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 in view of the potential upcoming projects – Ian Charles, Strathspey Hotel, Telephone Exchange, RBS Building. BS and LC agreed to investigate.

**Action: BS and LC**

## **12. Grantown Initiative Update**

BS advised that the Meeting had been cancelled and agreed to work with LC on points for the agenda for the joint meeting on 10 April.

**Action: BS and LC**

## **13. Boules Court**

BM reported this was still ongoing and he would report to the April Meeting.

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**Action: BM**

## **14. Improving Routes and Paths around Grantown**

BS asked for this to be deferred to the April Meeting. He was concerned about the state of disrepair of the paths generally around the woods and the potential fire hazard from the heaps of branches left lying around.

BS also advised of a Grantown Society proposal to put metal plaques on relevant buildings to provide information.

**Action: BS**

## **15. Presentations to Long Serving Members**

Longer serving CC Members had suggested a small presentation be made to 3 members who had made a significant contribution to Grantown through over 20 years of membership of the CC. In principle the CC supported this and would seek guidance from HC on use of funds.

**Action: BO and BM**

## **Next Meeting**

The next Meeting would be on **Tuesday 17 April 2018** at 1900 in the Court House.

Agenda items should be notified to BM and LC by **Saturday 7 April** for inclusion in the Agenda.

The Meeting closed at 2145.