



## SLAINS & COLLIESTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2025

**Present:** Roddy Junor, Sally Sheehan, Roger Berl, Chris Hovey, Trish Davidson, Nora Harper, Ian Law, Councillor Isobel Davidson

**Apologies:** Gill Moir, Sheena Junor, Beth Thomson, Julie Swan, Marley Twine,

**In Attendance:** Sarah and Scott Macpherson, John Henderson

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Approve minutes	Approved: Chris Hovey    Seconded: Trish Davidson	
Slains School	<p>Sarah and John explained the situation regarding Slains School. The gym roof had collapsed resulting in the school being closed and declared unsafe. Port Errol school had been used to provide “a school within a school” as a temporary solution.</p> <p>Several meetings had subsequently taken place between Council officials, including the Director of Education, and parents. A partial demolition was one of the options suggested, but further reports were still awaited. The Council do not intend to reopen the school.</p> <p>In the normal course of events, Aberdeenshire Council are required to follow due process in their statutory duty when mothballing a school and can take up to two years, but with Slains, this could be done more quickly.</p> <p>The Council were to contact parents, offering interviews and outlining options. All children would be guaranteed a place at Ellon Academy in due course.</p> <p>The Community Council expressed support and hoped the closure of the school could be marked in some way.</p>	
Matters arising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drop in coffee mornings had ended, but will resume in the autumn.</li> <li>• AVA were to recommend the Community Council be put forward for the Involving Volunteers award.</li> <li>• The Emergency Response training session run by Marley and Chris had been delivered to a very high standard.</li> <li>• Chris Hovey had accompanied Doug Kane from Arch Henderson when he carried out his survey. A report would be sent to the Factor and the Community Council. Chris had also met with Christo Shepherd and others concerning the development of the north east coastal trail.</li> <li>• Although the recent NEAT performance did not have a big audience, it had been very well received.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The replacement part for the swings had been ordered, delivery expected within four weeks.</li> <li>• Councillor Davidson had confirmed that bathing water quality is still inspected and that the dog warden is still in post.</li> <li>• The work party had been cancelled due to bad weather, but it was felt that the work could still be done by a smaller group. Roddy was to arrange.</li> </ul>	
Event Planning	<p>NEAT - <i>The Elves and the Shoemaker Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April</i> <i>Sand, Silt, Flint Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May</i></p> <p>Police Scotland - Scam and Fraud workshop - Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May</p> <p>Gala August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2025. Plans were progressing, RSPB had confirmed they will have a stall, Aberdeen Science Centre will also be able to attend (they would need a gazebo) Dragon dance, magician and ceilidh band have all confirmed. Activities may include the old skittles if sufficient volunteer manpower.</p> <p>The community could be asked for ideas for the Friday night of Gala.</p>	
Secretary's Report and correspondence	<p>The lease for the former beach shelter had been signed, although its purpose was not known. It was hoped that there could be a partnership between the new lease holder and community council in regard to the public toilets.</p> <p>A small group had been established to continue the millennium Collieston Century project, and to transfer the content of the CD to a more accessible format. The Community Council made the decision to retain overall control of the project but to help where they could.</p> <p>The Area Office had asked for feedback regarding dispersal of the Area budget. S&amp;CCC would prefer to keep the status quo even though the amount would be smaller.</p> <p>The Community Council felt it would be helpful if hall bookings could be shared, with no personal information revealed.</p> <p>Correspondence to 5<sup>th</sup> March</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sally Sheehan – to Christo Shepherd regarding new SCIO for NE Coastal Trail</li> <li>• Claire Young, Area Office – update on local place plans</li> <li>• Kai Suleman, Parliament – ASDA funding opportunity information</li> <li>• Doug Kane, Arch Henderson – Slains land survey</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marley Twine – location of walkie talkies</li> <li>• Aberdeenshire Council – PC renewal documents</li> <li>• Laura Geals, FRP – large grant scheme information</li> <li>• Catriona Reid, Nature Scot re talks at Forvie</li> <li>• Roger Berl – dog owner leaflet</li> <li>• Sally Sheehan – letter of support of Water Sports Trailer at Cransdale</li> <li>• Sarah Macpherson – Slains School incident</li> <li>• James Walker – Cransdale licence</li> <li>• Loise Muirhead – Warp it – Reuse tool for communities</li> <li>• Christo Shepherd – North East coastal trail</li> <li>• Chris Hovey – meeting with Doug Kane, Arch Henderson</li> <li>• Scottish Community Councils newsletter</li> <li>• Various re Slains School</li> <li>• Isobel Davidson – response to questions from Forvie panel</li> <li>• Donside Community Council re cuts to day services</li> <li>• John Hitchcock – annual plants for tubs</li> <li>• Aberdeenshire Council planning list</li> <li>• Various re NEAT show</li> <li>• SEPA – Surface Water Flood Maps published</li> <li>• Doug Kane, Arch Henderson – meeting with CC reps</li> <li>• Scottish Community Councils – case study project</li> <li>• Louise Muirhead, Area Office - Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership - Draft Equality Outcomes Survey</li> <li>• Sally Sheehan – cost of replacement part for swings</li> <li>• Alistair Millar, Roads and Infrastructure – Statutory papers re speed limits</li> <li>• Dawn James, RSPB – Gala arrangements</li> <li>• Scottish Water – survey</li> <li>• Rebecca Sweeney – request for traffic sign</li> <li>• Alan Clark, Aberdeenshire Council – Collieston toilets</li> <li>• Various re ongoing ownership of Collieston’s century</li> <li>• Emma Christie, AVA – next steps for Volunteer Award</li> <li>• Claire Young, Area Office – Formartine Area Budget</li> <li>• Sally Sheehan – ice cream shop lease</li> <li>• Allan Clark, Aberdeenshire Council – re work in public toilets</li> <li>• Chris Hovey – use of the Community Centre and GDPR</li> <li>• Aberdeen Science Centre – confirmation for Gala</li> </ul>	
Treasurer’s Report	Current balance £19,264.70 (this includes grant funding) £99 in the Virgin account. Accounts have been completed to 31 <sup>st</sup> March.	
Pier	Work on the slipway is proceeding.	
SEAchange	Work on the polycrub had just started, the shed was to be delivered soon.	

Rivie	Chris has made a border around the Rivie car park, spread gravel dust and planted wild flower seeds.	
Planning	APP/2025/0320 Land Adjacent to Little Collieston Croft, Collieston, Aberdeenshire, AB41 8RU. Planning Permission in Principle for Erection of Dwellinghouse.	
Any Other Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sarah had noticed debris coming from the pipe flowing into the harbour, possibly coming from the sinkhole. Scottish Water are responsible for repairs should it reopen again.</li> <li>• Boules season was to start shortly. All welcome. Tuesdays and Fridays at 7pm.</li> </ul>	
Date of next Meeting	Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2025 Collieston Community Centre at 7pm	