

ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL**BUCHAN AREA COMMITTEE****VIA SKYPE – 1ST JUNE 2021**

Present: Councillors N Smith (Chair), D Beagrie (Vice Chair), A Allan, A Buchan, M Buchan, S Calder, A Fakley J Ingram, A Simpson, S Smith and I Sutherland

Officers: Amanda Roe, Buchan Area Manager (Business Services); Amanda de Candia, Solicitor (Business Services); Peter MacCallum, Roads Development Manager (Infrastructure Services); Lynne Gravener, Strategic Policy Leader (Business Services); and Theresa Wood, Area Committee Officer (Business Services)

**PRIDE OF BUCHAN NOMINATION –
THE BUCHAN GIVING TREE**

Councillor D Beagrie –

“Shona and her team at The Buchan Giving Tree have been providing a service to our community for the last 17 years and this community service has grown from strength to strength over the years. This last 18 months have seen a much bigger demand on their group and they have embraced the challenges, before lock down they were dealing with hundreds of families providing food, clothing, school uniforms, household items and much more, and ensuring that at Christmas time the families were helped with food and toys etc. At Easter they provided easter eggs for all the families.

The demand on their services has increased and they have expanded the service they offer our community. At the Farmers Markets they are hosting events and engaging with the children on an educational platform and offering games and prizes each month. In the Buchan Giving Tree home they have a wide range of items that the community can access for free from clothes, food and homeware; the range of goods they provide is staggering. They are helping families in our community with the full household package.

This is a group who have been a lifeline to the town and I have worked closely with them for many years and I know how important they have been to so many families. They are volunteers who work quietly away supporting the families because they want to help our community. They are helping so many in our town and deserve to be recognised by this award and I thank them for all the work they are doing and look forward to continuing to work with them in the future.

I would therefore like to propose that The Buchan Giving Tree be presented with a Pride of Buchan Award, and seek the Committee’s approval.”

The Committee **agreed** to present The Buchan Giving Tree with a Pride of Buchan Award.

1. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

2. STATEMENT ON EQUALITIES

In making decisions on the following items of business, the Committee **noted** the requirement, in terms of Section 149 of the Equality Act, 2010 –

- (1) to have due regard to the need to:-
 - (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
 - (b) advance equality of opportunity between those who share a protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
 - (c) foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and persons who do not share it
- (2) where an Equality Impact Assessment was provided, to consider its contents and take those into account when reaching their decision

3. DRAFT MINUTE OF 11TH MAY 2021

The Draft Minute of the Meeting of 11th May 2021 had been circulated and was **approved**.

4. NOTICE OF MOTION

From Councillor S Calder –

“It is now 5 years since the 'Choose Peterhead' Town Centre Regeneration Report was produced in May 2016, with a 5 year programme for the regeneration of the town centre.

It was decided by Buchan Area Committee in March 2016 that a 6 monthly regeneration progress report should come to the Area Committee for scrutiny - every March and September. The last such progress report came in October 2019 - 19 months ago.

Area Committee requests that these reports are resumed on the previously agreed basis, and that a full and detailed regeneration progress report with identifiable outcomes is presented to Area Committee for scrutiny at the next available Area Committee in public session.”

Councillor Calder spoke to his Notice of Motion.

The Area Manager responded –

“In response to the detail of the Motion, I would fully acknowledge that there has been a break in reports coming through to Committee and that the reports expected in 2020 and in the first part of 2021 have not been presented to Buchan Area Committee in public session.

This interruption in reporting has reflected the Service's response activity during the 15 months or so of the pandemic. The team have been remobilised onto critical activity designed to minimise the negative impact on the economy and ensure businesses, traders and the third sector have the support they have needed throughout the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, including the processing of grant schemes developed by both the Scottish Government and Aberdeenshire Council, and providing advice and support as the area has transitioned through different Covid Protection levels and multiple lockdowns.

Should Committee decide to accept the Motion, a progress report that will fulfil the Motion can be presented to Committee on 24th August 2021, and thereafter regular updates on progress will be provided.

I would ask Committee to note that wherever possible we do endeavour to report progress in public, however, we need to ensure we do not breach any third party confidentiality and we may on occasion report outwith public session.”

The Chairman confirmed acceptance of the amendment to the Motion, in that a report will come to the Buchan Area Committee on 24th August 2021, and thereafter that regular updates on progress be provided.

In seeking a seconder, Councillor Allan agreed to second the Motion.

5. ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL, KINMUNDY ROAD, PETERHEAD (REDETERMINATION OF MEANS OF EXERCISE OF PUBLIC RIGHT OF PASSAGE) ORDER 2021

A report by the Director of Infrastructure Services had been circulated asking that the Committee authorise the commencement of the statutory consultation procedure for the making of a Redetermination Order at Kinmundy Road, Peterhead.

The presenting Officer confirmed that a revised Appendix 3 had been issued to Members, along with a new Appendix 4. In addition, that an alteration at paragraph 3.1 of the report was necessary, in that ‘the Committee is able to consider and take a decision on this item in terms of Section B.1.1’.

The Committee **agreed**:-

- (1) to authorise the commencement of the statutory consultation procedure for the making of the Aberdeenshire Council [Kinmundy Road, Peterhead] (Redetermination of Means of Exercise of Public Right of Passage) Order 2021,

- (2) to authorise the subsequent making of the Aberdeenshire Council [Kinmundy Road, Peterhead] (Redetermination of Means of Exercise of Public Right of Passage) Order 2021 in the event that no valid objections are received or any received are resolved and withdrawn,
- (3) to instruct that, in the event that any valid objections received are not resolved and not withdrawn, the matter is remitted to Scottish Ministers for determination, and
- (4) to request that the plan, showing the proposal for a stacking lane at the proposed junction on the A90, north flow lane, be made available to local Peterhead Members for their information

6. DRAFT ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

A report by the Director of Business Services had been circulated providing the Committee with an update on the progress to date with developing an Engagement and Participation Policy for Aberdeenshire and asking Members for comments on the draft Policy.

The Committee **agreed** to make the following comments to Business Services Committee:-

- (1) to welcome the development of the draft Policy and note the development of guidance to support the implementation of the Policy,
- (2) to highlight the need for CPD for Officers in relation to this new Policy, and
- (3) to highlight the importance of engagement and participation, particularly with those most disadvantaged and minority groups, ie those on lower incomes, under 25s, UK Nationals, males (mis-represented)

7. ALLOCATION OF COMMUNITY COUNCIL FUNDING 2021/2022

A report by the Area Manager had been circulated outlining proposals for the allocation of the Buchan Community Council Fund for 2021/22.

Having noted that £8,285 is available for the Buchan area, the Committee **agreed**:-

- (1) to approve a fixed grant payment of £800 per Community Council, and
- (2) that the remaining sum of £1,085 be allocated on a per capita basis between the nine Buchan Community Councils, as outlined in Appendix 1 attached to the report