

**reABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL**

**BUCHAN AREA COMMITTEE**

**HYBRID MEETING – 31<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2023**

- Present:** Councillors D Beagrie (Chair), A Simpson (Vice Chair), A Buchan, G Crowson, G Hall, M James, L McWhinnie, H Powell, C Simpson and S Smith
- Apology:** Councillors D Mair
- Officers:** Amanda Roe, Buchan Area Manager (Business Services); Lauren Cowie, Principal Solicitor (Business Services); Sally Wood, Senior Planner (Environment & Infrastructure Services); Annette Johnston, Tackling Poverty & Inequalities Co-ordinator (Business Services); John Gahagan, Estates Manager (Business Services); and Theresa Wood, Area Committee Officer (Business Services)

**BUCHAN'S GOOD NEWS STORIES**

The Chair read the following Good News Stories for Buchan and requested that letters, offering the Committee's "Congratulations", be forwarded –

Josh Bruce, St Fergus – The Ninja Piper

Josh has been shortlisted as a finalist in the Best Piper Category in Scotland's wedding industry and is attending the Confetti Wedding Awards 2023 at Double Tree by Hilton, Glasgow on 30th January.

To be recognised for his commitment and doing something that Josh loves is just amazing. A great achievement for being only 14 years old with a drive to succeed.

Inspire, Peterhead Housing Support

The Care Inspectorate visited Inspire, Peterhead Housing Support, on the 18th and 19th of January.

They were awarded grades of 5, "Very Good", in all areas inspected. The inspector noted how interactions were natural, positive and genuine. It was noted the environment was clean and well managed. People were meeting their outcomes and doing what they wanted to do with their lives. Staff were well supported and quality assurances were of good quality and well maintained. Families were happy with the support being provided and felt any issues were dealt with promptly.

Scott Milne, Manager, is incredibly proud of the recent uplift in grades and is so proud of his team for their hard work and commitment to the excellent contributions to the lives of the people they support.

### Pride N Joy (Peterhead) Ltd

Pride N Joy (Peterhead) Limited is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 86 children at any one time, aged from birth to those attending primary school.

There was an unannounced inspection which took place on 11<sup>th</sup> January and 12<sup>th</sup> January 2023. The inspection was carried out by two inspectors from the Care Inspectorate. In making their evaluations of the service the Inspectorate: • spoke with children using the service • spoke with 12 of their parents/carers • spoke with staff and management • observed practice and daily experiences • and reviewed documents.

In evaluating quality, the Inspectorate use a six point scale where 1 is unsatisfactory and 6 is excellent. I would like to congratulate the Service on having received an evaluation of 5 – Very Good – for each category.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the work of all the groups and charities who support our communities all year round but I would like to given special mention to all the groups charities and organisations who provided support to our communities with food parcels, toys and avenues of support in the run up to Christmas. The help offered made Christmas special for many of our families.

## **1. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

The Chair asked Members if they had any interests to declare in terms of the Councillors Code of Conduct –

- (1) Councillor C Simpson for Item 5(a) by virtue of being a Director and volunteer of Buchan Community Farm, and left the meeting during the item and took no part in the discussion,
- (2) Councillor A Simpson for Item 5(a) by virtue of being a pending Director of Buchan Community Farm, and left the meeting during the item and took no part in the discussion, and
- (3) Councillor H Powell for Item 9 by virtue of identifying a conflict of interest given the level of involvement Councillor Powell has had with the applicant on a variety of issues. Councillor Powell advised that she would refrain from participating in the discussion or decision-making of this particular item and left the meeting for the duration of the item

## 2(a) 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
  
- (1) where an Integrated Impact Assessment was provided, to consider its contents and take those into account when reaching its decision

## 2(b) RESOLUTION

The Committee **agreed** in terms of Section 50A (4) and (5) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, to exclude the public from the meeting during consideration of the items specified below so as to avoid disclosure of exempt information of the class described in the undernoted paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 7A of the Act.

Item No	Paragraph No of Schedule 7A
8	9
9	4 & 6

## 3. DRAFT MINUTE OF 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022

The Draft Minute of 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022 had been circulated and was **approved**.

## 4. NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Committee had before them reports by the Director of Environmental & Infrastructure Services on planning applications for determination in terms of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Acts 1972 and 1997 and **agreed** to dispose of the applications as detailed in Appendix A attached to this Minute

- (a) APP/2022/0746      Withdrawn
  
- (b) APP/2022/0780      Full Planning Permission for Change of Use for Land to Residential Garden Ground (Part Retrospective) at 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64 & 66 Braehead Drive, Cruden Bay

### **5(a) AREA COMMITTEE GRANT SCHEME – APPLICATION FOR FUNDING Buchan Community Farm**

A report by the Director of Business Services had been circulated requesting that the Committee consider an application from Buchan Community Farm for funding from the Area Committee Grant Scheme.

The Committee **agreed** to award up to £5,000 to Buchan Community Farm towards purchasing an accessible carriage.

### **5(b) AREA COMMITTEE GRANT SCHEME – APPLICATION FOR FUNDING Peterhead Sailing Club**

A report by the Director of Business Services had been circulated requesting that the Committee consider an application from Peterhead Sailing Club for funding from the Area Committee Grant Scheme.

The Committee **agreed** to award up to £840 to Peterhead Sailing Club towards carrying out a topographic survey of the Lido area in Peterhead.

## **6. TACKLING POVERTY & INEQUALITIES – ANNUAL REPORT 2022**

A report by the Director of Business Services had been circulated providing the Committee with a progress update in relation to delivering the priorities and outcomes of the Tackling Poverty & Inequalities Strategic Partnership Group, including the Local Child Poverty Action Report which supports the Aberdeenshire Local Outcomes Improvement Plan priority 'Reducing Poverty'.

Having acknowledged the progress made in tackling this agenda, the Buchan Area Committee **agreed** to make the following comments to Communities Committee:-

- (1) to welcome the Tackling Poverty & Inequalities Annual Report, and thank staff for the work they have done in relation to tackling poverty across Aberdeenshire,
- (2) in relation to the Annual Report (page 58, para 3.5), to request that the 'number of children' be shown as a percentage,
- (3) to acknowledge the ongoing work being undertaken to assist those impacted by the Cost-of-Living crisis across the communities of Aberdeenshire; and
- (4) to endorse the proposals at Appendix 6 for the dispersal of the rural poverty element of the Tackling Poverty & Inequalities Strategic Framework for Investment and agree to delegate the delivery mechanism and funding allocations to the Area Manager in consultation with appropriate Ward Members

The Buchan Area Committee further **agreed**:-

- (1) to request that any funds pertinent to Buchan with unallocated monies be advised to Members for information, and
- (2) to request that informal meetings be arranged on a Ward basis, ie Ward 4 and Wards 5/6, to consider more closely how Members can assist with the specific issues in their wards

## **7. OUTSTANDING STATEMENT OF BUSINESS**

Having heard from the Area Manager, the Committee **agreed**:-

- (1) to note verbal updates in relation to Actions 1 and 2,
- (2) to remove Actions 4 and 5,
- (3) having recently received a very full response to Action 9, the Area Manager will make available the response to all Members via email, and
- (4) to request that the updates to the Area Plan (Action 10) be circulated to Members as soon as they are received

## **8. ASSIGNATION AND LEASE RENEWAL UNIT 5 DALES INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, PETERHEAD**

A report by the Director of Business Services had been circulated advising that the current tenant of Unit 5 Dales Industrial Estate, Peterhead, wishes to assign the lease of the unit to another party, and that the other party wishes to renew the lease as part of the deal.

The Committee **agreed** to approve the assignation and renewal of the lease over Unit 5, Dales Industrial Estate, Peterhead, on the terms set out within the report.

## **9. ACT2 APPLICATION**

A report by the Director of Business Services had been circulated seeking Committee's consideration of an application which has been submitted for funding under Aberdeenshire Charities Trust (ACT2), Ward 4 (Central Buchan), Category: The relief of those in need by reason of age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.

Having heard from the Area Manager, the Committee then heard from the Applicant, in line with the Council's procedure for dealing with ACT2 Funding Applications.

Following an adjournment to deliberate very carefully on the application, with the Legal Monitoring Officer in attendance, the Trustees **agreed** that they can help in two ways –

- (1) to raise the issue with the Head of Housing to see what swift actions can be taken to alleviate the applicant's housing situation, which will start to look at the long term problems given that the applicant has received short term grants which hasn't helped in the past, and
- (2) to award the applicant a grant of £150 at this time and, once further information has come forward, that further consideration could be made for the balance of the application within a few weeks

## APPENDIX A

### NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- (a) **Planning Permission in Principle for Erection of Dwellinghouse and Garage at Site Adjacent to Chantras, Glendaveny, Peterhead**  
For: Messrs V Ritchie & I Mitchell, Ben Adair, Glendaveny, Peterhead  
Per: Arcus Design Ltd, Mavisbank Old Deer, Peterhead  
**Reference No: APP/2022/0746**

The Committee **agreed** to note that this planning application had been Withdrawn.

- (b) **Full Planning Permission for Change of Use for Land to Residential Garden Ground (Part Retrospective) at 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64 & 66 Braehead Drive, Cruden Bay**  
For: Caird Evered Ltd, Bardon Hall, Copt Oak Road, Markfield, Leicestershire  
Per: Ironside Farrar Ltd, 111 McDonald Road, Edinburgh  
**Reference No: APP/2022/0780**

Having heard from the Senior Planner, the Committee **agreed**:-

- (1) to note that the application does not include No 52 Braehead Drive, as indicated within the report,
- (2) to defer consideration of the application to allow the Members to undertake a site visit so that they can see the site for themselves and consider the impact, and
- (3) to request that the Planning Officers confirm -
  - (a) how long the erected fences have been in place, and
  - (b) how long the owners of the properties have been using the land as garden ground