

ALVAH AND FORGLEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING
FORGLEN HALL: TUESDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2015
MINUTES

1. Present

Rosie Dewhurst (Chairman)	Doug Hill	Carol Rewston	Helen Bayne
Jim Bayne (Secretary)	Phil Duffield	Julie Drummond	John Burns
Barbara Foad (Vice Chairman)	Elizabeth Jones	Gordon Lang	

In Attendance: Councillor John Cox (Aberdeenshire Council), (items 1-5) Duncan Leece and Robin Maddock (Banffshire Partnership) (items 1-5). Ian Rogan (Area Project Officer, Banff and Buchan).

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mike Dewhurst and Councillor Michael Roy.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 25 November were accepted as a true record.

4. Actions Arising

A list of the progress on actions is attached as at Annex A.

5. Banff Partnership Presentation

(i) Duncan Leece gave a presentation on the benefits of having a community action plan. He explained that the process employed by the Partnership was fully tried and tested and is widely used throughout Aberdeenshire. The purpose of the process is to establish what the community wants in terms of projects and to develop an action plan based on agreed priorities.

The Plan which would be compiled following public consultation within the community, takes the form of a published booklet. This sets out the ideas for projects or the projects in detail.

The summary of the plan is then listed as an annex and included as an agenda item at each Community Council in order to monitor progress.

He explained that:

- The Banffshire Partnership was a local charity
- The Action Plan was not compulsory
- There was no financial cost to the Community Council; costs would fall on the Partnership.
- The cost to the community council would be in its time.
- As an example the Whitehill's plan had about 50 items.

- Some of the items would be impracticable and others easy.
- Individual items could be managed by the Community Council or in partnership with other bodies.
- The plan would be agreed between the Partnership and the Community Council.

(ii) Robin Maddock explained the process. A public meeting managed by the Partnership and lasting about two hours would be held. Although the Community Council would be responsible for publicising the event, the Partnership would assist by producing the leaflets and posters. The target should be to get at least 100 people to attend. People who were unable to attend could still send in their ideas. The meeting, which it was hoped could be held at the end of May, would be in two parts:

- The first half would comprise individuals putting ideas on post it notes. There would then be a tea break organised by the Community Council but funded by the Partnership. During the tea break the Partnership would collate the ideas.
- In the second half the ideas would be listed and voted on and prioritised by the community.

6. Group Discussion

(i) Doug Hill was concerned that if only 100 people attended the meeting that would represent only 5% of the community and that did not seem to be a sufficient mandate. The community had to be given the opportunity to express their views in other ways than just the meeting e.g. on line, on the Community Council website or by emailing or phoning community councillors.

(ii) A number of councillors were concerned that the timescales proposed by the Banffshire Partnership might not be met.

(iii) It was agreed that the proposals should be discussed further on line and that a meeting to discuss the way forward arranged. **[Secretary's Note: it has been agreed on line that the public meeting should be held at the end of May; so far there were 6 volunteers to deliver leaflets; the Chairman had briefed the Forglen Hall committee and would be briefing the Alvah Hall users.]**

7. Floral Displays and Public Amenity Areas

Carol Rewston reported that:

- The daffodils delivered by Councillor Roy had been planted in the verge on the hill up to Kirktown of Alvah.
- The experience of planting the daffodils had given her a better idea of how many bulbs would be needed next year.

Carol also:

- Would welcome suggestions for sites for bulbs.
- Would deliver the tubs previously identified to Julie Drummond for some maintenance in better weather.

- Would welcome suggestions for locations for the tubs.
- Advised that flowers for the summer had been ordered.

8. Community Engagement

(i) Julie Drummond reported that:

- The sub group had examined the council's request to include the Alvah and Forglen Halls on a tab on the Community Council website but found that there were configuration control issues which made that impracticable. However, there could be a link to both Halls websites. Only Forglen had a website at the moment and that had not been kept up to date.
- She would design a poster to advertise the Community Council.

(ii) Liz Jones reported that she had completed her research into the history of Alvah and Forglen and would now start writing her article.

(iii) The Chairman reported that she was to be interviewed by the Turriff Advertiser the following week.

9. Rural Broadband

The Secretary reported that Roddy Matheson had confirmed his attendance at the next meeting in March.

10. Treasurer's Report

(i) The Chairman reported on behalf of the Treasurer that:

- A new form to transfer the account had been submitted to the bank and a reply was awaited.
- The Treasurer had circulated a questionnaire listing options for the calculation of Community Council grants requesting the Community Council's view on which would be preferable.

(ii) Ian Rogan volunteered to do a comparison of options based on the community council's likely meeting rate of 10 per year and submit it to the secretary.

11. Planning Applications

(i) Planning application APP/2015/0365 – Site 6 Bogton was discussed.

(ii) A number of issues were raised and the Secretary agreed to discuss these with the planner and further consult the Community Councillors. **[Secretary's Note: – following discussions with the planner and agreement of the Community Council, the Chairman submitted a response to the Planning Department.]**

12. Any Other Business

(i) Ian Rogan explained that he was the council liaison officer for the community councils and that he should be our first port of call when seeking advice from the council. He would be able to help with issues such as seeking funds from the council.

(ii) It was agreed that community council meetings would be held on the last Tuesday of each month until the end of the year, with the exception of August and December when there would be no meetings.

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held at Alvah Hall at 18:00 hours on 24 March.

Annexes– A - list of progress on previous actions

- B - list of actions

J Bayne
Secretary

ANNEX A

ACTION PROGRESS LIST

	OWNER	PROGRESS
Contact Whitehill CC regarding spare bulbs.	Julie Drummond	Bag of bulbs delivered by Cllr. Roy and planted on road up to Kirktown of Alvah
Pursue identified options to advertise A&F CC.	All	Sub- committee decided that to allow other committees separate tabs would be impracticable due to configuration control issues. Chairman interview by Banffshire Journal.
Contact secretaries of Alvah and Forglen Halls to discuss the siting of water butts.	Secretary	Ongoing.
Arrange broadband presentation from Aberdeenshire official.	Secretary	Arranged for 24 March. As programme has slipped a further meeting will be arranged when the Alvah and Forglen solutions are determined.
Invite Banffshire Partnership to speak at the next meeting	Chairman	Arranged for 24 February.
Contact Secretary and Vice Chairman to sign bank transfer form.	Treasurer	Done but still waiting final word from Bank.
Prepare history of Alvah and Forglen for website.	Liz Jones	Ongoing.
Contact planning department regarding apps 2014/3957 and 3958	Secretary	Done. A&F CC submitted a no comment reply.
Contact council regarding the road at Kemplemyres and also the bend at junction of B9025/B9121	Secretary	Council responded quickly. Road at Kemplemyres marked for repair. Broom cut back on bend.

ANNEX B

ACTION LIST

	OWNER	COMPLETION
Discuss proposals for Community Action Plan.	All	2 March 2015
Contact secretaries of Alvah and Forglen Halls to discuss the fitting of all weather notice boards.	Secretary	28 April 2015
Recommend sites for tubs and bulbs.	All	28 April 2015
Compare funding community council funding options.	Ian Rogan	23 March 2015
Prepare history of Alvah and Forglen.	Liz Jones	28 April 2015
Discuss planning application with planner and advise Community Council.	Secretary	2 March 2015