

ALVAH AND FORGLEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

FORGLEN HALL: TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER 2016

MINUTES

Website: www.alvahforglencecc.wordpress.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AlvahForglenCC/>

1. **Present**

Christina Roebuck (Chairman)	Helen Bayne
Jim Bayne (Secretary)	Phil Duffield
Mike Dewhurst (Treasurer)	John Burns
Rhoda Burns	Carol Rewston

In Attendance: Cllr. Michael Roy (Aberdeenshire Council), Cllr. John Cox (Aberdeenshire Council), Nicola Prise Porter (Turriff Advertiser), Katie Rewston, Andrew Webster (Forglen Hall) and Ian Taylor.

2. **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Caroline Jones and Emma Dow.

3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 September were accepted as a true record.

4. **Matters Arising**

(a) History of Alvah and Forglen. Ongoing action with Liz Jones.

(b) Contact Walk Organiser. It was agreed that this item should be removed from the action list.

(c) Accident at Bridge. Ongoing action with Emma Dowd.

5. **Community Police**.

(a) The Police were unable to attend due to prior commitments.

(b) Councillor Cox reported that there had been a lot of success in tackling drug offences, but there had been an increase in break-ins and anti-social behaviour.

6. **Floral Displays and Public Amenity Areas**

(a) Carol reported that she had received the daffodils.

(b) Anyone who required daffodils should contact Carol.

7. **Defibrillators**.

(a) Secretary advised that Scottish Ambulance had cancelled the training session due to follow the meeting but that, thanks to Carol, Ian Williams from Banff and Macduff Heartstart had agreed to step in.

8. **Area Initiative Fund**.

Secretary reported that the projector, stand and screen had been delivered.

9. Rural Broadband

(a) The Secretary explained that the questionnaires had been delivered and that he had received 80 returns.

(b) When the data had been analysed and a report completed, another community meeting would be held to present the findings and decide on the way forward. Toby Sandison from CBS would also present.

10. Planning

(a) Eco camp at Bogton –APP/2016/2260

There was nothing to report.

(b) Kirktown of Alvah Church.

Secretary agreed to speak to the planner to see if any further progress had been made.

[Secretary's Note: Application approved on 11 November 2016]

(c) Beechwood Wind Turbine

(i) John Burns reported that Beechwood was on the agenda for the next full Aberdeenshire Council and that the item was to be discussed in camera.

(ii) In response to the questions:

- Why was Beechwood being discussed?
- Why was the meeting being held in private?
- Why was neither John Burns nor the Community Council informed of the meeting?

Councillor Cox replied that the Monitoring Officer had decided that the meeting should not be public and that he was therefore unable to discuss why Beechwood was being discussed by the full council - were he to do so he would be in breach of the Councillors Code of Conduct rules. He thought that a minute would be issued reporting any decisions made.

(iii) Councillor Roy agreed with Councillor Cox's explanation.

(iv) The Community Council was deeply concerned that it had not been informed that Beechwood was to be discussed by Aberdeenshire Council and also that the meeting would be held in camera.

(v) The Community Council had serious misgivings about the lack of transparency regarding this very controversial planning application.

(vi) The Community Council believed that its concerns, outlined in its formal objection and communicated directly to all the Banff and Buchan councillors, were not fully considered by the Banff and Buchan Area Committee - as evidenced by those who attended the meeting and the subsequent minute.

(vii) It was agreed that the Community Council would hold a special meeting to consider its response to both the outcome of the meeting and the fact that it was held in camera. **[Secretary's Note: It has since been reported in the press that Cllr. Duncan**

has referred himself to the Standards Commission and that the Beechwood application planning approval has been revoked and will be considered afresh by the Infrastructure Services Committee.

11. Any Other Business

(i) It was agreed that there would be a meeting on 27 December.

(ii) The Secretary would issue a meetings calendar for the coming year. **[Secretary's Note: Meetings Calendar issued].**

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at Alvah Parish Hall at 18:00 hours on 29 November 2016.

Annex - list of actions

J Bayne

Secretary

Email: secretary.alvahfogle

ANNEX

ACTIONS

	OWNER	COMPLETION
Prepare history of Alvah and Forglen	Liz Jones	Ongoing
Contact friend regarding accidents at bridge	Emma Dowd	24 October
Contact Carol if daffodils are required.	All	20 November
Convene meeting to discuss Beechwood	Secretary	20 November