

ALVAH AND FORGLEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING
ALVAH PARISH HALL: TUESDAY 25 July 2017

Website: www.alvahforglencc.wordpress.com
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AlvahForglenCC/>

1. **Present**

Christina Roebuck (Chairman) Carol Rewston Liz Jones
Mike Dewhurst (Treasurer) Doug Hill
Barbara Foad (Vice Chairman)

In Attendance: Andrew Webster (Forglen Hall), Inspector Megan Heathershaw (Police Scotland)

2. **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Emma Dow Philip Foad, Jim Bayne, Helen Bayne, Rhoda Burns, John Burns, Jacky Player and Cllrs. Roy and Reynolds.

3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 June 2017 were accepted as a true record.

4. **Matters Arising**

4.1 **History of Alvah and Forglen**. Ongoing.

4.2 **Speak to Jan Emery regarding Feasibility Study**. It was agreed to discuss this under Item 7.

4.3 **Shooting Party**. Ongoing.

5. **Community Police**.

Inspector Megan Heathershaw from the Aberdeen Division of Police Scotland reported that:

(i) There was an Aberdeen Division pilot to ensure that the policing they deliver to isolated communities like Alvah and Forglen is Best Value and meets the community needs.

(ii) It had been decided that the previous commitment to attend all community Council meetings at the time of day of their peak demand is undeliverable. Instead the police will commit to attend AFCC meetings quarterly.

(iv) There will no longer be a monthly report. Instead a more meaningful quarterly report will be circulated in July 2017, October 2017, December 2017 and April 2018.

(v) The police encourage engagement between meetings by email or phone to the 101 number.

(vi) Chief Inspector Neil Macdonald intends to deliver policing with respect, trust and engagement in response to the communities expressed needs and priorities.

(vii) The Division is developing a Ward Plan to which AFCC will be invited to contribute by highlighting the key areas of concern in the area. This might be around standards of driving, excessive speed, or livestock worrying etc. The aim is to provide a more rounded

document which will result from a consultation with all community councils in January 2018.

(viii) All residents should be aware of unusual vehicles or callers and to take note of vehicles and registration numbers to inform the police if they are at all concerned.

(ix) AFCC must not assume that the area will remain crime free. Criminals from Aberdeen are travelling out to more isolated areas where they can operate more easily. Quad bikes, 4x4's, plant and machinery are often targeted.

6. Floral Displays and Public Amenity Areas

Carol reported that the daffodil bulbs have to be ordered in August. It was agreed that 3 bags should be sufficient.

7. Rural Broadband

Secretary had circulated the Scottish Government's paper on R100. He will respond to the consultation. He has also spoken to Jan Emery from the Area Manager's Office who advised that Aberdeenshire Council has been in discussion with BT. She advised that BT had confirmed that 89% of Aberdeenshire would be connected to high speed broadband by the end of 2018. BT did not say what would happen to the remaining 11%. Aberdeenshire Council would meet with BT again by the end of the month. Although Jan would be on holiday she had left word that AFCC should be given an update after that meeting.

8. Planning

(a) **Campsite Appeal - APP/2016/2260** The Secretary reported that the reporter had not yet made a decision.

(b) **Replacement Dwelling House, Blackton Croft, Alvah – APP/2017/1467.** As no issues have been raised by the community it was agreed to make no comment.

9. Area Initiative Fund

The Secretary had prepared an application to the Area Initiative Fund for Quantity 6 replacement flower tubs. (Cost £706. AFCC contribution £141). Carol advised that the secondhand wooden flower tubs the CC was given 3 years ago were now very rotten and required frequent watering. Carol advised that 6 new tubs with reservoirs were required. It was unanimously agreed that Secretary would submit an application for the grant.

[Secretary's Note: Application submitted on 26 July.]

10. Any Other Business

(i) **Alvah Church.** Work has resumed on Alvah Church.

(ii) **Himalayan Balsam.** It was reported that Balsam was growing on the margin/bank of the Deveron on the left coming from Turriff just past the Deveron bridge in the second field after the field where Highland Ponies graze. This is a notifiable weed. **[Secretary's Note: Council confirmed that the weed was Balsam and notified the appropriate authorities.]**

(iii) **Japanese Knotweed** It was reported that there are some small areas of Japanese Knotweed on road verges and in the road tarmac at Kirkton of Alvah. It was agreed to ask the

secretary to consult with the council and request that they notify the relevant authority regarding both weed species. **[Secretary's Note: Subsequent inspection showed that the plant was not Japanese Knotweed.]**

(iv) **Elections for Community Council.** Concern was raised that there might be a need for an election in August as the CC had been operative for 3 years. **[Secretary's Note: Area Manager confirmed that election was not required at this time.]**

(v) **Date of December Meeting.** As the last Tuesday is Boxing Day, it was agreed that the December meeting will be **Thursday 28 December 2017.**

11. Date of Next Meeting. AGM 26 September 2017 at Forglen Hall.

Barbara Foad
Acting Secretary
Alvah and Forglen CC
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Annex - list of actions

	OWNER	COMPLETION
Prepare history of Alvah and Forglen	Liz Jones	Ongoing
Shooting Party.	Stewart Adams	Next meeting