

ALVAH AND FORGLEN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2025 AT ALVAH HALL

MINUTES

Website: www.alvahforglencc.wordpress.com

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

1. Present.

Doug Hill (Chairman), Mike Dewhurst (Treasurer), Barbara Foad (Secretary), Caroline Jones and Peter Dow and Jacky Player

In attendance: Andrew Webster

Apologies

Apologies were received from: Cllr Stewart Adams, Carolyn Cox (Vice Chair)

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting.

The minutes of the meeting of 17 December were previously approved by email.

3. Matters Arising

- a) **Bogton Noticeboard.** Caroline Jones has visited the house immediately behind the proposed site several times, but no one has been in. Ongoing.
- b) **Broadband in the halls.** There was a successful hybrid meeting tonight attended remotely by Jacky Player.
- c) **Forglen Cemetery Car Park-** The church of Scotland Law department has informed the secretary that according to their deeds for the Forglen Glebe that the area which was not sold to Aberdeenshire Council appears to still be owned by Sir George Abercromby, Bart of Forglen. Forglen Estate have confirmed ownership did not pass to them in 1976. Andre Webster advised that the land was part of Kirkton Farm. The Secretary was asked to do some Land Registry searches for both Kirkton and Kirklands, the adjacent properties with postcodes to see if the carpark is separately owned. If necessary, the more expensive land search will be undertaken.
- d) **Kirkton of Alvah Church Building** The secretary has spoken to Shaun Norman of Aberdeenshire Council. Shaun has agreed to contact the current owners of Alvah Church and the architects to ascertain the issues with the building. He will also visit to check on its current condition.
- e) **Sub-groups.** Ongoing **Community Benefit sub-group** - Deuchries Caroline Jones to forward all information she has about Deuchries previous allocations of funding between 2021-2024 to the Chairman. It is understood that there is to be another round of applications to the fund, but no one has been informed of this. The Chairman offered to set up a website for the Deuchries Community Windfarm so that there is one place to download an application form and to see the dates for submission etc.

4. Police

The Police Report will now only be issued quarterly.

5. Rural Broadband. and Digital Voice

The secretary who lives in Forglen advised that someone had visited her property whilst doing a survey for full fibre Broadband. Previous information was those properties on the Aberchirder

exchange to be upgraded to full fibre in 2025 and Turriff 2026. A current internet search advised the end of 2028 for Forglen.

6.Planning Applications:

We have been asked by Aberdeenshire Planning Department if we wish to attend a "Pre-Determination Hearing (PDH) taking place on the 17th March, beginning at 6pm at Formartine House, Ellon in relation to the Ocean Winds planning application we commented on. The meeting will be in a hybrid format using Teams.

7. Floral Displays and Public Amenity Areas

Carol Rewston is no longer able to look after the Alvah Tubs. We have not received a costing and plan for eight tubs at Kirkton of Alvah and Alvah Church as recorded in the minute of the January meeting.

There are 24 tubs (Counting three, three tiered planters as nine) in Forglen . The Friends of Forglen Hall have taken over management of the Forglen Cemetery Tubs and the Forglen Hall tubs. Peter Dow continues to manage eight tubs at Bogton. There are 16 tubs in Alvah. The Community Council will follow the lead of Friends of Forglen Hall and advertise for volunteers to take over the Alvah tubs.

It was decided to continue with perennials overall, but we will also use nasturtiums in the Alvah Tubs this year to ensure some colour.

Treasurer to look back to see how many tubs have been purchased in total to check in case we have missed some out.

We will apply to the Deuchries Windfarm Community Fund at the next round for water collection butts for two drainpipes at Alvah Hall if the committee agrees. Also, two water carriers so that the water can be used to water the Alvah Hall tubs with water from the butts..

8. Arts Group.

15 March Forglen Hall, Soil, Sand and Flint 19:00.

25 May 'Fit Ya Sayin quine?'

Arts group AGM Sunday 9 March 2025 ALVAH HALL 11am.

9. Community Ownership Fund: Community Buildings/derelect land

Nothing to report

10. Community Action Plan / Place Plan

We understand that Aberdeenshire Council has grants of £500 for Community Council Place Plans. We will be undertaking a Community Action Plan and Place Plan going forward. The Chair will apply for this.

11.Updates from Aberdeenshire Councillors

None

12. Questions from Members of the Public

Andrew Webster advised that if we are to have hybrid meetings, we should advertise the link more widely. We advised that we are still in the trial stage as the last meeting at Forglen had problems

with the signal dropping. Once the trial proves successful the meeting link will be available on the AFCC website.

13. Any other business

The Chair proposed that we buy a Family Subscription to MSOffice 365 which includes MS Teams. This is for the holder and up to five other people who each can use it on up to five devices. We can then more easily share emails and documents and management of MS Teams meetings. This will cost £100 pa. This was unanimously agreed.

We also need to think about and vote at the next meeting about the options for the SIM card needed to run the hybrid meeting at Alvah Hall which has no broadband. We would normally need to use this six times a year using a monthly sim costing £5 so £30. Could we alternatively pay for one year £45 or two years £?

.14. Date of next meeting Tuesday 25 MARCH ALVAH HALL

Barbara Foad

Secretary

Alvah and Forglan Community Council

ACTIONS

Community Benefit Caledonian Windfarm	Ongoing.
Bogton Noticeboard	Caroline Jones to speak to Householder
Alvah Church	Secretary to email Shaun Norman
Community Action Planning	Chair to apply for £500 for costs associated with the LPP.
Forglen Cemetery Car Park	Secretary to undertake Land Registry search for Kirkton and Kirklands AB53 4JE
Signatories for the community council bank account	Ongoing
Wildflowers verge at Forglen Cemetery	Ongoing
Give way Sign Kirkton of Alvah	Sign reinstated
Alvah Church Gates rusty	Landscape Services have added this to jobs to be done.