

**MINUTES OF LIAISON MEETING WITH STONEHAVEN TOWN
PARTNERSHIP AND ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL**

THURSDAY, 28 JULY 2016 AT 10.00 AM

VIEWMOUNT, STONEHAVEN

Present:

**STP Trustees - David Fleming (DF), Bill Allan (BA), Andrew Newton (AN),
Stuart Alexander (SA)**

Aberdeenshire Council - Area Manager, Willie Munro (WM);

Councillors - W Agnew (WA), R Christie (RC) P Bellarby (PB)

Item	Detail	Action
1.	Apologies Apologies were received from Jim Stephen, Isabel Munn and Councillor G Clark.	
2.	Note of Meeting held on 10 May 2016 The notes were agreed as a correct record.	
3.	Matters Arising DF advised that the STP Business Plan was not written yet, they have written to member groups enquiring about their plans and ideas and so far only 3 responses, it was hoped that at the end of the holiday period this would progress. Caravan Site – WM said that he would check the lease for any requirements for a review against the Business Plan.	WM
4.	East Newtonleys WM advised that there has been no further progress towards lodging the POAN and that the team would be providing a briefing on the situation to Councillors towards the end of August. DF asked about consultation and sharing experiences, WM confirmed that he had shared this with colleagues. WM also advised that the Council is embarking on a review of its consultation strategy and that there had been a presentation to a meeting of rural partnerships and AVA and that he would see whether that presentation could be made available to STP.	WM
5.	Bervie Braes WM advised that the paint trials had been unsuccessful but it was noted that Bill Allan had not been contacted to be taken up on his offer of advice. WM said that he had reminded	

	<p>colleagues of that offer. WM also advised that he had a discussion with the Director of Infrastructure Services.</p> <p>It was agreed that it would be useful to set out a strategy as there are a number of strands to be considered here, the appearance of the barriers, the seasonal period and the weight limit itself. STP reps questioned why the weight limit could not be based on axle weights rather than gross vehicle weight. WM said that consideration was being given to seeking some further advice from consultants and DF asked if STP could meet with the consultants. WM expressed some reservations about this although acknowledged that it could potentially lead to better understanding of the situation. He undertook to discuss with colleagues within the Service.</p> <p>DF will produce a strategy in discussion with WM.</p>	<p>WM</p> <p>DF/WM</p>
6.	<p>Gas Works Site</p> <p>DF advised that Mark Skilling had given a very detailed and informative talk to STP but not provided the report that he referred to. WM said that the only report he had seen was one to the Service Management Team which didn't provide detail of breakdown of finances. It was generally acknowledged that this can only happen if it can stack up financially and it was noted that there are other implications about traffic management and on street parking. WM said that unless a new proposal will improve services and reduce overall expenditure it was unlikely to progress. He advised that we are now looking at localities and prioritising across communities and noted that Stonehaven has seen and will see with the flood scheme considerable capital investment.</p>	
7.	<p>Beach Toilets</p> <p>DF said that given the success he was inclined to drop this from the agenda. WM said that it was still important to put in place a longer term sustainable arrangement and a critical factor would be rates liability. He advised that discussions were ongoing with the individuals who have taken on this project and would advise if any further assistance was required.</p>	WM
8.	<p>Cycle Paths</p> <p>It was noted that STP will be defining the scope of the cycling project and that Jim Stephen has spoken to Cycle Clubs and got some ideas. WM advised that Active Travel is an important theme and Claudia Stuerck was a useful contact. Return to this at the next meeting.</p>	Agenda
9.	<p>Grand Promenade</p> <p>Various groups have discussed these proposals and there seems to be general enthusiasm. STP will set out a project definition and have had contacts with some consultants who</p>	STP

	were prepared to do a scoping exercise for free. Councillor Agnew stressed that it was important to ask the people who are affected by the proposals.	
10.	<p>Invercarron Resource Centre</p> <p>Wi-Fi – WM said that he has made some internal enquiries about this with a view to the Council putting Wi-Fi into Invercarron with appropriate public access. DF expressed concerns about the public access arrangements at the Community Centre and stressed the importance of this being simple and straightforward but yet secure for the Council. It was noted that Phil Mills-Bishop has made some enquiries and made some suggestions. WM expressed some reservations about third parties doing work in Council buildings and felt that he would rather this was something promoted by the Council, if possible.</p>	
11.	<p>Court House</p> <p>DF advised that the Business Plan has gone to the Scottish Court Services and considered by their Estates Committee and will now be considered by the Scottish Government. Some amendments had been made as a result of feedback. He was optimistic that the project would be moving forward with a view to occupation in late Spring 2017. He continues to engage with the 5 potential tenants who have expressed written interest.</p>	
12.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>(i) Andrew Newton advised that the Tolbooth extension has been delayed due to unforeseen circumstances but has been submitted as an environmental design award applicant to Aberdeenshire Council and anticipates submitting a planning application in September.</p> <p>(ii) Councillor Christie asked if there had been any progress on the idea of a turbine on the Cowie, a project which Jim Stephen had suggested. He said that there was a similar project at Braemar and it was confirmed that Jim had been passed a copy of the SEAS report. It was also noted that SEAS is no longer active.</p> <p>(iii) Councillor Agnew questioned the way in which a member of the public had been allegedly treated at a meeting. There was some discussion about this and it was felt that the matter was closed.</p> <p>(iv) Bill Allan asked about seagulls outside the town centre. WM said that the work which had been done in the visit by the Council's preferred pest control contractor had concentrated on the town centre as defined by the Town Centre Improvement Group and acknowledged that the use of the hawk may have displaced seagulls in land although the intention is to displace them out to sea. A drone survey was suggested to identify seagull nests. WM said that the contractor had visited Stonehaven to try to identify where seagulls were nesting and</p>	

	those properties had been leafleted with information about how to deal with seagulls. It was noted that interventions need to run for several years to really be effective.	
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Dates of next meetings:

- Tuesday 13 September 2016 at 10am
- Tuesday 8 November 2016 at 10am