
In Attendance

Brian Simpson (BS); Agnes Simpson (AS), Jack Shepherd (JS), Nigel Greenwood, Fred Lees (FL), Andrew Macivor (AM), Cllr M Paterson, Cllr G Mackenzie, Cllr A MacLean, Robert More and several members of the public (MoP).

Apologies

Cllr A MacKinnon, David Lockett, PS Ross Hamill.

1. Police Report

PS Ross Hamill was unable to attend the meeting but submitted the following report.

The following are the crimes, offences and antisocial behaviour and other incidents of note dealt with between 09/09/2019 and 11/10/2019:

Road Safety

There were 22 recorded road traffic incidents, which included collisions, reports and four individuals being issued with fixed penalty tickets for various offences.

Antisocial Behaviour

There were 4 recorded incidents of public nuisance, we continue to provide visible policing during periods of high demand around Dingwall town centre, which include the night-time economy at the weekend.

Alcohol/Drug Abuse

There was only 1 recorded drugs related incident during the dates stated, however we continue to continue to develop intelligence on drugs use/supply and wherever possible, drug warrants will be executed at the relevant addresses. We appreciate and rely on further intelligence from our local communities. We would persuade members of the public to use Crimestoppers or attend Dingwall Police Station should they have information they wish to pass on.

Patrols carried out of Dingwall Town Centre in hours of darkness.

Speed checks continue in the area when duties permit.

165 Calls were received for this area between the dates specified above (09/09/19 – 11/10/19).

Any information or community issues please contact Police Dingwall on 101 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of CC Meeting of 9th September 2019 were accepted by AM and seconded by BS.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 Hector MacDonald Monument

There has not been much progress since the September meeting and CC are still waiting for information on who is to carry out the survey.

3.2 Canal Foot Bridge

JS is working on a project plan and is in touch with parties involved. There has been otter activity in the area which is being further investigated by HC wildlife officers. Also, one of the trees which needs to be removed may have bats resident. We await results of the wildlife surveys.

3.3 High Street Catenaries

The Fairhurst survey is now with the council and 70% of these catenaries need to be removed (The CC was not informed about this). The meeting between Ark Estates, HC and CC was quite productive, with HC supplying fittings and cable and Ark Estates the machinery.

JS has spoken to some High Street businesses regarding the fitting on the new catenaries as higher buildings are required as businesses need to have deliveries along the High Street.

JS and AM are to get in touch with other businesses to get permission in writing. AM will visit the businesses this week to ensure that everything is in place by Friday.

3.4 Grass Cutting and Core Paths

DL emailed that THC contractors have done a good job of clearing the core path from Knockfarrel. The whins have been cut back and there is now room for the tractor and grass topper to keep the path in good shape if we get agreement from neighbour to do so but as this is a right of way should not be a problem.

Grass cutting and strimming is over for this year. Cllr MacLean said it was noted that Dingwall had the poorest performance in the area and is going to hold meetings with the staff employed to make sure it is better next year and a plan will be taken to the CC for approval.

3.5 Pefferside Park Pond.

Will look at this problem again early next year February/March.

3.6 Stage

Murray Mackay is going to check trailer and sort out in the next week or so, just prior to it going out in November.

3.7 Ross Memorial Hospital

Information received is that the Minor Injuries Department is not set for closure but at the moment the lack of staff is the problem.

It was also stated that there was no need to contact NHS 24 before going to Raigmore but small injuries will still need to contact NHS 24 but serious injuries will be treated without a call.

3.8 Recent flooding

The meeting after the recent flooding was very informative and busy. FL received a letter regarding this but it appears that the culverts are still not clear and if there was a thunderstorm the area would flood again.

Cllr Paterson said that extra funding would be put in place to assist with this.

High tides are the time for problems as a lot of Dingwall is below sea level.

Di Agnew is to try and get a committee including HC, CC, Police, Fire etc to look into this problem.

3.9 Speeding on Old Evanton Road

Checks by Police have taken place but there is still a problem. A MoP contacted JS regarding the fact that this is still ongoing and contact with the Police will continue.

3.10 State of CC Notice Board

This has been put on hold until new CC formed.

3.11 Circus Posters

These have now been removed.

3.12 Bins outside Jobcentre / Drinking Den

Cllr Paterson has looked at the area and there is not a lot of cans about so doesn't appear to be a problem.

4.1 DCC Main Account

Bank balance as reported at September Meeting - £3453.86

Cheque received - £100

Financial Position as at 14th October 2019 - £3553.86

4.2 DCC Christmas Lights Account

Bank balance as reported at September Meeting - £4434.57

Financial Position as at 08/07/19 - £4434.57

5 Correspondence

An email was received regarding a tripping hazard of piping sticking out of the ground near the Central Garage. As this area is owned by the garage the owner is liable for this.

Cllr Paterson to go in and speak to him.

6 AOCB

6.1 Tesco Parking

Tesco has put temporary toilets in the disabled bays outside the shop. JS to get in touch with Tom Moron regarding this.

6.2 Trees with Red Dots

These trees are to be felled and if outwith HC ownership then owners have four weeks to get in touch then the tree-felling will begin.

6.3 Christmas Lights

AM has been in touch with Keith Bauer regarding lighting up the tower of the Town Hall at Christmas. AM suggested that some lights are needed near the Bank of Scotland.

6.4 Noticeboard at Station Square

This is due to be taken down and Cllr Paterson asked if the CC would want it moved elsewhere. Fl is going to find out if the Men's Shed could deal with this.

6.4 Keys for Garage store

The new keys for the four garages are needed by Dingwall in Bloom as the lock have been changed. Di Agnew is looking into this as the CC have had access to these garages for many years as they had taken over the Christmas lights from HC.

6.5 Achany Junction

This is to be included in the next survey of roads.

6.6 State of Roads

The surfaces in Tulloch Street should have been done by now but has not been started and the end of Woodlands Road also has several potholes.

6.7 Rear of St Catherine's

The repairs to the core path have not been completed and as the area is very muddy and dangerous it needs to be reinstated as the work on the house is now complete.

7. Date and Venue of next meeting.

Next meeting will take place on Monday, 11th November in Room 11, Dingwall Academy at 7pm.

8. Planning and Licensing.

8.1 Bridgend Junction

No start date has been given for the junction changes.

8.2 Extension of Waverly Inn.

This has been refused by the Planning Committee.

THESE MINUTES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE LOCAL LIBRARY