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**Minute of the South Marr Community Safety Group
held on Thursday, 19th January 2017 at 7.00 pm
in Aboyne Community Education Centre**

Present:

Ed Bushnell, Chairman
Fiona Stalker, Vice Chair
Norma Makin, Treasurer
Elizabeth Wilson, Minute Secretary

Inspector Matt Smith, Police Scotland
Roddy Lees, SFRS
Hamish Booth, Torphins, CC
Carol Douglas, Banchory CLD

1	Apologies & Welcome	Ed Bushnell, Chairman, welcomed everyone and wished them a Happy New Year, especially Inspector Matt Smith. Apologies were received from Cllr Linda Clark, Eileen Durno, Geoff Feeney and Lindsay Masson.	Action																														
2	Police Service Review	Inspector Matt Smith has very recently taken over from Inspector Martin Burgess. Although he did not have a report available he was keen to learn about the Group as he felt the Police would benefit from such contact. He was also keen to liaise with Roddy, SFRS. Ed said that lack of Police presence at our meeting had been an issue. Insp Smith stated that if he is unable to attend a meeting, a report will be made available and circulated in advance.																															
3	Fire & Rescue Service Review	<p>Recruitment Roddy stated that recruitment and retention of retained staff remains a priority and a recruitment campaign is now open all year.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Station</th> <th>Current</th> <th>Required</th> <th>New Recruits</th> <th>Current Applicants</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Banchory</td> <td align="center">19</td> <td align="center">20</td> <td></td> <td align="center">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aboyne</td> <td align="center">10</td> <td align="center">10</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ballater</td> <td align="center">17</td> <td align="center">20</td> <td align="center">2</td> <td align="center">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balmoral</td> <td align="center">9</td> <td align="center">10</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Braemar</td> <td align="center">8</td> <td align="center">10</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Crash Live An event will be held at Banchory Academy on 16th February with one planned for Aboyne Academy early Spring.</p>	Station	Current	Required	New Recruits	Current Applicants	Banchory	19	20		3	Aboyne	10	10			Ballater	17	20	2	1	Balmoral	9	10			Braemar	8	10			
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		<p>CPR Training Fire Stations across the Marr area have now been provided with CPR training kits courtesy of the British Heart Foundation and training is available to members of the community. The Scottish Government aims to train 500,000 members of the public in CPR so that bystander CPR becomes more frequent and more lives may be saved.</p> <p>The Sandpiper Wildcat Project is also being highlighted to Station personnel to help achieve the aim of having Defibrillators available in locations throughout the area and supporting staff who may wish to volunteer in their spare time. Various local groups have contributed to their funding.</p> <p>Home Fire Safety Visits These free visits continue to be carried out. Aberdeenshire's target is 900 and to date 1444 visits have been carried out.</p>	
4	Minute of 20th October 2016	All agreed that this was a true record, proposed by Fiona and seconded by Roddy	
5	Matters Arising	<p>a) Parking/Drop off initiative outside schools The Group had contributed half the cost towards four banners available to all schools in the area highlighting the problems of inconsiderate and illegal parking.</p> <p>b) Lighting Bellswood Lizzy Shepherd had contacted Norma and is to meet with Cllr Linda Clark. No council funding is available however it is hoped to source alternative funding.</p> <p>c) Crossing at Morrison's Mark Skilling, Head of Roads, has initiated a study to assess the need.</p> <p>d) Mobile Surgery Report Representatives from SMCSG, Police and FRS participated in this event held at Tesco in Banchory where advice was given re ensuring your car was winter ready, (fog lights, tyres, etc) along with Road Safety advice. Free Emergency Contact car discs and personal alarms, pens etc were also handed out to those interested.</p>	
6	Financial report	The current balance stands at £3388.99 with £2000 ringfenced for Pass Plus (£900 already spent). This includes £1000 from the K&M CSG which is currently in limbo. Norma has had three enquiries from that area re Pass Plus. The South Marr Group has received the full funding of £1750 from the CSP.	

7	Network Meeting 24th October	<p>The draft Minutes had been circulated and although Ed had attended and submitted his report, it had been omitted. The main topics of discussion were a lack of/inconsistent Police attendance at CSGs and CCs. SMCSG expressed concern re the time taken for ambulances to various incidents in Upper Deeside citing two occasions of 150 and 60 minute delays respectively. There was also concern about a breakdown in cascading the Minutes from CSEX. Ed felt the Network Meetings presented the ideal opportunity to enable everyone to discuss, share and learn from other's views and experiences.</p>	
		<p>The next meeting takes place in Ellon on 21st January. A Facebook page has now been set up and can be accessed via a link from the Community Safety website.</p>	
8	AOCB	<p>Skateboard Park at Bellfield Park Banchory Carol had received an email from Russ Crichton, an avid and experienced skateboarder. Plans for a new Skatepark have been in discussion for the past three years with no outcome as yet. Russ stated that the current ramp, which is not suitable for beginners, has been shut down due to it being unsafe. His idea was to lower the height of and strengthen the ramp to provide a usable facility whilst raising funds to build the new Skatepark. The quote for the repair/modification is £2400 +VAT. Carol felt that repairing the facility is better than not having a useable park whilst funding can be raised. Russ to be contacted about doing a presentation at the next meeting on 23rd Marc.</p> <p>Ready Steady Drive Carol stated there are plans to run Ready Steady Drive at Banchory Academy. SMCSG contributed £750 each last time to both Banchory and Aboyne Academies; however the event never took place at Aboyne. Norma said that the funding application should be submitted prior to the next meeting on 23rd March.</p> <p>Community Council Public Liability Insurance Hamish stated that CCs used to be insured via Aberdeenshire Council; however this is no longer the case. Also all staff taking place at outside events should have disclosure screening. He queried how these are to be funded. Ed will raise this and ask for clarification at the next Network Meeting.</p> <p>One way system in Viewfield Road Ballater Elizabeth brought up the ongoing saga of continued abuse of the system. Despite contacting her local Police and, Councillors who in turn had a site visit with a representative from the Roads Dept, this issue has still to be resolved. Norma suggested that Elizabeth give her as much information as possible in order for SMCSG to write to the Roads Dept.</p>	<p>Carol</p> <p>Ed</p> <p>Elizabeth/ Norma</p>
10	Date of Next Meeting	<p>Thursday 23rd March 2017 at Aboyne Community Education Centre.</p>	