

# Chairman's Notes

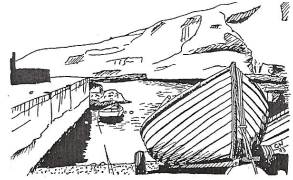
A Happy New Year to you all and whilst December was certainly a whiteout hopefully the recent good weather is a harbinger of better days ahead.

**Christmas Festivities** I hope you all enjoyed our Tree, Street Lights, and the Concert. Thanks are due to the team who erected and took down the tree, Doonies Farm for helping to erect the tree, ATS for providing security cameras, Gala Committee for providing refreshments, Scotia Illuminations for erecting the street lights and all those involved with the Concert. Unfortunately it is unlikely we will have sufficient funds to pay for street lights this year so if you have any ideas for fundraising please let us know.

**Proposed Local Development Plan** We have submitted our objections and now have to wait for their decision. How they can propose in their plan to rezone the Green Belt land at the Loch of Loirston for a Football Stadium, some Industry and up to 1500 Houses is beyond belief when it goes against all of their stated Green Belt policies.

**Planning Application for AFC New Stadium** Well done to all who attended and made their views known at the meeting in the Thistle Hotel. There was a unanimous vote against the Stadium at Loirston. Thanks are due to the Thistle Hotel for providing a room for the meeting. I attended the Departure Hearing and highlighted our objections which were loss of Green Belt Public Open Space contrary to the Council's own Policies, imposition of match day parking restrictions throughout Cove and match

day traffic congestion on Wellington Road. I also queried whether the



Council could determine the Application when it had been involved in promoting the scheme. Hopefully Councillors who attended the hearing will now have a better understanding of the reasons for our opposition to the scheme and will support us when it comes before the full Council on 23rd February.

Please help us by completing and returning the comments form on the Stadium and also make your views known to our local Councillors, MP and MSP. (See contact details on inside back page.) You can also email **all** City Councillors at **councillors@aberdeencity.gov.uk** with your views.

**Vandalism** Unfortunately this has reappeared with damage to three of the bus shelters in Earns Heugh Road. This is senseless as it makes it unpleasant for those waiting for a bus and an unnecessary expenditure to repair. If you see anything you can contact the Police [0845 600 5 7700] or Crimestoppers [0800 555 111]

**Dog Fouling** During the recent cold spell we have received numerous complaints about irresponsible dog owners failing to clean up after their pets, no doubt hoping it would disappear with the snow. Unfortunately whilst the snow disappeared the droppings did not and appeared everywhere. Dog fouling problems can be reported anonymously

by phoning the Dog Wardens on 523737.

**Community Councillors** We are still short of Members so if you are interested and would like to find out more, why not come along to our AGM on 7th February or to our next meeting on 28th February both at 7 pm in the Community Lounge, Loirston Primary School, to see what is involved?

**Refuse Collection** Its not often I can praise the Council but the Refuse Collectors deserve our thanks for, despite the weather and road conditions, they, unlike elsewhere, never missed a collection.

*Andy Finlayson*

Chair

Cove and Altens Community Council