



*Responding to community needs*

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**CRATHES, DRUMOAK & DURRIS COMMUNITY COUNCIL (CDDCC)  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER 2016 19:30 – DRUMOAK PRIMARY  
SCHOOL**

**1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

**Community Councillors:** Mike Taylor (Acting Chair), David Reaich, Peter Renwick, Marion McNeil, David Morrish (co-opted), James O’Flynn (co-opted)

**Aberdeenshire Councillors:** Graeme Clark, Linda Clark

**Minute Secretary:** Rhona Garry

**Apologies:** Mark Ansell, Howard Scholey, Cllr Wendy Agnew, Cllr Peter Bellarby, Cllr. Karen Clark, Cllr Jill Webster

**2. APPROVAL OF AUGUST MINUTES**

There had been one minor correction made to the draft. Marion McNeil proposed approval of the minutes with Mike Taylor seconding.

**3. PLANNING ISSUES**

**a. Crathes revised planning application**

There had been comments from residents that the possible rent for the proposed affordable housing was unreasonable. Other comments were raised regarding the salary gap and that the rent was above national average. Cllr. Linda Clark offered a supplementary guidance for affordable housing to the attendees of the meeting. She would try and circulate this to everyone who wanted it.

Councillors had been emailed with policy questions concerning the application. Peter Renwick commented that the possibility of inviting someone from planning to a meeting so as to gain an explanation from entry level would be logical and helpful. It would be helpful for the Community Council to gain a better understanding of the situation. It was proposed that Janelle Clark could attend the December meeting, as prior meetings would have a tight schedule due to the pre-determination meeting. Peter Renwick would follow this up by email, suggesting attendance to the December meeting.

Peter Renwick had drawn together a document capturing the key areas of which they objected with: safety issues, LDP and other policy issues. This

comprehensive document had been circulated to other members via email and approved.

There was discussion about what other measures the Community Council could explore. David Morrish raised the idea from a member of the public about acquiring a professional planning consultant. However, it was determined that the Community Council does not have the funds to be able to support such a method. Cllr. Linda Clark did suggest that there is opportunity for someone to be able to speak at the MARR area community meeting. Additionally, lobbying councillors before the reviewing of the application was also suggested. It was decided that Peter Renwick would send the approved document to councillors prior to reviewing so as to remind them of the Community Council's objections.

**b. Park Quarry**

An official statement was released from the inspection reports of the Park Bridge, that it was unsuitable for any heavy volume of traffic.

After two delays, the pre-determination meeting currently remained set for the 6<sup>th</sup> of October. The Community Council continues to have people organized to speak concerning different aspects of the objection. Peter Renwick would send the document around once again for any final comments.

Considering the date of the pre-determination meeting it was decided that the Community Council would move their meeting from the 5<sup>th</sup> of October to the 28<sup>th</sup> of September, the week prior. It was due to be at Durris, so it would be looked into if Mark Ansell could move the booking.

**4. SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES EVENT**

An opportunity for a Community Councils event on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October was received. Marion McNeil would sign up for it.

**5. COMMUNITY FUNDING EVENT**

Another invite was received for an event regarding funding community projects. Peter Renwick said he would attend and report back.

**6. NOTICES CALLING MEETINGS**

It was reminded that there must be a 7 day notice for any of the meetings, and thus was emphasised that there needed to be an effective system for achieving this. A list had been created with all the dates, times and locations which was on the website and Facebook page. There was discussion about the need for a hard copy of this list, with a suggested standard agenda as well.

**7. RECRUITMENT / CONSTITUTION**

Discussion arose concerning the possible need of changing the constitution due to the problem of being unable to meet the required minimum members for the Community Council. It was thought that the CDDCC in comparison to

other Community Council's had a fairly high minimum of 7, however this was remarked to be constrained because of the number required from Drumoak. A member commented that at the moment the constitution was not met because of a shortage from Durris and Crathes. It was suggested that if there continued to be problems the constitution could be reviewed at the AGM.

David Morrish and James O'Flynn were co-opted as Crathes Community councillors. Peter Renwick proposed with David Reaich seconding.

#### **8. WEBSITE / EMAIL ADDRESSES**

With recent problems with the Community Council's website and email, David Reaich reported on current efforts and plans to try and get them back online. He informed the Council that there would be some costs incurred. He would wait a week to see if the domain transfer with Weebly would be successful, if not he would start anew. He would keep everyone updated with progress.

David Reaich also said that once the email was back online, a standard email would be sent to inform all contacts of the Community Council's possession of the contact details.

#### **9. POLICE REPORT**

Mike Taylor had been in touch with Neil McHattie who was no longer working in area. He was put into contact with Connor McKean and would invite him to the next meeting. He would also try and to continue receiving police reports once again.

##### **a. Follow up on previous correspondence**

This issue would be carried on to next meeting.

#### **10. ROAD SAFETY**

##### **a. Crathes Castle – extension to 40mph speed limit**

Cllr. Karen Clark was not present at the meeting for a full update. Cllr. Linda Clark informed the Community Council that the 40mph still continued to be desirable after many near misses. There was currently a problem with the electronic signs that are present. Cllr. Linda Clark said that she would follow this up with Karen Clark.

##### **b. Kirkton of Durris update relating to speed limit**

There were currently no updates on the issue so as a result would be carried on to the next meeting.

##### **c. Safe Access to Drumoak School**

There was feeling that the whole of the Sunnyside drive should be at a fixed 20mph, as the current flashing signs did not seem sufficient.

Mike Taylor would respond to Cllr. Everson after a previous correspondence, in which the path along the cemetery was once again

suggested. In addition, Marion McNeil would send a reminder of some of the older emails concerning the problem.

The Community Council was informed that there was a safety order on the current safety crossing, which was carried out by the contractor.

**d. Water in Sunnyside Drive**

There had been no further progress on the issue as the source of the water could not be found. The danger of this water icing over during winter causing more risk for students on the way to school was once again raised.

**e. Speed monitoring, Slug Road**

The Community Council was currently unaware of the status of this project so would carry the issue over to the next meeting.

**11. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**a. Windfarm Funding**

With Mark Ansell's current absence, there was no known updates on the Windfarm funds.

David Reaich reminded the Community Council of his correspondence with the Football Club about funding for equipment. He also commented that through a conversation with a resident of Drumoak it was suggested to install a defibrillator somewhere in the community. The Aberdeenshire Councillors suggested that there are many funding projects for this, such as the Fire Brigade.

**b. Relationship with DDCG / Community Action Plan**

Marion McNeil remains a member of the Community group and reported that at the recent fun day a questionnaire document had been circulated. The subsequent answers would be collated to form the basis of the Community Action Plan

David Reaich also commented that there was a Horse Racing Night to be held soon in support of outdoors equipment for the Drumoak primary school.

**12. FINANCE**

Peter Renwick reported that the budget remained the same at £1,433, however there were some checks to be handed out soon.

Mike Taylor and David Reaich were both successfully added as signatories. Mark Ansell was still pending.

**13. DATA PROTECTION**

The Community Council was now registered with IOC. All members were reminded to read the guidelines while official confirmation was waited on.

#### **14. AOCB**

Marion McNeil raised the issue of nomination for KDP representation. Responsibilities largely included meeting attendance and reporting back information. It was decided that she would continue as representative.

The Community Council had recently been informed of possible payphone removal by BT, specifically one in Durriss and Crathes. There was a discussion about projects in other communities such as adopt a payphone.

There was discussion following a received correspondence from a member of public about the absence of availability of the minutes, in particular of a hard copy. The Community Council extended its apologies and would begin to fix the problem. It was decided for the moment that the easiest course of action would be to assure that there was one hard copy in the Banchory Library. Marion McNeil was assigned this task.

There would be a MARR area bus forum on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September.

Mike Taylor would ask Mark Ansell to book the Durriss Hall for the next meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September.

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 9:20pm.

Next meeting is at the Durriss Hall on 28<sup>th</sup> September at 19:30.

Chair: David Reaich