

Crathes, Drumoak & Durris Community Council (CDDCC)

Minutes of 2010 Annual General Meeting

24 November 2010 at Crathes Hall from 19.30 hours

1. Sederunt

Community Councillors: David Morrish, Jenny Watson, Ann Ross, Nicola Chambury, Jim Williamson

Aberdeenshire Councillors (Ward 16): Graeme Clark

Aberdeenshire Councillors (Ward 18): Linda Clark

Members of the public: Don Keith, William Downie, Jean Downie, John Hopkins

Apologies: John Baillie, Geoffrey Atkinson, Diana Robertson, Wendy Agnew

2. Chairman's Report.

The report was distributed to those present. David Morrish summarised the main points of his report, reproduced here:-

2010 Community Councillors

| CC Office | Community Area Represented | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| | Crathes | Drumoak | Durris |
| Chairman | David Morrish | | |
| Vice Chairman | | John Baillie | |
| Vice Chairman | | | |
| Treasurer | | | John Hopkins* |
| Secretary | | Diana Robertson | |
| Minute Secretary | | | John Hopkins* |
| Planning | David Morrish | Geoffrey Atkinson | James Williamson ⁺ |
| Planning | | John Baillie | |
| Access | | Molly Atkinson* | |
| Park Quarry Liaison | | Donald Keith* | William Downie* |
| K&M CC Forum | | | John Hopkins* |
| Marr CC Forum | David Morrish | | |
| Website | | | John Hopkins* |
| General | Nicola Chambury | Jenny Watson | |
| General | Anne Ross | | |
| General | Howard Scholey ⁺⁺ | | |
| General | | | |
| General | | | |
| | | | |
| Total no. councillors | 4 | 4 | 1 |
| 9 | | | |

* non-members ⁺ Co-opted February 2010 ⁺⁺ Co-opted October 2010

Resignations: Nicola Chambury (notification received in November, prior to the AGM)

Priorities for 2010

- Road Safety
- Youth Amenity
- Schools
- Strategic Planning and Local Development Plan
- Engagement with Constituents

Road Safety

2010 has been the year for implementation. We have seen the installation of the planned speed limits, additional signs at difficult junctions and improved sight-lines. The Myrebird junction 'See Me' trial for school children was repeated and purportedly reduced speeds by up to 8%. As a community council we have welcomed all these changes. In some

cases, the CC has felt the changes didn't go far enough and we felt frustrated when sensible suggestions were ignored in favour of the rule book. In 2011, following a period of observation the CC will no doubt continue lobbying where further changes are felt to be necessary.

Youth Amenity

Having closed the Drumoak Youth project, there was no significant CC activity during the year in this area. However, at the end of 2010, the CC was contacted by a member of the Drumoak public wishing to continue the Youth Amenity agenda. It is hoped that this will be picked up early in 2011

Schools

Following an active year in 2009 with respect to planning and support for the new Drumoak Primary, there has been little to do this year other than to hope for the best with respect to education budget in the current climate. In this respect the CC has continued to lobby for the new Drumoak School.

Strategic Planning and Local Development Plan

Even on the planning front, 2010 has felt a bit like the calm before the storm. The storm perhaps being the new Local Development Plan. The current economic climate has also slowed down potential applications. Nevertheless, the applications that we have dealt with are a constant reminder that we need to pay close attention, especially to the larger ones. We need to remember that developers, and their agents, are full time professionals and, despite the attempt at improving local consultation, are commercial cynics who are usually good at the 'game'. In 2010, there are applicants in the CC area who 'salami-slice' their applications revealing the full intent only piece at a time, even later appealing against conditions imposed. In 2010, we have learned again that we need to think along the same lines as developers if we are to make good representations on behalf of the community.

Between the MIR report and the proposed Local Development plan we have suffered a disappointment with what is proposed for the LDP in Crathes. Here we have learned that to be effective, we need to pay attention throughout the process, we need to retain the history and the detail and we need to brief our elected members. In respect of the Crathes situation we have again conducted public meetings to ensure that the public are also well briefed.

The CC made adequate representations on the Draft Local Plan that reflected the intentions of the community council.

Engagement of the CC with its Constituents

With the exception of public meetings held to address specific issues, there has been little movement on this during 2010. However, at the October CC meeting there was a strongly stated intention to do something significant in this regard in 2011. The intention is to look more widely at community planning and engage the wider community, especially the schools. This will be a January agenda item.

Policing

This year the main issue involving discussions with the police were the travellers that spent a short time in Drumoak causing a certain amount of anxiety. On these occasions, it always seems that the conversations revolve around what we can't do about it and why, rather than what can be done. It thus remains an apparently intractable issue. At the time of writing, it may be worth noting though, that this community has not suggested a site for travellers in the Crathes, Drumoak or Durris area. As a result of the difficulty in identifying sites, it is possible, that once again there are no designated places for travellers in the Local Plan. This won't help.

The police have continued to issue monthly newsletters which as well as being discussed at CC meetings are also posted at http://www.durris.net/html/police_newsletter.html) These raise current issues which is very helpful. Policing is managed for the CC area with Marr area providing for Crathes and K&M for Drumoak and Durris. Police members have continued to attend CC meetings when available which is very much appreciated.

It remains for me to thank each and every member of the 2010 Community Council and our local councillors who have supported us this year.

I wish all the best to those in Crathes, Drumoak and Durris for Christmas and the New Year.

David Morrish
CDDCC Chairman 2010

David Morrish noted, with regret, the resignation of Nicola Chambury from CDDCC, with effect from the AGM.

3. Treasurer's Report

John Hopkins distributed copies of the draft 2010 accounts for CDDCC. He noted that, further to the resolution adopted at the 2009 AGM, the remaining balance of the funds of the Drumoak Youth Project (DYP) had been transferred to CDDCC. This amount (£145.39) was shown in the 2010 draft accounts of CDDCC as line 4.

It was noted that – partly as a result of the transfer of the DYP funds – there was an accumulated balance in CDDCC's accounts totalling £350.33. Practice in previous years had been to make small donations to worthy local causes, where this opportunity existed. There had not been the opportunity to do this at the end of financial year 2009/10. David Morrish therefore proposed that this issue be addressed in the New Year.

There were no other questions on the accounts.

The accounts were proposed by John Hopkins, seconded by Linda Clark and formally adopted and signed.

4. Distribution of Nomination Forms

David Morrish noted that, as a result of resignations, there were several vacancies in CDDCC. John Hopkins clarified that, by its constitution, elections to CDDCC only occurred each third year from 2002. The next election would therefore be in November 2011. In the interim, vacancies should be dealt with by co-option.

David Morrish therefore proposed that this issue be addressed at the January 2011 meeting.

5. Meeting Dates

The next meeting would be at 7.30 p.m. on 5 January 2011 at Crathes Hall. Dates for meetings from February 2011 onwards would be set at the January meeting.

The AGM was then declared closed at 20.05 hours.

Wine and cheese were then served.

JFH

1 December 2010

| Distribution | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| Email | Email | Email | Post | Other |
| CDDCC Councillors (excl. Jenny Watson) | Danny Law (Deeside Piper) | Insp. Andrew Todd | Jenny Watson | Website http://www.durris.net/ (also for previous minutes) |
| Cllrs. Linda Clark, Karen Clark, Jill Webster (Ward 16) | Gary Cruden (Press and Journal) | Insp. Steve Golightly | Banchory Public Library | By Hand |
| Cllrs. Peter Bellarby, Graeme Clark, Mike Sullivan, Wendy Agnew (Ward 18) | Graeme Scott (Press and Journal) | PC Wayne Smart | Drumoak Church Hall Notice Board (via Morag Keith) | Park Shop (via John Hopkins) |
| Mr W Munro, Area Manager, Kincardine & Mearns | Kirkton of Durris Hall Notice Board (via Sheila Watt) | Crathes Hall Notice Board (via Nicola Chambury) | | Drumoak Post Office (via John Hopkins) |
| Mr L Allen, Area Manager, Marr | Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator – Alister Bisset | Local Newsletter Editor (Don Keith) | | Irvine Arms (via John Hopkins) |