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Crathes, Drumoak & Durris Community Council (CDDCC)
Minutes of Meeting
3 September 2014 at Crathes Hall from 19.30 hours

1. Sederunt

Community Councillors: David Morrish (Acting Chairman), Ann Ross, Geoffrey Atkinson, Linda Murray, Angela Bichan

Aberdeenshire Councillors: Linda Clark, Raymond Christie, Graeme Clark, Peter Bellarby

Member of Public: Peter Renwick

Minutes Secretary: John Hopkins

Apologies: Wendy Agnew, Cliff Grover, Howard Scholey, Mark Ansell, Daniel Wake, Maxine Smith, Les Bray

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

The August minutes were proposed by Geoffrey Atkinson and seconded by Ann Ross and accepted as an accurate record.

3. Police Matters

There was no attendance by Police Scotland.

4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

4.1 Information from Police

To contact Allan Paxton for information on the following items (**Action: Howard Scholey**):-

- results from the temporary speed camera erected in Crathes in the Spring, between the crossroads and Durris Bridge.
- police foot patrols making a high visibility appearance on the beat, but ignoring instances of parking on pavements
- the vehicle crash which had taken place in Park on 7 May
- outcome of reports to 101 about bikers and off-road vehicles in Durris Forest.

4.2 Infrastructure Problems in Drumoak

It was understood that there had still been no effective action by Aberdeenshire Council on *any* of the infrastructure problems reported in February.

The Roads Department were understood to have said that there was “no problem” of vibration from badly-laid road surface in Drumoak.

To follow-up with Local MSP re Infrastructure Issues (**Action: Howard Scholey**)

4.3 Car Park for Durris Primary

Raymond Christie stated that planning permission had been granted for this at a meeting the previous day.

4.4 ID Badges

Angela Bichan observed that, in view of the forthcoming elections to form a new CDDCC, it might be appropriate to defer this action.

4.5 Laminated Maps

To locate the maps in all the local Halls plus the Drumoak Post Office (**Action: Howard Scholey**)

4.6 Plants for Community Projects

The letter had been circulated by Howard Scholey.

4.7 Street Naming for Nether Sunnyside houses

The letter had been circulated by Howard Scholey. To speak to Bancon to discover the deadline for street name proposals and – provided there were time – solicit the views of schoolchildren at Drumoak Primary (**Action: Angela Bichan**)

4.8 Priorities for 2014

4.81 Kirkton of Durris Speed Limit

To see if some leverage could be exerted via Dennis Robertson MSP, by following-up CDDCC's earlier letter to him on the subject (**Action: Howard Scholey**)

4.82 Local Development Plan

Although the Main Issues Report had now been formally adopted, David Morrish asked that the LDP itself be kept on the agenda, since consultation on this was expected to begin on October/November. Peter Bellarby noted that, following receipt of a directive from the Scottish Government, consultations on parts of the MIR had, in fact, been reopened. Raymond Christie said that this involved five topics. Three of these were specific to locations in northern Aberdeenshire and hence did not apply locally. The other two were Wind Farms and "Heat Areas".

To follow-up on both the outstanding MIR and the LDP consultations (**Action: David Morrish**)

4.9 Wind Farm Money

To develop and submit appropriate funds applications (**Action: Maxine Smith**). There was understood to have been one local application made thus far (on behalf of the Kirkton of Durris Hall). *It was noted by Linda Murray that applications for Meikle Carewe money close at the end of September.*

To draft appropriate text for submission to the Deeside Piper, drawing attention to the procedure for applying for funds (**Action: Linda Murray/Ann Ross**)

5. Planning

5.1 Current Local Planning Applications

5.11 Crathes

Nothing requiring comment by CDDCC

5.12 Drumoak

Peter Bellarby reported that planning permission for two houses behind Alma Cottage had been granted at the previous day's Planning Committee. This was a subsequent application to the one(s) that had been rejected in past months. The present application had been recommended for acceptance by the Planners. On the basis that this application was not "organic growth", Peter Bellarby had moved rejection of the application, but – on a vote – permission was granted.

5.13 Durris

Attention had been drawn to the construction and bringing into operation, without planning permission, of a commercial Livery Stable at South Brachmont. This had been the subject of unfavourable comments from local people.

It was understood that a retrospective planning application had now been made.

To draft and circulate a response to the planning application, on behalf of CDDCC (**Action: Linda Murray**). To submit it, once agreed (**Action: David Morrish**)

To check whether there is an application for 2 houses in the Durris area (mentioned by Geoffrey Atkinson) and determine whether it requires a response from CDDCC (**Action: Linda Murray**).

5.2 Planning Subcommittees

5.21 Crathes Housing

David Morrish reported that the Crathes Housing Planning Subcommittee (currently Les Oliver, Hamish Taylor, Colin Christie and himself) was continuing its work. If it required any decisions of principle or had something significant to report, it would communicate with the whole of CDDCC. Otherwise, it would involve only those directly interested in the Crathes housing.

It was noted that:-

- vibration measurements had commenced (the previous day)
- whereas some neighbouring houses had been surveyed, owners of others had not yet even been contacted

5.22 Crematorium

David Morrish noted that the road north of the Crathes crossroads was closed so that it could be widened to improve the access for the new Crematorium. He added that he believed it quite possible that a planning subcommittee would be formed to monitor the Crematorium development.

David Morrish went on to relate - with some amusement - that a written comment by him that it was to be hoped that the road would not have to be excavated a second time when Stewart Milne laid the gas main to link the new Crathes housing had been picked up by Stewart Milne (to whom a copy had been forwarded for information).

As a result, it was now understood that the present subcontractors had been engaged by Stewart Milne to lay a section of gas main in the opened roadway. This would result in some saving of money for Stewart Milne and – it was to be hoped – some reduction in the disruption to local roads.

6. Correspondence

To check the latest batch of correspondence and circulate as and if appropriate (**Action: David Morrish**)

7. Subcommittee Reports, etc.

7.1 Drumoak Durris Community Group (DDCG)

Linda Murray said there had been no recent meeting of DDCG, but that she wished to raise the issue – commented upon by several local people – of the problems caused by the road modifications to Park Bridge.

Anecdotal evidence was discussed.

Now that the water main-laying was largely complete, one particular issue (contractor equipment positioned immediately adjacent to the new width restrictions) had gone. However, it was clear that certain significant problems remained. These included:-

- the southern width restriction had been installed on a bend, making it unnecessarily difficult to negotiate
- the detailed design of the width restrictions was failing to deter all large/heavy vehicles (a large truck had recently become stuck when attempting to drive over the kerb sections of the width restriction – between the uprights - blocking the bridge for some time)
- the growth of the tree at the southern end (west side) of the bridge made it impossible for vehicles close to the southern end of the bridge to see those at the northern end – and vice versa – thus making the vehicle priority signs virtually impossible to obey – and hence useless. (Felling this tree would provide a complete solution to this problem).

To raise the above issues with Aberdeenshire Council (**Action: Graeme Clark**)

Raymond Christie said that any application to the Area Committee for funds for Christmas lights for Drumoak would need to be submitted urgently. To contact the Stonehaven office urgently and complete/submit the appropriate form (**Action: Angela Bichan**)

To draft the remit (terms of reference, powers, duration and composition) for the Community Engagement sub-committee, for consideration by CDDCC (**Action: Maxine Smith**)

8. Rotation of CDDCC Meeting Locations

It was confirmed that the current arrangements should be retained at least until the formation of the new CDDCC.

9. Community Council Elections (November)

Information flyers were supplied to Drumoak, Durriss and Crathes primary schools to be sent home with the children, alerting households to the imminent establishment of a new CDDCC and providing information on the nomination process.

The idea of deferring the community council elections was debated briefly, but without a decision to so do.

To submit material to the Deeside Piper, seeking an editorial mention of the need for nominations for the forthcoming CDDCC elections (**Action: Ann Ross**)

10. Meeting to Discuss CDDCC Process, etc.

David Morrish stated that he had attempted to organise a private meeting of CDDCC members (during June) to debate more fully “process” issues. It had not proved possible to agree a suitable date.

It was agreed to defer any action on such a meeting until after the formation of the new CDDCC.

11 Financial Matters

John Hopkins produced a report on CDDCC expenditures. To circulate this to CDDCC members (**Action: John Hopkins**)

To report on the progress of correspondence with Aberdeenshire Council on additional funding for CDDCC (**Action: Howard Scholey**)

12. AOB

12.1 Review of Community Councils

Raymond Christie said that Aberdeenshire Council had launched a review of the operation of Community Councils. The consultation period would last until about January 2015.

12.2 Bus Forum

Linda Clark noted that there was a Marr Area Bus Forum on 10 September at Inchmarlo Golf Club (7.30 to 9.00). It was rare for this forum to meet close to the CDDCC area, so this represented a convenient opportunity to attend.

12.3 Email Circulation Lists

David Morrish said that he had – over the years, through his involvement in various groups and working parties – built up a considerable email circulation list. He felt that CDDCC needed to have such a facility, ideally organised by subject area of interest/relevance.

Ann Ross said that this would raise data protection issues.

John Hopkins noted that registration under the Data Protection Act was mandatory for most organisations handling structured data relating to identifiable living persons. Exemptions were available for individuals and for voluntary bodies. Aberdeenshire Council were of the view that – because they have a statutory power (the right to be consulted) – Community Councils could not rely on the voluntary organisation exemption, but must act in this regard as though they were a statutory body.

John Hopkins went on to make the point that – if CDDCC were so registered – it would be an offence to use structured information collected for one purpose in connection with a different purpose.

13. Next Meeting

Crathes Hall – 8th October at 1930 hours. *Note that this is a change from the previously-arranged date*

DISTRIBUTION				
<u>EMAIL</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>	<u>WEBSITE</u>
CDDCC Councillors	Kirkton of Durris Hall Notice Board (via Gillian Edward)	Insp. Stuart Ednie	Maureen Newlands (KMAP/MAP/STP)	http://www.durris.net/ (also for previous minutes)
Cllrs. Linda Clark, Karen Clark, Jill Webster (Ward 16)	Crathes Hall Notice Board (via Nicola Chambury)		Alison Ritchie, Community Learning	
Cllrs. Peter Bellarby, Graeme Clark, Raymond Christie, Wendy Agnew (Ward 18)	Drumoak Church Hall Notice Board (via Mary Robertson)	PC David Mitchell	<u>BY POST</u> Banchory Public Library	<u>BY HAND</u> Park Shop Drumoak Post Office
Mr W Munro, Area Manager, Kincardine & Mearns				
Area Manager, Marr	Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator - Alister Bisset	Local Newsletter Editor – Marion McNeil		