

CRATHES, DRUMOAK & DURRIS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 6th May 2015

SEDERUNT

Community Councillors: M. Ansell(Acting Chair), P. Renwick, H. Scholey(Minutes), M. McNeil, M. Smith

Aberdeenshire Councillors: G. Clark, R. Christie.

KDP P. Melling, J McCrank

Members of the public: D Morrish, J. Singer

APOLOGIES: Mr R. Mitchell, A Bichan, Cllr Linda Clark

WIND FARM FUND –APPLICATION EVALUATIONS: In advance of the normal business of the Community Council, applications were considered for funding from the Midhill Windfarm Community Fund, administered by Fred Olsen. Two applications were reviewed; Crathes Public Hall applied for £2772.00 for Architects Fees relating to the redevelopment of the Hall, and Kirkton of Durris Hall applied for £3000.00 to replace carpets and some tables. The applications had been circulated to all members beforehand and both were deemed to comply with all the application criteria. Maxine Smith moved that both applications be approved, and Marion McNeil seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. Mark Ansell informed the meeting that with the completion of the second phase of the wind farm, the fund was increased to a total of £9828.00/year for this Community Council area, and further noted that it was proving a struggle to generate applications. He noted that the Community Council was entitled to a 5% administration from the fund, although it was unclear whether this was 5% of the total fund, or of funds disbursed.

Maxine Smith suggested that applicants should submit a timetable for the projects that were submitted, and that the Community Council needed to do more to encourage community groups to apply for funding. She suggested that we should hold quarterly reviews of applications.

APPROVAL OF MINUTE of the meeting held on 1stth April 2015. Cllr G. Clark pointed out that in relation to item (v)b) under road safety, the Aberdeenshire official to be contacted should have been Stuart McFarlane not Stuart Clark as recorded. This amendment accepted, approval of the minutes was proposed by Peter Renwick and seconded by Maxine Smith.

POLICE MATTERS The police were not represented at the meeting, and no policing matters were raised.

KDP COMMUNITY SUPPORT: John McCrank, Community Development Worker, addressed the meeting, explaining that the Kincardineshire Development Partnership was officially launched in January 2015, and he had been appointed in March. The majority of his work to date has been helping to establish training for governance of community groups, with particular reference to funding, drawing-up constitutions, and ensuring that groups were compliant with relevant statutes. He distributed a leaflet outlining the aims of KDP and the sphere in which it will be working. He pointed-out that all the Community councils within Kincardine and Mearns were represented on the committee of the KDP (CDDCC rep. is Maxine Smith).

Cllr Christie enquired whether funding would be available direct from KDP if a small group needed start-up funding. Mr McCrank replied that KDP would not be a source for direct funding, but could assist in directing groups to funding sources.

Cllr. Clark enquired how KDP determine where funding is available for a group, and Mr McCrank said KDP had access to funding databases that were not freely available, and that he could also give guidance to how to sign-up to “Aberdeenshire for Communities” on the Aberdeenshire website, where further access to funding sources was available. e-mail: jmccrank@kincardineshiredp.org

Maxine Smith commented that in future the ability of KDP to provide direct funding may change.

CRATHES, DRUMOAK & DURRIS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 6th May 2015

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTE :

Appointments: Peter Renwick suggested an amendment to the arrangements for the rotation of the Chair proposed in the April meeting. His proposal was that the minute taker of each meeting should chair the following meeting. Thus, Howard Scholey as minute taker for the current meeting would chair the June meeting. Howard Scholey acceded to this suggestion. Several members noted that their availability for this rotation system could not be guaranteed, but given that there would be no July meeting, it was accepted that this would be a practical interim arrangement. **ACTION Howard Scholey**.

The question of a stipendiary Minutes Secretary was discussed. Given the cost of press advertising, Maxine Smith suggested that an item in the Community Interest section of the Deeside Piper would be useful, and Marion McNeil suggested an announcement in the Drumoak and Durris Newsletter. **ACTION MaxineSmith/Marion McNeil.** Cllr G. Clark pointed out that some Community Councils used senior school pupils for this role, achieving the dual purpose of engaging young people with community activity and providing them with some earned money. It was noted that we did not have any senior school within our area, but that it would be a good outcome if it could be achieved.

Drumoak School Pedestrian Access Angela Bichan has been following-up on the matter of safe access to the new Drumoak Primary School. Cllr G. Clark said that the extension of the church graveyard is included in the Local Development Plan, and there is a proposal for a 3m path on the western edge of the graveyard to serve as a safe access to the school. He further commented that the school building was behind schedule, which was difficult to explain in the light of the mild winter. He noted that the new school was generating great enthusiasm and anticipation within Drumoak.

Website Status and Managing CC e-mail It was confirmed that the community Councillors who would undertake to feed-in information from each sub-division would be:- Crathes : Peter Renwick, Drumoak : Maxine Smith, Durris : Mark Ansell. **ACTION : Peter Renwick, Maxine Smith, Mark Ansell.**

The issue of how incoming communications from the community would be dealt with remained unresolved.

ACTION: All CC members.

Funding Further to the details of the Midhill wind farm funding applications which were dealt with at the beginning of the meeting, Mark Ansell pointed out that there was still about £3,000.00 unallocated from that fund, and that the CDDCC area had not generated any applications to access any of the Meikle Carewe funds at all. Applications for the Meikle Carewe fund open in July and close in September, so the need to encourage applications is becoming urgent.

Mark Ansell reported that he had publicised the availability of wind farm funds at the April Crathes fly, and it had generated considerable interest. At this stage there was general discussion of how to publicise more widely the availability of these funds. Maxine Smith pointed-out the need to compile a database of local community groups that would be eligible for this form of support funding, and suggested that we should appeal for information about such groups through the Crathes Fly and the Drumoak newsletter **ACTION: Howard Scholey/Maxine Smith** Peter Renwick offered to collate a list of potential community groups in Crathes, and Mark Ansell offered to do likewise for Durris. **ACTION: Peter Renwick/Mark Ansell**

Paul Melling stressed that it was important that applicants for funding should understand the criteria for eligibility, and John McCrank reminded the meeting that one of his roles was to support community groups in applying for funding. e-mail: jmccrank@kincardineshiredp.org

David Morrish stated that he had an extensive database of e-mail contacts from his time on the Community Council, which could be used to distribute information, and Maxine Smith reported she had a similar list. It was noted that there were data protection issues which needed to be looked into before these could be used. David Morrish undertook to compose and distribute a guide on how to organise electronic mail shots **ACTION: David Morrish**

CRATHES, DRUMOAK & DURRIS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 6th May 2015

Budget and Finance Peter Renwick confirmed that the Community Council had received the 2015 administration grant from the K&M Area Office, together with the £1500.00 grant towards the Drumoak Christmas lights project. It was noted that further signatories were required for the CDDCC bank account to accommodate the fact that the existing two signatories were not always available. Marion McNeil and Mark Ansell both consented to be extra signatories **ACTION Marion McNeil, Mark Ansell**

Road Safety Howard Scholey regretted to report that he had not yet found time to review Cliff Grover's research into the guidelines on the setting of speed limits in order to progress the case for a 40mph limit through Kirkton of Durris. **ACTION: Howard Scholey.**

David Morrish reported that the new road layout and 30mph speed limit on the A957 through Crathes had been confirmed, and the work will start shortly.

Park Bridge Following discussion on the issues regarding the southern access to Park Bridge it was decided that no further action was required.

Planning: Sales suite in Woodlands Mark Ansell reported that he had checked the planning application, and there had been no representations from residents. He had contacted relevant residents, informing them that the Community Council could submit a representation if required, suggesting that the sales suite could be part of the first-build, rather than an obtrusive temporary building. To date he had no replies.

Steading application David Morrish to supply Maxine Smith with copy of representation. **Action David Morrish**

Super- fast Broadband Connectiuons Jim Singer reported that the day following the April CDDCC meeting, he had gone onto the BT website and applied for a fast broadband connection. An engineer from BT had arrived on April 15th, and after fitting a new telephone socket in his house, had gone away to a street telephone cabinet, returning some while later with the news that he was now connected to super fast BT broadband. As a result, Jim now has <75Mb/sec broadband! Following the sagas that he reported at the March and April meetings, he has concluded that there is a shambolic lack of communication within BT Broadband and Openreach, and Digital Scotland appear not to know what is going on. It seems that all the residents in Drumoak should now be able to access super fast Broadband. Crathes is not due to be connected until 2017, and it is reported that some subscribers in Durris are connected, although no one at the meeting was sure of this latter information
Maxine Smith suggested that Jim could prepare a Facebook item for the CDDCC Facebook page, to publicise the availability of the faster internet service in Drumoak. **ACTION Maxine Smith/Jim Singer.**

ANY OTHER COMPETANT BUSINESS

Community Council Vacancies Howard Scholey reported that there had been no response to a leafleting publication at the April Crathes fly. He had written to the K&M and Marr Area Managers requesting support on how to publicise the need for nominations to fill vacant Community Council posts. Willie Munroe responded that he would consult with Janelle Clark(Marr Area Manager) and revert. Both Cllrs. Clark and Christie observed that recruitment to Community Councils was a widespread problem.

Cllr Christie pointed-out that there would be a K&M Community Council Forum on 21st May at which we may be able to get suggestions from other councils. He suggested we contact Karen McWilliam at the K&M Area Office to have this topic added to the agenda. **ACTION Mark Ansell**

Paul Melling suggested that the local schools were an excellent resource for communicating with the whole community. Howard Scholey responded that our experience with communicating through our local primary schools had not yielded many results, and as had been mentioned earlier, we did not have any senior schools in the CDDCC area. Nevertheless this was a resource we should not ignore. It was mentioned that Dougie Finlay in the Inverurie office of Aberdeenshire Council has an interest in youth involvement in community affairs, and that

CRATHES, DRUMOAK & DURRIS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 6th May 2015

CDDCC should consider doing more to encourage youth engagement. Howard Scholey undertook to develop a forward plan for filling the vacancies. **Action Howard Scholey**

Connecting to the Community Maxine Smith reported that the sub-group set-up to look into this area had met the previous week, and decided that the best way to approach this was to design a clearly focused community questionnaire. The topic that seems most often to engage the local community is that of road safety. It is proposed that a community survey should be designed and distributed in September. It would be best to stimulate interest by forward publicity in the form of an announcement in the Drumoak newsletter and leafleting at the Drumaok and Durris family days and the Crathes Fly. To write-up a heads-up on the community questionnaire **ACTION Maxine Smith(?)**

Maxine Smith remarked that a litter pick on the Deeside way would be a good community activity. Reminder: The Community Council has six litter-pickers and some plastic sacks, currently held by Howard Scholey.

LDP 2016 There were no development proposals supported by Aberdeenshire Council for either Crathes or Durris. Maxine Smith expressed concern about apparent ambiguity in the proposals relating to the number of houses involved in the site OP1 to the north of Sunnyside farm.. David Morrish offered to review them with her to clarify what had been proposed, **ACTION David Morrish**

Integrated Public Health & Social Care Maxine Smith said that the report had not yet been published. It was suggested that Andrew Farquhar be invited to come to talk to the CDDCC on this subject. **ACTION Mark Ansell**

Meeting with Marr Area Manager on Planning Processes.

David Morrish reported that he had met the Marr area manager to discuss Community Councils' involvement in the planning process in the light of experience with the Crathes housing development. Whilst the CDDCC had severe reservations about certain aspects of the process where this development was concerned, Janelle Clark thought that the work of the CDDCC in influencing the road modifications to the A957 and the introduction of a 30mph limit was a model of good practice. Maxine Smith proposed that the Community Council should send a letter of thanks to David Morrish for his role in ensuring the outcome that has been achieved. To write letter

ACTION Mark Ansell

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9:40pm

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	BY POST Banchory Public Library	BY HAND 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		