*Responding to community needs*

# Crathes Drumoak & Durris Community Council Monthly Meeting

## Wednesday 14 November 2018 – Drumoak Primary School

## MEETING MINUTES

1. **Introductions & Apologies**

Present : David Reaich (Chair), Peter Renwick (Minutes), Mark Ansell, David Groundwater, Chris Charnley, Marion McNeil. Apologies, James O'Flynn, David Morrish, Emma Windle

Councillors : None – apologies all

Members of the public : Derek Forbes, David O'Donnell, David Campbell (all Durris residents)

The meeting was quorate.

It was noted that we needed to vacate the building by 9 pm so not all agenda items were discussed.

2. **Review & approval of previous meeting minutes.**

The minutes from October were reviewed with no changes for accuracy and were proposed by M McNeil and seconded by M Ansell.

**Business arising**

M Ansell reported that progress continues to be made on the Kirkwood Homes Woodlands development, with the school footpath, school access gate, and car park being virtually finished. All of the planned houses for this phase are now complete or in a state of build. David Groundwater and Mark Ansell will request an update from Allan Rae, Kirkwood Homes site manager, regarding progress with the other work- recreation field completion, road signage and road surface work.

A further 2 houses are sold.

3. **Discussion Drumoak / Crathes (school) buses**

It was initially raised on social media by Trish Amundrud that up to 74 children from Drumoak and thereafter going to school in Banchory Academy were not always able to get there on time in the mornings as the only buses are the scheduled Stagecoach 201, 202's. These are sometimes late or already overcrowded resulting in pupils having to a) wait for

the next bus which can be a long time and b) be late for school. Pupils have dedicated school buses for their afternoon return journey.

This problem is already known by the school but we need to press our local Councillors e.g. Eileen Durno to take action. **Action D Reaich**

**4. Review of Netco Consultation Event**

The NETCO consultation event held at Kirkton Hall on 7 Nov, was well attended by the local community, and CDDCC managed to maintain a presence throughout, with David Morrish, Chris Charnley, Mark Ansell and David Reaich covering the period from 2.00 until 9.00pm. David O'Donnell a resident of Inchloan Steading subsequently requested to speak with the CDDCC, and David attended this meeting, and was given time to voice his concerns about the project; these included vehicle access roads and routes, on-going access, light pollution, supply of water and economic viability of the project.

Mark Ansell was actioned to pull together all the community feedback on the project noted during the consultation day and also emails received, and produce a document; and also to contact NETCO for their next moves.

**5. Update on Windfarms planning applications (Fetteresso)**

C Charnley summarised a report he produced on the overall way in which windfarms were given approval by either local on National authorities. All large (>50 MW) generation proposals are managed strategically by the Government. Community Councils are statutory consultees only on developments within their area however developers are also required to gain inputs from public consultations.

P Renwick attended the Fred Olsen public presentation on the proposed Fetteresso windfarm. In reality this an extension of the existing Midhill windfarm. It comprises 10 turbines which are much larger since they will be located in valleys and need to reach the clean air. The development will use existing infrastructure and access will be from the south. It was a well presented proposal which barely affects us but will be very visible from the Mearns valley. We may be entitled to additional funding as we are bordering on this development.

The Fred Olsen planning application here resides on the Scottish government website and makes interesting reading. Both the 2 directly impacted CC's have objected stating that such developments were not in their LDP's and that already enough windfarms exist. P Renwick commented that indeed Aberdeenshire's strategic plan called for less dependence on onshore wind. We need to be also aware that wind farm developments may be in our future

LDP's – although we had none in the latest review, we might get one on Hill of Fare for example.

**6. Update on WW1 Remembrance**

WW1 commemorations on 11 Nov went ahead and were well received by residents with good turnouts in all 3 areas. D Reiach congratulated all those involved for organising the events. McNeil agreed to write a summary for social media and the minutes. This is attached.

**7. Secretary's Report & Correspondence**

None present

**8. Police Reports (K&M and Marr)**

Police reports from both K&M and Marr were emailed to us. This informed us of a somewhat higher incidence level of robbery in K&M and traffic violations as a result of speed checks.

**9. Finance**

(i) **CDDCC Accounts.**
P Renwick advised that there was no activity in the last month. We still are waiting to issue a cheque of £2,000 to Crathes Primary School which would leave us with £2,200.60

(ii) **Windfarm Funding**

A question was asked on the balance in the Fred Olsen account – on checking this would appear to be £2,215 after the Crathes PS award.

**10. Planning applications**

Crathes : a tree restoration obligation request

Drumoak : one house

Durris : there continues to be more applications in Durris. This time for 3 houses which are based on derelict buildings. As all 3 are on the same site we should query the planners why it was not one application. **Action M Ansell.**

11. **Any other competent business**

Not discussed

- Update on looking for a Minute Secretary
- Request from Crathes in Flower to piggy back CDDCC's insurance

- Aberdeenshire's Strategic Plan, main issues report – opportunity to reply by 17 Dec

The next meeting will be in Durris Hall on 12th December 2018 at 19:30

The meeting finished at 21:05

**REMEMBRANCE DAY – 11th NOVEMBER 2018**

In keeping with the nationwide programme of the *'Battle's Over'* tribute to commemorate the anniversary of Armistice in 1918, a full programme of Remembrance events was planned and supported locally. This was the programme of our local tribute.

**6.00am - Battle's Over - Sleep in peace, now the battle's over**
Along with pipers from all over the nation, two young pipers from Crathes began filling the air with the traditional tune played by pipers after a battle. Heralding the start of the day's commemorations, they then travelled to Durris War Memorial for
6-15am, and finally visited the War Memorial in Drumoak at 6-30am.

**10-00am - Remembrance Day Service**
To mark the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day, a remembrance service took place in Drumoak Church Hall. The local Scouts, Cubs and Beavers took part in the service, which was attended by a packed congregation. A spectacular Cascade of Poppies, handcrafted and donated by members of the local community, became the main feature of the commemorative display. At the end of the service, a lone piper led a procession to the War Memorial.

**11-00am – Two Minute Silence** following the dedication and laying of the Poppy Wreath. In remembrance of this special anniversary, the Scouts, Cubs and Beavers laid their own hand-crafted wreath, read out the names of those remembered on the War Memorial and placed stones painted with their names at the base of the memorial.
**From 2-00pm until 4-00pm –** There was an opportunity for those who wished to view the commemorative display in the Church Hall. Teas, coffees and fine bakes were available, along with an opportunity to visit Drumoak Church building.
**7-05pm Battle's Over - Ringing out for peace!**
As beacons blazed around the country, churches and cathedrals rang out in celebration of the end of the First World War. Many people in Britain live within hearing of church bells, and local residents will have heard the bells of Drumoak and Durris Churches ringing.

Heartfelt thanks go out to everyone who attended and participated in this commemorative event.