Crathes Drumoak & Durris Community Council Monthly Meeting
Wednesday 8 August 2018 – Drumoak Church Hall
MEETING MINUTES

1. **Introductions & Apologies**
   Present : David Reaich (Chair), Peter Renwick (Minutes), David Morrish, Mark Ansell, Emma Windle, Marion McNeil. Apologies, James O'Flynn Councillors : , Cllr S Dickenson, Cllr S Wallace. Members of the public : David Groundwater, Deryck Forbes, Jack & Alice Richards
   The meeting was quorate.

2. **Review & approval of previous meeting minutes.**
   The minutes from June had been previously reviewed and approved in order to issue them before the summer recess and to allow progress with MidHill funding requests.
   Business arising - none

3. **Update from Deryck Forbes on Durris Football Field**
   Mr Deryck Forbes is a builder / land owner in Durris who owns the land which includes the football pitch. Deryck has done some reseeding and roller work on the pitch to help with restoration, and is keen to help the Durris School in reinstatement.
   Mr Forbes also raised concerns about local people accessing the cairns on his land. Whilst he has no objections to giving access, he is liable for them and requested community attention of this.

4. **Update on Woodlands of Durris / Kirkwood Homes (KWH) / Scottish Water**
   Mark Ansell and James O"Flynn had met with Allan Rae of KWH and some local residents during the summer break to review the commitments given by KWH.
   a. Work on the school car park has started and is expected to be completed in October (it was promised before term started).
   b. The access path from the school to the playfield is progressing too.
   c. The new pavement serving the development along the Balfour road to the North, creates a pinch point and it was felt that road signs would be appropriate.
   d. The playfield work will start soon, but realistically it will not be usable until next year as it is too late for the grass to be established.
   e. KWH intended to create a path / access lane between 2 houses at the west end of the new development. Cllr Wallace stated that this land was sold by Dunecht estates to the 2 residents on either side. Whilst the intention by the planners was to create a path and vehicular access, this is now compromised by the sale of the land. Further expansion of the current KWH to more than 50 homes will require a second access road.
   f. It was reported that Scottish water has now connected the existing KWH to the main sewers and the weekly collections have stopped. The situation will still need to be monitored because the existing system was prone to flooding. P Renwick commented that this was an excellent result following the heated meeting in June and congratulated those involved.

   It was agreed to meet again with KWH in August. **Action MA / JOF**

These discussions lead to questions about the applications in Woodlands (and elsewhere) in the LDP. D. Morrish stated that Aberdeenshire Council would issue their preferred list in the autumn and that we had been advised by Piers Baxter to keep conversations on the decision making confidential.

5. Secretary's Report & Correspondence

Meetings & Events Attended

19th June M McNeil attend K&M Aberdeenshire LDP 2021 Planning Seminar
26th June M Ansell attended Planning meeting for APP/2017/2182 (Woodlands of Durris Section 75 Remix including ongoing issues with Scottish Water)
6th July J O'Flynn attended Aberdeen Climate Challenge Fund Information Surgery
2nd August M Ansell & J O'Flynn attended meeting KWH and other residents regarding Woodlands of Durris
M McNeill also continued to represent CDDCC on the KDP Windfarm Funding Committee.

Communications Issued

Major communication consultations were held regarding LDP 2021 and issues at Woodlands of Durris. Comments were gathered from the community, collated and presented at the associated planning meetings.
Communication was also enabled between the community and ESB/Savills on queries for the Craigneil Windfarm.
31st July: Communication issued to Willie Munro regarding our planned activities to mark 100 years since end of WW1.

Communications Received

12th June: Cllr Sarah Dickinson provided publicly available information on the CDDCC area to assist with understanding the size of the overall community as part of building up our email address lists.
29th June: For information we received Aberdeenshire Council Tree Preservation Orders No 82 (2018) Harestone, Crathes; No 83 (2018) The Pines, Burn O'Bennie
3rd July: We received on behalf of the Council Policy Planning team their. thanks for attendance. at the recent LDP discussions.
30th July: Email received from Feughdee West Community Council asking if we (and Banchory) would like to support their Community Action Plan process. We responded positively and the event is planned for 24th August 5.30pm.
1st August: For information - Proposals for Deeside A2B dial-a-bus Service Changes Durris – Drumoak – Banchory (Service 17) This Monday shopper service carries one passenger from Durris who travels each week and two passengers from Drumoak who travel most weeks. These passengers are aware of the proposal to withdraw the service and they have the option of travelling on Thursdays (Service 7). It is proposed to advise passengers that the service will be withdrawn with the last day of operation being Monday 12th August. The bus will be redeployed to duties within Banchory to provide additional trips within the town and to enable the regular town service driver to be provided with a regular time-slot for bus cleaning.

Numerous other ongoing communications were received regarding changes to Data Protection etc and are covered in the main minutes of meeting or in the action log

6. Review of the Action log

The majority of our open actions are still ongoing. See the log for an updated review.
There was a discussion on creating a CDDCC communication on the location of defibrillators in our immediate community. Emma Windle had prepared and circulated a list. The intention is to somehow insert the locations on our area maps and publicise this on social media. **Action EW / JOF**

7. Police Report

A report was received from the Marr area and will be posted on our website. In summary there was little of note. The main points being increased Police attendance at seasonal events.

8. Finance

(i) **CDDCC Accounts.**

P Renwick advised that we had received £1,500 from Midhill Wind Ltd for the Crathes Parkrun and that a cheque would be sent to the next day. The money given to the Mesolithic Group was cashed, leaving a balance of £3,600.60 (of which £1,500 is due to go to the Parkrun). P Renwick stated that we could use this money to support any smaller projects requiring funding.

(ii) **Windfarm Funding**

a. M Ansell had previously issued a list of funds awarded and outstanding applications (appendix 1). These were discussed in the meeting. On 4th July, Hawa from Fred Olsen advised that we had £5,700 available. After the Crathes Parkrun amount we will have approx. £4,000 and the next funding cycle will renew in November (?).D Reaich reviewed the historical amounts we had awarded noting that over £30,000 had been distributed. He stated that it was important to distribute these fairly within our community. It was also stated that we need to improve our governance of managing the funds to ensure the funds are not abused. Discussions with ESB/Savilles indicated that we do not have sufficient robust management systems to satisfy their requirements for the significant funds that would be available if the Craigneil windfarm gets the go-ahead. Instead KDP were judged more capable.
b. Of the 2 outstanding requests the primary school request for up to £9,000 for a trim trail was discussed. D Reaich suggested we award them £2,000. This was voted on and approved.
c. The second application from the Barn was discussed. It was the Barn should be capitalising the work they wanted the money for and they were also a previous recipient of funds. We voted and it was unanimously decided not to award them any funds for this application.

9. **Planning applications**

Crathes : nothing significant
Drumoak : East Mains garage are planning to create a showroom for car sales; detail was not available. **D Reaich actioned** himself to request more detail.

Durris : the application to modify the layout of 3 homes on the KWH site was approved against our objections. This change may be used to create new access to any future developments.

In general CDDCC is very disappointed at the poor planning decisions and lack of fore thought regarding the developments in Woodlands. We have many examples of poor layout, lack of foresight on access, sewage, paths, communications, surreptitious planning requests being approved in a very rural area with generally poor infrastructure. The total number of houses now exceeds what was stated in the 2016 LDP.

10. **Any other competent business**

(i) D Morrish requested an update on Netco / Durris mountain centre and asked to clarify roles. It was agreed that M Ansell would co-ordinate activities and contact Necto**. Action MA**

(ii) Mr & Mrs Richards are residents in Park and wished to raise their concerns about the 40 mph speed limit at Park to Drumoak. They feel it is dangerous and that it should be lowered to 30 mph. They state more homes being built and the re-opening of the shop as reasons to focus on this. After much discussions, D Reaich suggested that a working party be set up to investigate and develop a strategy. This would be led by E Windle. Our Cllrs advised that the K&M Roads Officer is Mr Ewan Smith.

(iii) In our May meeting we received a duly completed application to nominate Mr Chris Charnley to be a community councillor for Crathes where we have one vacancy according to our constitution (NB It is not known how the various ratios have been determined; we simply copied the splits from the previous constitution). It was also noted that if necessary we can accept Associate members if some-one in the future from Crathes wishes to get involved. We voted Mr Charnley onto CDDCC unanimously.

The meeting finished at 21:35

The next meeting will be in Durris Hall on 12th September at 19:30.

Action Log as 12 August

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Appendix 1

Funding Applications

Date	Applicant	Project Description	Community Area	amount applied for	amount awarded
May-15	Durris Kirkton Hall	Replacement carpets and tables	Durris	£3,000	£3,000
May-15	Crathes Community Hall Development	Architects Fees for Development project	Crathes	£2,772	£2,772
Jul-15	1st Drumoak Scouts	Outdoor Equipment	Drumoak	£1,470	£1,470
Apr-16	Durris Kirkton Hall	Install broadband and wifi; laptop and printer; website design	Durris	£1,400	£1,400
Apr-16	Crathes Community Hall	Table Tennis Project- Table and starter kit	Crathes	£350	£350
Sep-16	Woodend Barn	Wild Garden Project	Crathes	£1,000	£1,000
Sep-16	Drumoak Hall	Hall refurbishment; painting, screens, blackout blinds	Drumoak	£1,120	£1,120
Oct-16	Dr Emma Windle, Drumoak	Defibrillator and training	Drumoak	£1,800	£1,800
Oct-16	Drumoak School and Nursery	Outdoor equipment for Nursery and projector screen for school	Drumoak	£1,280	£1,280
Dec-16	Banchory Sports Village	Sports Village £7.5M project to serve all area	All	£10,000	£2,500
Jan-17	Durris Kirkton Hall	Defibrillator and secure housing	Durris	£1,346.90	£1,346.90
Jan-17	North East Scotland Outdoor Learning Group	Understanding Water Courses' training course provided to groups	All	£1,358	£1,358
Jan-17	Durris Kirkton Hall	Dedicated laptop for new hall booking secretary	Durris	£349.99	£349.99
Feb-17	Durris Kirkton Hall	Purchase of professional upright vacuum cleaner	Durris	£596.40	£596.40
Mar-17	Crathes Community Hall	Additional table tennis table and equipment	Crathes	£399.99	£399.99
Mar-17	Crathes Community Hall	Accoustic improvements for the hall	Crathes	£3,300	£3,300
Aug-17	Durris Scottish Womens Institute	1 years hall rental, plus new tablecloths	Durris	£385	£385
Sep-17	Crathes Community Hall	Replacement of wall heaters with radiant models	Crathes	£4,218	£4,218
Oct-17	Maryculter Driving for the Disabled	Cost of livery, horse-shoeing, and feed	All	£2,784	£2,784
Dec-17	Crathes Castle Garden Estate	Defibrillator and secure housing	Crathes	£1,326	£1,326
Mar-18	Mesolithic Deeside Group	Purchase 3 GPS Units to record positions of prehistoric tool finds	All	£300	£300
Mar-18	The Barn (Woodend Barn)	Purchase portable ramps and handrails to aid access for users with mobility issues	All	£1,203.79	review at August mtg
Jun-18	Crathes Castle ParkRun	Start a weekly 5K ParkRun at Crathes Castle to encourage fitness	All	£1,500	£1,500
Jun-18	Crathes Primary School	Install Play/Trim Trail (total cost £9000)	Crathes	£2000-£3000	to be reviewed