



## **Crathes Drumoak & Durris Community Council Monthly Meeting**

### **Wednesday 11 September 2019 – Drumoak PS**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

#### **1) Introductions & Apologies**

##### **Present:**

- Peter Renwick, Anne Shearer, David Morrish, Chris Charnley, Joyce Scott, Phillipa Jensen
- Cllr Dickinson, Cllr Ross
- Emma Storey, Aberdeenshire Council Returning Officer
- Lynn Coull – Drumoak resident, Angela Fletcher - Durris resident, Charles Clark – Drumoak Shop

**Apologies:** Cllr Wallace, Cllr Robertson, Cllr Agnew & Mark Ansell

Emma Storey opened the meeting, which was the first since the suspension of CDDCC and the second round of nominations for community councillors to stand for CDDCC. She announced that 7 community councillors had been nominated and were duly elected. Furthermore, CDDCC met the minimum requirement of 5 councillors and was able to resume its activities immediately as this meeting was quorate. She then invited those councillors to elect their office bearers.

##### **Election of Officers**

- For the position of Chair, Peter Renwick was proposed by David Morrish and seconded by Chris Charnley. Mr Renwick accepted and was elected unopposed.
- For Secretary, Chris Charnley, was proposed by Peter Renwick and seconded by David Morrish. Mr Charnley accepted and was elected unopposed.
- For Treasurer, Mark Ansell was proposed by Peter Renwick and seconded by David Morrish. Mr Ansell had previously confirmed by email that he would accept and was elected unopposed.

##### **Co-option of a new Member**

CDDCC may co-opt 2 additional councillors who may serve for a year. Lynn Coull was proposed by Anne Shearer to represent Drumoak and was seconded by David Morrish. This was voted unanimously in favour by the community councillors present.

The Chair introduced himself and together with long term members briefed the new CDDCC members on

the history and workings of the CDDCC. This included how to access information online, how the website and Facebook pages were managed, how meetings were managed and minute taking, the history of the CDDCC and how the 3 sub-divisions within the CDDCC boundary overlap with both Kincardine & Mearns and Marr functional areas in Aberdeenshire. This results in two groups of councillors and other officials such as the Police being involved in CDDCC's affairs.

#### **2) Review and approval of previous meeting minutes**

##### **Outstanding actions from the Minutes from June and the AGM, and business arising:**

1. Park Bridge - 3 public meetings arranged re: Park Bridge. Emma Storey advised that after speaking with Donald MacPherson, who is in charge of bridge infrastructure, that Park Bridge was not up for a Community Asset Transfer (CAT) procedure as yet.
2. Greener Kincardine & Mearns & Deeside. This group meets every 6 weeks, next meeting 19<sup>th</sup> September – Stonehaven Community Centre
3. Climate Action Group meeting in Banchory. This was attended by Chris Charnley who reported that it raised awareness of issues to those who attended.
4. Correction of June minute – Cllr Ross spoke to Stewart Milne Homes, not David Morrish.
5. Planning - Fetteresso windfarm extension had its planning application rejected on the grounds that the turbines were too big for the landscape. We can expect them to re-submit a revised application.
6. Recycle Further Initiative – this initiative by Cllr Pike aims to further educate households on what type of rubbish can be put into the blue bins for re-cycling. A sticker outlining this will be placed on everyone's bin.
7. Aberdeenshire Councillors updated members with regards to new rules to control disposal of commercial waste by restricting the size/type of vehicle & trailers that can access household recycling centres without a permit. The goal here is to force businesses to pay for commercial



waste handling. Households wishing to take trailers may apply for a permit with up to 24 visits per year being permissible; further information is on the Council website.

8. Park Quarry - Emma Storey reported that CHAP, which operates Park Quarry, had been contacted regarding CDDCC's questioning of its compliance with the conditions given to it to operate the quarry. We await a response from Aude Chaiban, Planning Compliance Officer. **Emma Storey to action.**
9. Finance - Community Council Admin grant can now be applied for.

The previous minutes were approved having been proposed by David Morrish and seconded by Chris Charnley who were present in the meeting.

### **3) Secretary's Report and Correspondence**

The following points were raised regarding emails received (note a full review was not possible during our period of suspension):

**Planning Process presentation:** Emma Storey advised that Aberdeenshire's planning process was a topic at several previous CC Forum meetings. She had emailed a copy of the slides for our information.

**Consultation on BT Phone box usage** – CDDCC has been invited to comment on the closure of BT public phone boxes, with the one in Drumoak on Keithmuir Rd in question. Councillor Dickinson stated that the current position is to object to its closure even though it only has a few calls per week. CDDCC felt that it was an important resource for Drumoak and supported the objection. **Action P Renwick**

### **4) Police Report**

No police present at the meeting although a quarterly update was sent in by Kincardine and Mearns, Stonehaven. Peter Renwick went through the report, noting the seasonal upturn in anti-social behaviour, there were no major issues. David Morrish mentioned that continued speeding on the A957 through Crathes' 30mph zone has been noted, and that Council Waste vehicles are one of the main offenders.

Emma Storey advised that Michael Urquhart has replaced Marc Camus as Community Engagement Officer.

## **5) Community Updates**

### **Woodlands of Durris**

Emma Storey commented that the recent planning permission for 2/3 homes were deemed as organic growth. The community is concerned about the cumulative effect of all the one-off applications. Both CDDCC and Aberdeenshire planners need to keep an eye on future developments. Kincardine & Mearns Area Committee (KMAC) rejected the bid site for Woodland of Durris in the proposed local development plan. This will itself limit the amount of organic growth.

### **Park Bridge**

Full discussion took place on the current situation with Park Bridge. 3 consultation meetings have been organised by Aberdeenshire Council's Bridges Manager Donald McPherson in attendance with other officers.

It was highlighted that there is a funding crisis with regards to resources required for Bridges. Very limited resources are available and what is available is being utilised to maintain bridges. ACC is responsible for approx. 1300 bridges of which 123 are listed bridges.

Evaluated options for the repair of Park Bridge with Council budget estimates:

- Vehicle (3 tonne max) access – £1.7 million
- Cycle and Pedestrian access - £580,000
- Not doing anything option also has a cost
- New bridge £12 million

Timescales - Temporary closure typically lasts 18 months, then could be permanent. Closure would need approval by Holyrood. 7 months have passed since temporary closure, so we need to act quickly.

CDDCC and Community could decide to raise funds – Community engagement would be required to decide future plans. No action raised yet, awaiting outcome of consultations events, however Peter Renwick agreed to follow up Cllr Ross's suggestion to undertake a separate survey to cover this concept at the remaining 2 meetings. It was also agreed to compliment this with a Facebook survey. **Action Peter Renwick.**

Emma Storey to confirm if report will be presented to KMAC with findings from the 3 public meetings



together with any decisions and if it can be shared with CDDCC. This KMAC meeting is in late October.

### **Action Emma Storey**

A lively discussion of the options was held with suggestions to raise further the issues in the local press. It was noted that the issue had been reported on the TV news.

Potential funding sources were aired – Historic Environment Scotland, National Lottery, windfarms, Scottish Natural Heritage and others, but it was noted that many of them require matching funds.

A discussion on the engineering aspects was also held and Anne Shearer requested access to Aberdeenshire Council reports. **Action Emma Storey** to send link with the report.

**Peter Renwick** to follow up if free noticeboards were still available and to look at prices for noticeboard within shop.

Date of next meeting: Wed. 9th October in Durris Kirkton Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2125hrs.

## **6) Finance**

- a) CDDCC Accounts: Peter Renwick provided the transaction details and account status. With the last statement from July we had an opening balance of £4,514.91 and issued a cheque for £1,889.00 to the Durris School (for their Mid Hill windfarm application for folding furniture) leaving £2,625.91.
- b) Windfarm Funding Applications and Approvals:
  - Peter Renwick reported that following the agreement in the June meeting that we need an improved governance process and rigid framework with additional rules, that Mark Ansell was following up with Kincardine Development Partnership (KDP) if they could manage the process for us on 17/9.
  - In response to a request from Durris Primary School, Peter also confirmed that we were not able to recommend their application for a whiteboard at present.

## **7) Planning & Planning Apps**

- a. **Crathes** - None
- b. **Drumoak** - None
- c. **Durris** - see above

## **8) Any other competent business**

Community Council Noticeboard suggested for the Park shop to display minutes and agenda. **Action**