



Crathes Drumoak & Durris Community Council Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 10th April 2019 – Crathes Hall

MEETING MINUTES

1) Introductions & Apologies

Present: Peter Renwick (Chair) James O'Flynn, David Morrish, Mark Ansell, David Groundwater (minutes), Chris Charnley, Cllr S Dickinson and Cllr A Ross

Apologies: Emma Windle, Marion McNeil, David Reaich

Police: no representation

The meeting was quorate

2) Police Report

Although there was no police representation, the latest Police Reports had been submitted by email, and will be available on the CDDCC website. Community councillors acknowledged them, and there were no issues arising.

3) Review & approval of previous meeting minutes.

- a) Following on from the March meeting the sub-group designated to discuss and establish the best way forward to engage with the local community using their contact details and how to respond ensuring we are compliant with the GDPR has yet to meet. It was agreed that a working party would be set up, possibly with Alan Melrose.

ACTION: DAVID MORRISH, CHRIS CHARNLEY AND PETER RENWICK

- b) Mark Ansell provided an update to the ongoing issues connected with the management of sewage and water at Woodlands of Durris and that Kira Duckworth from Woodlands of Durris had volunteered to act as liaison with Scottish Water. The two questions raised on if the plant capacity can be capped until the surface water run-off problem is resolved; and how we can establish the incorrect residents' surface water tie-ins to the foul water system, remain unanswered but have been acknowledged by Scottish Water. These issues are to be included in the Durris/ Drumoak submission to the MIR.

ACTION: MARK ANSELL

- c) 204 bus Service. Cllr Wallace had received further information regarding the service which was communicated to the meeting via Cllr Dickinson. Essentially, the service was unsustainable due to the number of paying customers. David Morrish highlighted that residents in Braemar had circulated a petition regarding the withdrawal of the Braemar/ Ballater 201 Sunday service and this might be an option if residents felt strongly about the withdrawal. Cllr Dickinson highlighted there were different unexplored circumstances in Braemar and Cllr Ross reported the effect the withdrawal would have on wider commutes from other areas- Strachan and Feughside. Peter Renwick reported only one or two residents raising the issue, while Mark Ansell had received one complaint from a resident in Denside. Mark Ansell also highlighted potential future developments that may increase demand and Cllr Dickinson indicated that a future review is possible.



Chris Charnley discussed a community WhatsApp group being a potential solution and Cllr Dickinson indicated voluntary groups already operate to assist residents in attending appointments. There then followed a discussion on Apps available to help share transport and improve community cohesion. Peter Renwick suggested the Community Council may wish to discuss cohesion of the community at a future date. Given the discussion on sharing information within the community, it was suggested that Chris Charnley join the working group established on the GDPR.

ACTION: CHRIS CHARNLEY

- d) Chris Charnley provided an update on his visit to Tesco, Banchory regarding the issue of certain plastics being (plastic bag and wrapping/film recycling). A number of questions have been posed to Tesco with answers pending.
A discussion on recycling followed and what is collected kerbside in other area. Cllr Dickinson highlighted that Aberdeenshire is unable to collect every material and David Groundwater highlighted that collection of glass, plastics and tin will be changing due to the Scottish Government's deposit return scheme (DRS). Cllr Dickinson to email correspondence to community council regarding recycling numbers.

ACTION: CLLR DICKINSON

- e) Community Council elections, 27 May 2019. David Morrish had circulated emails to all community councillors following the March meeting to gauge interest and set-out the process going forward. An update was sent to Emma at Aberdeenshire Council to which David is waiting to a response. Cllr Dickinson to enquire if everything required has been received.

ACTION: CLLR DICKINSON

- f) Community Council Insurance. P Renwick confirmed that Aberdeenshire Council pays the insurance, but we have to notify them of any material aspects. James O'Flynn also noted the need for a Risk Assessment.

ACTION: PETER RENWICK

- g) Park Bridge. David Morrish reported that Donald Macpherson from Aberdeenshire Council would provide an update on the bridge in advance of the May meeting. There would be a public consultation on the forward plans for the bridge but it is unlikely that vehicles will ever cross the bridge again. Work is required to ensure the bridge can continue to allow pedestrian access. Cllr Ross provided further information on the number of bridges across Aberdeenshire (1,566) and that Park Bridge requires a new deck due to rotten timber. It was also reported that how the timber became to be rotten was unknown, that the iron work was also in a brittle state and a full rebuild would be circa £10m. Further, Cllr Ross explained that given the 1,566 bridges and the strategic importance of many of these bridges, Inverbervie was used as a comparison, replaced by the council would be unlikely. Cllr Ross suggested a community fundraise or support from a wealthy donor may be a solution. Chris Charnley highlighted the connectivity issues and Cllr Ross explained the funding formula used by the Scottish Government to allocated local authorities with their budgets, reporting that Aberdeenshire was the 3rd lowest funded council in Scotland.
- h) The Main Issues Report (MIR). A response was submitted specifically on Crathes and David Morrish explained that an extension for submissions from the Community Council for Drumoak and Durris had been granted but must be lodged by Friday 12 April. Mark Ansell indicated he was happy to submit representations and would contact Marion McNeill. The submission for Durris would be



based on the issue of the water/waste treatment works and the feeling expressed by the Durris and Croassroads parents committee. David Morrish indicated he would circulate the details and correspondence he had had with the council and Cllr Ross requested that all Cllrs in the area be sent copies of the submissions.

ACTION: DAVID MORRISH, MARK ANSELL, MARION MCNEILL

- i) Gravitare. David Morrish indicated that Gravitare would be happy to speak at any future community council meeting.

Approval of the minutes was proposed by David Morrish, and seconded by Peter Renwick. Mark Ansell agreed to circulate approved minutes to the Area Leaders.

ACTION: MARK ANSELL

4) Secretary's Report & Correspondence
a. Meetings attended

i. Garden Waste

Peter Renwick raised the issue if Waste Management/ Recycling and that certain parts of Aberdeenshire receive a garden waste collection. Cllr Ross explained that due to the proximity of the recycling centre (7 miles) no collection is scheduled. Cllr Ross also highlighted a new APP for reporting pot holes and for advising on bin collections. All were encouraged to download the app.

ACTION: ALL

ii. New Structure establishment

The new "light touch" approach was welcomed and community cllrs noted they were looking forward to feedback from council officials on conducting the forthcoming elections.

iii. Inbox

The Chair appealed that those with access to the community council email to regularly delete spam/ junk to save the inbox from clogging.

ACTION: ALL

iv. Health and Social Care partnership social plan

Cllr Ross explained in detail two health and social care reviews and consultations. The review of the Minor Injury Unit at Aboyne was discussed and everyone who valued the service was encouraged to get involved with the public consultation on Tuesday 16 April at the Victory Hall Aboyne from 3pm-6.30pm where staff from the Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership would be on hand to present and discuss the options for the future.

The second consultation was on the future of healthcare in Banchory and the Health and Social Care hub. Again Cllr Ross encourage as many as possible to get involved and have their say. An event is to take place on 1 May from 3pm-7pm at the Guide Lodge, Banchory regarding the proposed site for a new Health Centre on the land opposite Morrisons supermarket in Banchory. Details for both events to be posted on Community Council Facebook and web page.

ACTION: EMMA WINDLE/ DAVID REAICH



v. Tarland Recycling Scheme

Peter Renwick provided a report on his visit and discussion with those involved in the recycling scheme. The scheme is not as simple as first thought. Residents pay for rubbish to be collected, to be turned into compost and then purchase back, however it was noted that whilst people seem happy to pay for collection, not the same numbers were purchasing leading to a surplus. There were added complications due to the employment of people to collect and process along with insurance obligations. Chris Charnley raised the question about a Community Champion and suggested both Tarland and Banchory had such paid Champions' but nobody present had any further information.

4. Police Report

Circulated via e-mail. No police present at the meeting. Contents noted.

5. Community Updates

a. CC Elections and AGM preparations

Article required to attract sign-ups for Community Council elections along with how to get elections into school and resident groups. David Morrish indicated we should be able to provide more information once we hear back from the Council. In advance of the AGM, reports from David Reaich (Secretary) and Peter Renwick (Treasurer) need to be compiled.

ACTION: DAVID REAICH and PETER RENWICK

6. Finance

a. Current balance

Current balance was reported as being £2,685.71 with no transaction in or out in the previous month.

Windfarm Funding –Mark Ansell reported that the Crathes in Flower application for funding needed to be chased.

ACTION: MARK ANSELL

It was agreed to pay the previous meeting costs for Durris Hall and forthcoming hall booking in one cheque (£60).

Peter Renwick discussed the draft accounts which were circulated in advance of the meeting. It was highlighted that during the scheme of establishment, it was agreed not to have interim accounts and an AGM in October 2017. The meeting agreed unanimously that Peter Renwick send the accounts to Mark Swift in May to be audited as per previous years.

ACTION: PETER RENWICK

b. Windfarm

The application from Durris School for various folding furniture to improve school space utilisation was discussed following the circulation of the evaluation sheet by Mark Ansell. Following discussion on predicted future capacity and the need to save space in the existing building, the application



received unanimous support from all community councillors. Mark Ansell will send off the application to Fred Olsen Renewables, and respond to the school with the news.

ACTION: MARK ANSELL

7. Planning & Planning Apps

a. MIR

Discussed earlier in meeting with no further comments to add.

b. Park Quarry

Par Quarry have submitted an application to extend work at the site for a further 3 years. David Morrish highlighted that previous extensions had been applied for and that certain conditions were placed on the owners. It was agreed by the meeting that David Morrish would draft a response in line with the objection in 2016 and calling for enforcement of the conditions and also contact Chap requesting details of the next liaison committee meeting. Contact should also be made with the planning enforcement officer requesting an audit against existing consent and details of the liaison committee. Cllr Ross requested any representations to all elected councillors in the area.

ACTON: DAVID MORRISH

8. Any other competent business

a. Letter from Drumoak resident to Cllr Ross.

Cllr Ross read out correspondence received from a resident in Drumoak suggesting a persistent lack of action by cllrs over a 6 year period. Contents noted.

b. Milltimber Brae speed limit

Cllr Ross highlighted the proposed change to the speed limit on and in the lead up to the Milltimber Brae junction on South Deeside Road. This area is currently temporarily reduced to 30 mph and Cllr Colin Whyte is looking for feedback on a permanent 40mph zone. There was a discussion about the previous 60mph limit for this section, the reduction in traffic now the AWPR was complete and the need for a permanent reduction. No action required.

c. Minute Secretary

Mark Ansell suggested advertising for a Minute Secretary but it was agreed that we wait on the response from Emma at Aberdeenshire council regarding the elections.

d. Kirkwood Development

David Groundwater provided an update on the groundworks in the Kirkwood development which should see the areas ready for grass seed by the second week in May. Road surfacing is due around the same time.

e. Durris Fibre Broadband

David Groundwater reported that residents of Durris now had access to Fibre broadband with speeds up to 40Mbps. David Morrish voiced that parts of Crathes were still receiving poor connection speeds.

f. Date of next meeting: 8 May in Drumoak School

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2120.