



## Crathes Drumoak & Durris Community Council, Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 14 September 2022, 7.30pm Drumoak Bowling Club/Online

### **DRAFT SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTE**

#### **1) Introductions and Apologies**

##### **Present:**

Community Councillors, Aberdeenshire Councillors,  
and Guests:

Anne Shearer- Drumoak rep  
Mark Ansell- Treasurer and Durris rep  
David Morrish – Acting Chair and Crathes rep  
Jules Wood - Drumoak rep  
Lynn Coull - Drumoak rep  
Peter Renwick – Crathes rep (online)  
Shaun Falcus – Durris rep  
Cllr Alan Turner  
Cllr Sarah Dickinson (online)

##### **Minutes:**

Mark Ansell

##### **Apologies notified:**

David Edgar- Chair and Durris rep  
Cllr Eileen Durno  
Gary Garrow - Police Scotland  
David Charnley= Police Scotland  
Cllr Wendy Agnew  
Cllr Ann Ross  
Cllr Yi-Pei Turvey  
Cllr Dawn Black

In the absence of David Edgar, David Morrish agreed to act as chair. Introductions were made and a minutes silence was observed as a mark of respect for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. The meeting was declared quorate.

- 10/8 – Deeside Strategic Needs Assessment link to register for focus group to be clarified **Action: DM**
- 17/8 Emma Storey Re info on uplift of diamond refuse bins. Discussion and further info provided by Cllr Dickinson. **Action Cllr Dickinson** will provide details.
- 17/8 Further info on R100 Broadband programme, with contact number for residents.
- 23/08 Perennials for Pollinators Application form, application form. Send to our 3 areas **Action DM**
- 29/8 Invite to Community Ward Forums- Marr Area, DM attending.
- 4/9 Patient Participation Group, Banchory; Sept meeting cancelled. MA will offer to join.
- 5/9 Additional sites for Defibs; Durris primary and Crossroads Nursery OK for positioning defibs; SF looking at additional sites and AS at possible training. **Action SF**
- 14/9 Community Council Induction Training is available 16 and 23 Nov. SF may be interested.
- 14/9 Cost of living Forum event 12 Oct; anyone interested in attending?

#### **4) POLICE REPORTS**

2 copies have been received of the new NE Crime Alert for Sept-Oct, covering a wider area. The K&M area indicated an increase in anti-social behavior. Cllr Turner questioned the numbers quoted, and Cllr Dickinson highlighted the increasing threat of theft of heating oil.

#### **5) COMMUNITY UPDATES**

##### **a) Road Safety Subgroup**

A Teams meeting has now been scheduled with Bruce Stewart, Area Manager, for Wednesday 21 September.

The subgroup all agreed that an online pre-meeting would be a good idea to focus on what we need from Bruce, and to firstly hear his response to the CC's findings to him, from March.

#### **2) REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

David Morrish proposed the August minutes for approval. Jules Wood seconded them.

##### **a. Actions & Matters Arising from July**

These are dealt with under the main headings that follow. All agreed to remove some ongoing items with no actions.

#### **3) SECRETARY'S REPORT and CORRESPONDENCE**

##### **Actionable Correspondence**



**b) Park Quarry**

AS mentioned that Tim Davies had agreed on a further site visit to view the reinstatement progress. AS will contact Tim to look at arranging a date/time. **ACTION: AS**

**c) The Glebe**

An onsite meeting has been arranged for Wednesday 21 October, with Bruce Stewart, to discuss the ongoing anti-social behaviour mainly from campers, and continue to make the case for having a byelaw introduced. AS has produced suggested rules content, and evidence is available.

If a byelaw is not supported, then the CC is keen to hear Bruce's and officers' proposals.

**d) i) WoD Drainage- Woodlands Estate**

Ongoing with Ombudsman; this item will be removed from agenda, pending feedback.

**ii) KoD Drainage**

Work progressing, with thanks to Cllr Agnew; this item will be removed from agenda.

**e) Sunnyside Lane i) Play Park Maintenance and ii) Area Flooding**

Work progressing by contractor, with problem hopefully resolved; thanks to Cllr Sarah Dickinson.

**f) Park Bridge**

This item was on the agenda for the recent Community Council Forum attended by DE, LC and MA. The point was made at that meeting that CDDCC and PBAG are not being kept up to date with progress on the Independent Structural Assessment, and we have no information on the scope of the tender. Alan Wood, Director of Infrastructure Services (Chair) and Philip McKay (Roads) assured us that information would be provided on the Phase 1 Structural Assessment (in progress) and then the Phase 2 which will look at capacity for light vehicles.

Cllr Agnew and AS still waiting on a response from Andrew Bowie MP regarding whether Park Bridge could be supported by the Levelling Up Fund.

**g) Community Path Network**

DE continues to liaise with Mathew Watt, Aberdeenshire Council, who is currently being

chased for an update on the Durris/Crathes path links.

Also DE has requested feedback on the A93 consultations and the public feedback received.

**h) Hill of Fare Windfarm**

Following the online session with RES where they presented their plans, several questions were discussed to ascertain whether this plan aligns with Aberdeenshire Council's and Scottish National Heritage's published strategies.

RES plan to hold consultation events at several locations, and all agreed that CDDCC should have a presence to gauge community feedback via our own feedback form.

PR asked what the likely community benefit would be for CDDCC.

DM will draft a mail to RES with questions including likely timeline and venues.

**ACTION: DM**

**i) Brown Bins**

A discussion was had on the proposed changes to bins and collections for K&M area, and if a garden waste collection for rural areas is likely. Cllr Dickinson explained the latest changes to bins and bin collections, and will circulate press releases on garden waste collections and the replacement of old, Diamond-lift Bins.

**ACTION Cllr Dickinson**

**j) Recognition- The Simpson Brothers**

All agreed that some form of recognition be pursued. Follow up research is in progress and DE has provided several examples of garden sculptures, and MA will attempt to communicate with Royal Mail on the possibility of having the Kirkton post box painted gold. Also MA will contact the Simpson family to get their input on our proposals. **ACTION:MA**

**6) FINANCE**

MA provided finance update. Both Mid Hill applications have been paid- Durris SWI and Drumoak Badminton Club, and one new funding application enquiry is pending.

CC account remains healthy at £5989.45 following payment for hall rentals



## 7) PLANNING & PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a. **The major Retail Development** behind Tesco was discussed, and whilst not within the CDDCC area, may be worthy of our comment.

There are 2 public drop-in sessions planned for 17 Oct and 7 Nov, and all agreed to try to attend one of them. **Action: ALL**

- b. **LDP 2027 and Place Plans**- DM gave details on his recent conversation with Piers Blaxter, with Piers inferring that there is plenty of time remaining to arrange consultations.

MA and LC gave an update on the Place Plan discussion from the CC Forum, which was largely discussion on specific issues affecting different CCs. The 17 Academy Town Plans was mentioned by Paul Macari (Head of Planning) as being the high-level starting point.

The link between Community Plans and Place Plans was discussed (action Cllr Dickinson?) and all agreed that our current priority may be to focus on updating the Resilience Plan.

- c. **Planning Applications** – The other applications were deemed unproblematic.

## 8) Strategic Initiatives

- a. **Green Initiatives/Climate Change**

No report

- b. **Vacant Positions (Drumoak and Crathes) Recruitment and Communication**

Further discussion on promoting the Drumoak and Crathes vacancies was had, and what further can be done to spread the word.

Access to the Facebook account requires widening, and PR may be able to help with this. Similarly website log-in details are needed.

**Action: DM**

## 9) AOB

- a) **October Meeting** 12 October Kirkton Hall; MA will book. **Action: MA**

- b) **Councillors' Updates**

A suggestion by DE for our councilors to have a slot at the meeting to provide a brief update on their own particular ongoing projects was proposed. All agreed a good idea, but will leave it up to individual councilors to decide on the day.

## c) Extreme Weather –Flooding

The recent torrential one-day rain was discussed with the impact on all our areas, in particular Drumoak. LC related the particular problems caused by run-off from the upper new houses James Gregory road area, and the backing-up of water causing flooding of garages.

Cllr Turner explained the interaction between SEPA and the Council, and the importance of keeping the drains cleaned on a regular basis to cope with excessive run-off.

All agreed to expand the Resilience Plan on this subject.

- To avoid the recurring problems of using the 'free' online meeting platforms- Google Meets, MS Teams, Zoom- and their time restrictions, MA proposed that the CC pay for the necessary group access/licence to ensure continued, trouble-free meetings. MS Teams probably the preferred option to align with Aberdeenshire Council?

Details/costs to be looked at.

**ACTION: MA and ALL**

- Next meeting 12th October. (probably) Durris Kirkton Hall. **Action: MA**

Meeting closed 21.45.