Crathes Drumoak & Durris Community Council Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 5th July 2023

APPROVED JULY MEETING MINUTES

1. INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES

Present:
Community and Aberdeenshire Councillors:

David Edgar (DE)– Chair and Durris rep.
Mark Ansell (MA) – Treasurer and Durris rep.
Lynn Coull (LC) – Drumoak rep.
Shaun Falcus (SF) – Durris rep
David Morrish (DM) – Crathes rep
Anne Shearer (AS) - Drumoak rep
Les Oliver (LO)

Councillors:

Cllr Sarah Dickinson (arrived virtually 2040hrs)
Cllr Wendy Agnew (virtually)
Cllr Dawn Black (virtually)
Cllr Yi-Pei Turvey (virtually)
Cllr Alan Turner (not present)
Cllr Ann Ross (virtually)
Cllr Eileen Durno (not present)

Not present:

Joanna Prystupa – local resident
Jules Wood (JW) – Drumoak rep.

Minutes:-

Sharon Hauxwell (SH)

The meeting was declared quorate (minimum, at current CC membership is 3).

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

a) Approval of Minute of Meeting (June 2023)

Already approved May and AGM

June update and minute of meeting – proposed by MA and approved by LC

b) Actions & Matters Arising from Jun meeting

Discussed later in meeting.

3) SECRETARY'S REPORT and CORRESPONDENCE

All agreed to new format of email document. Happy to work in this manner moving forward.

Paul Macari – Organic Grown meeting MA reported that at the first meeting they had with him, he hadn't studied the info that had been given to him in time. At the second meeting, he quoted lots of policies that appear on website already. Not really any further on at this stage but it was noted he is at least making contact with us and did offer a follow up meeting. MA will try and get another meeting set up. DE noted that Mr Forbes has confirmed it will only be 13 houses being built – as opposed to the figure we thought there was of 21 houses.

SSEN Resilience fund is open again for applications – brought this to everyone's attention.

Wendy McLaren email - money has been approved for bits of the A93 – we just need to say agree that we are happy for them to start working on with it. Bus shelters will also be replaced.

Stagecoach – change of timetable- consultation is currently open and should be looked at. Should respond both individually and as a community council – AS will respond as behalf of the community council. **AS**

K & M Police Report May - nothing significant to add. Banchory Primary had a break in – Cllr Ann Ross believes it will be dealt with. Also wanted to mention that the taxi rank is getting used by the public. Photos will be getting taken of any public vehicles using these spaces and will be reported.

Moss side farm – East of Drumoak. AS reported that a couple of years ago they applied for a building to be used as a commercial store. Aberdeenshire council upheld our objection. Moss side appealed to Hollyrood and this was overturned. It is now for sale as an industrial unit. AS is concerned they could build another one and before we know about it could have a mini-industrial area. This could happen anywhere in our area. We are not advised of any overturns by Hollyrood. A question to the planners. – Another question to Paul Macari. **MA**

SSEN community benefit fund – DE suggest we all look at this.

Cllr AR highlighted that we really need to fight for our community hospitals. Need to push as a community to get Scotly ward back open at Glen o Dee. In response to Kate Ingram email on Deeside & Upper Donside Strategic Needs Project

4) Police Reports

No reports for June received yet.

5) COMMUNITY UPDATES

a) Road Safety Subgroup

DE and LC had a meeting with Tim Stephen and went through full spreadsheet. Ross Anderson and Andrew Wilkinson will lead on this. Speed limits will likely reduce in time (along with long-term plans to reduce 30 limits to 20 limits etc.) We all agreed we would support Cllr Anne Ross with her NPI. Cllr Wendy Agnew agreed to support this also and Cllr Yi-Pei Turvey agreed to support anything that would help reduce speed limits. DE and LC need to push for another meeting date.

b) Park Quarry/Nether Park Quarry

Met at site and got explanation of what is happening, and all were happy with this. Keep both on the agenda for just now. For Nether Park, we would be interested on the new planning application for the reinstatement of the quarry. Should try and visit and discuss this in person. AS will try and get an appointment **AS**

c) The Glebe

Still waiting on BBQ stands to be made. Smiddy is working on his own. BBQ bin is there. It was noted that it is much cleaner than in previous years. Rangers are making regular visits and speaking to people there. K & M are keeping the rangers in a job as did not get funding were hoping for.

LC – put a post on FB page to encourage public to report problems to the police. **LC**

d) Park Bridge

Donald McPherson – asking for structural report – when will it be ready? Reply today saying final calculations are being done. Hope to get soon.

e) Community Parth Network. Kirkton of Durris – Woodlands of Durris Core Path Connection.

Dunecht not as keen as hoped at getting paths going into their land.

The re-alignment of the Deeside Way may now possibly become a compulsory purchase of land situation. Deeside way would go through back of houses (at bottom of gardens) need to keep an eye on this. Will not go down well with local residents. Cllr Anne Ross would be pushing to purchase land and widen the pavement instead.

DE and MA met with Murray Swap – core path link between Kirkton and Woodlands of Durris. Talking about sketching this up and linking 3 woods (Kirkton, Woodlands and Clune). Very positive meeting and looked like a lot of our objectives would be achieved.

Due to an email that was received that morning, Mr Forbes met with DE to put everything on hold – not willing to deal with this behaviour. MA sent a reply to the email we received saying that the content was not helpful. Blind copied Mr Forbes so he knew we were dealing with it. On Monday, Mr Forbes response was the only way we can move forward is through compulsory purchase. We will try to resolve the matter in the coming months

DE recommended we split this subject into 3 sections: -

Community path network is to connect 2 woods and safety to school path.

Cedar wood access is with a local access officer (Fiona Chapman) – as many landowners involved – leave it with her and she can update on progress.

Various issues linked to Upper Balfour should be dealt with by governing bodies. DE has some notes which we will communicate but after that let's not get involved.

Cliff Grover – would be good to get him involved with communication between local residents and Derek Forbes.

Cllr Dawn Black also had call from Derek Forbes – she recommended he continue to work with CC to do constructive work.

f) Proposed Hill of Fare Windfarm

Planning application due to come in imminently. Will need to respond. 300 questionnaires been received so far (5 – 6 communities involved). Objections gone from 70 to 76%. Only about 8% in favour.
Alexander Burnett hosted a debate about windfarms (as a whole) at Scottish Parliament.

LC still concerned it is the only the people who are in objection of this that respond. She thinks it might be worth pushing the questionnaire one last time before we take a stance on this. All agreed the pylon line is a bigger concern for the residents now.

g) Recognition – The Simpson Brothers

Still with the Smiddy. Hopefully completed after BBQ stands. Can take off agenda for just now.

h) Defibs - update

All live now. Will do an article for newsletter and some publicity to put on FB page/P & J/social media. Remember to recognise the people who installed them. Cllr Dawn Black happy to share a map if we can create one.

i) Proposed new 400KV Overhead Line SSEN

Consultation has been extended. Our feedback has been acknowledged. Info on our FB page.
Andrew Bowie/Alex Burnett – worth writing to their offices and try and arrange a meeting with them. DE/DM/SF would be happy to attend. AS will write to them both. **AS**
SF offered to try and put their planned route on-top of google map to check that there are not buildings missing from their map. **SF**

6) FINANCE

a) Applications

One Midhill application – Durris looking for contribution to playground. Currently have £5K. All agreed to provide £2.5K. Meikle Carewe is now open – only open for 3 months.

b) Update

7) PLANNING & PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) Planning in our Community (Organic Growth etc.)

b) Planning Applications

Erection of Agricultural Building
Corsehill Cottage Durris Banchory AB31 6EB

Ref. No: APP/2023/1147 | Received: Mon 19 Jun 2023 | Validated: Mon 19 Jun 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision

Erection of 5 Modular Units for Short Term Letting Accommodation
Bogenraith Durris Banchory Aberdeenshire AB31 6DS
Ref. No: APP/2023/1116 | Received: Tue 13 Jun 2023 | Validated: Tue 20 Jun 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision

Erection of Public House, Staff Accommodation, Car Parking and Landscaping
Land To West Of Keithmuir Gardens Drumoak Aberdeenshire
Ref. No: APP/2023/1089 | Received: Thu 08 Jun 2023 | Validated: Mon 12 Jun 2023 | Status: Awaiting decision

Bogenraith – could lead to issues with local residents. MA can share with Durris WhatsApp group - also mention pub **MA**

Approved
Erection of Dwellinghouse, Garage and Retaining Wall
Land To North Of Hillview Crathes Banchory Aberdeenshire AB31 6JP
Ref. No: APP/2023/0906 | Received: Thu 11 May 2023 | Validated: Mon 15 May 2023 | Status: Decided - APPROVED

Alterations and Extension to Dwellinghouse
Quiddiesmill Farm Drumoak Banchory Aberdeenshire AB31 5HR
Ref. No: APP/2023/0785 | Received: Tue 25 Apr 2023 | Validated: Thu 27 Apr 2023 | Status: Decided - APPROVED

Erection of Storage Building
Salakhill Drumoak Banchory AB31 5AJ
Ref. No: APP/2023/0736 | Received: Tue 18 Apr 2023 | Validated: Mon 24 Apr 2023 | Status: Decided - APPROVED

Erection of Dwelling House and Garage (Renewal of Planning Permission in Principle APP/2018/0716)
Site To North West Of Upper Ashentilly Durris Banchory Aberdeenshire
Ref. No: APP/2023/0540 | Received: Thu 23 Mar 2023 | Validated: Fri 31 Mar 2023 | Status: Decided - APPROVED

c) LDP 2027 / Place Plans / Place Plan Meeting

DE attended a meeting on this. Reported it was great meeting with lots of open discussions.

8) Aberdeenshire Council Updates

Email from Cllr Yi-Pei Turvey – need feedback by 28th July.

9) Strategic initiatives

a) Green Initiatives

b) Vacant Positions, Recruitment and Communications

Need to consider this

10) AOB

a) August meeting – Wed 9th August

At Kirkton Hall.

b) Bike Shelters – update SF.

Been in touch with John Barron – funder and provider for bike shelters. As a trial there are 2 in Inverurie at the moment we could be given however these are vertical. Does not think these would be useful as would be better trying for proper funding from Meikle Carewe to we can try and get horizontal ones.

c) Crathes Park & Ride

Is currently dead in the water as Crathes Hall not keen – as car park is quite often already full. Can come out of agenda at the moment.

d) Kirkton of Durris Soakaway

Cllr Wendy Agnew will get in touch with contact and arrange to get them to get in touch with DE and meet on-site.

AS – Raemoir House hotel have restricted access to Hill of Fayre from the South Side. Do we feel as a community council we want to do anything about this – it is in our area. It is more of a parking issue. Don't really need to fight it just now – keep in back of minds.

Meeting closed at 21.40hrs.