



## Crathes Drumoak & Durriss Community Council Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024

**APPROVED SEP MEETING MINUTES**

### 1. INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES

**Present:**

Community and Aberdeenshire Councillors:

David Edgar (DE)– Chair and Durriss rep  
Nicola Chambury (NC) – Crathes Rep  
Eveline Crossan (EC) – Drumoak Rep  
Mark Ansell (MA) – Treasurer and Durriss rep.  
Lynn Coull (LC) – Drumoak rep – apologies sent  
Les Oliver (LO) – Crathes rep  
Jules Wood (JW) – Drumoak rep – on-line  
Ewan Reid (ER) – Crathes Rep  
Anne Shearer (AS) - Drumoak rep  
David Morrish (DM) – Crathes rep – apologies sent  
Shaun Falcus (SF) – Durriss rep

**Not present:-**

Councillors:

Cllr Alan Turner (in person from 20.20hrs – in attendance at another meeting)  
Cllr Wendy Agnew (apologies sent)  
Cllr Sarah Dickinson (on-line)  
Cllr Dawn Black (apologies sent)  
Cllr Eileen Durno (apologies sent)  
Cllr Ann Ross (on-line)  
Cllr Yi-Pei Turvey (on-line)

**Not present:**

Others:

Minutes:-

Sharon Hauxwell (SH)

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



**2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES AND CC UPDATES**

**a) Approval of Minute of Meeting (Aug 2024)**

LO– proposed AS - seconded.

**b) Actions & Matters Arising from Aug meeting not mentioned below**

Olympic Rings – everything in place – just need an event to launch/publicise this. **MA**

Meeting with Paul Macari – meeting has been confirmed for 28<sup>th</sup> October. It was discussed that a pre-meeting meeting should take place to decide what topics should be discussed and send this to Paul in advance.

Police report feedback – DM will feedback on this at the next meeting **DM**

**3) SECRETARY’S REPORT and CORRESPONDENCE**

Grampian Gathering – 27 Aug – check if anything put on FB. If not – SH to put on Facebook. **SH**

SSEN Community Fund – launched on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept. It was agreed that it would not be appropriate for us to promote this at this time. SH to take off Facebook **SH**

Craig Neil Windfarm consultation events – people can attend these if they wish?

Mearns Forestry surveys – people may wish to complete these.

Evening with Lesley Riddoch - people may wish to attend this.

**4) Police Reports**

Received on 10.9.24 and circulated ahead of the meeting.

DE advised that he has attended a Community Council Forum – David Charnley had reported on a campaign they had ran tackling anti-social behaviour which worked well. They had used a plain dressed officer who would then call in uniformed police to deal with the issue.

**5) COMMUNITY UPDATES**

**a) Road Safety**

Tim Stephen – DE has now followed up (action point from previous meetings). If we haven’t heard back from him in a weeks’ time then Cllr Dickinson will nudge him. **Cllr Dickinson**

It was agreed that we need to try and arrange another meeting soon as have not managed to complete the previously agreed quarterly meetings. **DE**

LC also highlighted that we are still waiting on data from the speed camera’s.

Roadworks at Crathes should be completed by 13<sup>th</sup> September.

ER also noted that the illuminating speed sign on the A93 in Crathes is not working and has been out of service for a long time.

**b) Park Quarry/Nether Park Quarry**

Park Quarry came back with a suggested meeting date of 15<sup>th</sup> November at midday – MA will confirm yes. **MA**

**c) Park Bridge**

Still waiting on scoping document. Cllr Turner was not present at start of meeting to discuss. When he arrived, he confirmed he is still chasing this.



**d) Community Parth Network. Kirkton of Durriss – Woodlands of Durriss Core Path Connection.**

Currently waiting on Ethos consulting to come back with a report.

Cllr Dickinson will follow up email (9/9/24) regarding path between Drumoak and Drum Castle to check if path is Council responsibility or not.

**Cllr  
Dickinson**

**e) Proposed Hill of Fare Windfarm**

Notes from LC – Marr and K & M Area Committees agreed to support the officer recommended response to the ECU consultation relating to the Hill of Fare which was to Object to the proposed development for the reasons given in the Planning Report. The Area Committees' views and comments will now be fed back to Infrastructure Services Committee for its information and consideration.

Also, there is now just the one Area Committee to be consulted which is Garioch.

Thereafter, ISC will consider and determine the consultation response on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October with the feedback from all three Area Committees available to it.

ISC will then vote. The ISC meeting will take place on 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct. Let DM to say he can request to speak at this meeting too.

**DM**

**f) Proposed new 400KV Overhead Line SSEN**

AS/MA reported on Deeside Against Pylons. They are aware that consultations are coming up – they are looking for a high turnout at these meetings.

After the report on consultations was released they were able to have an on-line meeting with SSEN. During the meeting they questioned the feedback they have mentioned they have had and they admitted that the majority they have received were against the Pylons. AS also highlighted that in their feedback there is no mention of the verbal feedback they got at events – she believes that this is because not one person from SSEN took a note of the views of those in attendance.

A new route option has since appeared since the feedback. This is running parallel to the existing line across the Dee. It is a modification to the route. Deeside Against Pylons believe SSEN are being dishonest in some of their claims – they have said stipulated that alternative options are not viable – they do not believe this is correct.

Deeside Against Pylons are very much of the opinion that even though SSEN have changed the suggested route slightly, this does not mean they should give up – they are still taking the stance that Pylons should not be in Deeside at all regardless of where the route is.

There is also the huge health aspects that can be associated with the pylons and the fact that they will be transporting 6 gigawatts – this has never been present in Scotland before – they have a letter signed by 37 doctors now saying these should not be erected without proper research.

It was noted that 'Save our Mearns' presented a petition of over 3000 objections to Scottish Parliament.



Letter from all 13 CC's affected by the line and opposed to the Pylons has been sent – just waiting on responses to this.

Cllr Turner confirmed that he had met SSEN as Chair of ISC on a general level. During the meeting they could only discuss items that were already in the public domain. Officers were also present to ensure that they were kept neutral. He confirmed that he had agreed to the meeting as they are a major infrastructure provider. This also took place before planning application was in and no routes were discussed.

Cllr Ross suggested Deeside Against Pylons could write to every member of the ISC committee and to the planners with their points and ask to speak at the meeting.

**g) The Glebe**

Still on-going issues. DE has requested a meeting with Fiona Banks and David Charnley to understand how to move forward.

**6) FINANCE**

Our CDDCC account currently stands at £1796.

We will have several outstanding invoices for payment in connection with the Local place Plan project and hall hires, but these are reimbursable through the K&M Area Fund.

**a) Applications**

**Mid Hill Applications Received**

We have 4 applications received in August/September for our consideration. **We have £9065 available in our fund.**

- **73 Finzean Under 5s £1350.** I mentioned this briefly at the August meeting. The group meet every Thursday morning in Finzean Hall welcoming families with children age 0-5. They pay for hall hire, insurance, toys; they are trying to purchase a new bouncy castle for the winter period when activities are indoors.- cost £400-£600. They (Nicola Scott- Treasurer) have confirmed that there are several families in Drumoak and Crathes who benefit from this group. Put this on hold. MA has gone back to ask why they have not applied through their own area fund.
- **74 Drumoak Durriss Warm Space £3069.19.** A well-received project for the communities, and now faced with increased costs- hall hire, refreshments, entertainment, necessary training. (£1724 awarded 2023). Based in the Bowling Club this project benefits an increasing number of our residents. A comprehensive breakdown of costs has been provided, along with extremely positive feedback gathered from attendees. MA to check if they get any funding from Meikle Crew – if they don't will support full payment.
- **72 CDDCC New Defibs 1 Year Maintenance £1250** This invoice from Grampian Training Services, has now been paid by CDDCC, and I suggest we submit an application to recover this cost. Future years we maybe should research other



available funding streams, and applying in advance to K&M Area Fund. All agreed to this.

- **75 CDDCC IT Equipment £1311 or less.** This is necessary equipment which helps us streamline meetings. 2 Laptops @£279 each- 1 for Sharon for secretarial work. 1 for presenting at meetings, total £558. 1 TV for installation in Durriss upstairs meeting room £429; bracket and fitting £150 (will consider Drumoak Bowling Club also). 2x Microsoft 365 Personal £120. 2x Macafee £94. 1x MS Teams License £60 per year. There would be a discount on the overall cost for this as DE can get a discount on Curry’s through his employment. All agreed.

- 7) **PLANNING & PLANNING APPLICATIONS**  
 a) **Planning in our Community (Organic Growth etc.)**  
 b) **Applications**

**Validated**

**None**

**Approved**

**Week beginning 19.8.24**

Reference	APP/2024/0860
Alternative Reference	100672634-001
Application Received	Thu 23 May 2024
Application Validated	Thu 23 May 2024
Address	1 Bogmore Cottages Drumoak AB31 5AB
Proposal	Alterations and Extension to Dwellinghouse, Erection of Store/Utility Room, Pergola and Installation of Air Source Heat Pump
Status	Decided
Decision	Approved
Decision Issued Date	Mon 19 Aug 2024
Appeal Status	Unknown
Appeal Decision	Not Available
Local Review Body Status	Not Available
Local Review Body Decision	Not Available

**Week beginning 26.8.24**



## Responding to community needs

Reference	APP/2024/0885
Alternative Reference	Not Available
Application Received	Tue 28 May 2024
Application Validated	Thu 06 Jun 2024
Address	Hogshillock Steading Drumoak AB31 5HQ
Proposal	Conversion, Alterations and Extension of Agricultural Steading to Form Dwellinghouse (Class 9)
Status	Decided
Decision	Approved
Decision Issued Date	Mon 26 Aug 2024
Appeal Status	Unknown
Appeal Decision	Not Available
Local Review Body Status	Not Available
Local Review Body Decision	Not Available

### **Week beginning 2.9.24**

Reference	APP/2024/1100
Alternative Reference	100677246-001
Application Received	Tue 02 Jul 2024
Application Validated	Tue 09 Jul 2024
Address	Broomhillock Croft Raemoir Banchory AB31 5RB
Proposal	Alterations and Extension to Dwellinghouse
Status	Decided
Decision	Approved
Decision Issued Date	Thu 05 Sep 2024
Appeal Status	Unknown
Appeal Decision	Not Available
Local Review Body Status	Not Available
Local Review Body Decision	Not Available

No Comments to make

### **c) Place Plans**

NC/EC confirmed that they have held 3 meetings – 1 in each place (Crathes/Drumoak/Durris) they did not get too many people attend and had no attendees in Durris. They are going to invite businesses, community groups, farmers to an event. Whole thing to be done by December. Main thing is to try and get people to use the QR code and get feedback. DE suggested we could pay for a Facebook post. Could also send to all the contacts in the database who have said can be contacted on other items.

**DE/EC/NC**

DE expressed his thanks for the efforts that have been put in so far.

### **8) Aberdeenshire Council Updates**



Cllr Dickinson – will resend an email from September 2022 relating to the Glebe and what the police had indicated to her then what they could respond to without additional powers being required.

**Cllr  
Dickson**

**9) Strategic initiatives**

**Community Council Elections**

Start at 7pm at Kirkton. Initially Council will come on-line and re-instate the Community Councillors.

**10) AOB**

**a) Oct Meeting – Wed 9<sup>th</sup> Oct – Kirkton Hall**

Note earlier start at 7pm.

**b) Resilience Plan**

Covered already

**c) CC Email distribution list**

DM not present

**d) Bike Shelters**

Cllr Turner has sent an email today to Gmail.

**e) Flooding in Drumoak**

Full update provided by Cllr Black in Gmail/Cllr Turner – thinks it could be at least 4 months before next piece of work will take place.

Manhole covers - Park at Drumoak – Cllr Turner advised this is still being investigated – different team looking at this.

**f) Event Regs and Drumoak & Durriss Community Group**

Cllr Black mentioned she could look into this at August meeting. Pick up at the next meeting.

**g) Reliability of Drumoak/Crathes Bus service**

Cllr Dickinson/Turner will take this up with Stagecoach to enquire. Cllr Ross also suggested the Community Council could write to Stagecoach themselves and highlight concerns from a community perspective. Also suggested could attend bus foms.

**Cllr  
Turner  
Dickinson**

**h) Anti-social behaviour Keithmuir Gardens**

Linked to a resident who lives in Keithmuir Gardens – has been dealt with and is being managed and monitored. No action for us to do.



## ***Responding to community needs***

---

*Meeting closed at 21.47 hrs.*