



## Crathes Drumoak & Durriss Community Council Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 13th March 2024

### **APPROVED** MARCH MEETING MINUTES

#### 1. INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES

**Present:**

Community and Aberdeenshire Councillors:

David Morrish (DM) – Crathes rep  
Les Oliver (LO) – Crathes rep – on-line  
Shaun Falcus (SF) – Durriss rep  
Mark Ansell (MA) – Treasurer and Durriss rep.  
Lynn Coull (LC) – Drumoak rep  
Jules Wood (JW) – Drumoak rep  
Nicola Chambury  
Eveline Crossan  
Ewan Reid

**Not present:-**

David Edgar (DE)– Chair and Durriss rep – apologies sent  
Anne Shearer (AS) - Drumoak rep– apologies sent  
Joanna Prystupa – not present

Councillors:

Cllr Alan Turner (in person)  
Cllr Wendy Agnew (on-line)  
Cllr Yi-Pei Turvey (in person)  
Cllr Dawn Black (on-line)  
Cllr Sarah Dickinson (on-line)

**Not present:**

Cllr Eileen Durno – apologies sent  
Cllr Ann Ross (on-line) – apologies sent

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 (January 2024)**

MA– proposed JW seconded.

**Approval of CC updates (Feb 2024)**

LC– proposed MA seconded.

**b) Actions & Matters Arising from Jan meeting/Feb updates not mentioned below**

From Jan minute – Flooding in Drumoak. Cllr Black reported that the flooding team and landscapes team went on a site visit on the 26<sup>th</sup> Feb – they now have a plan to do a camera survey of the culvert – this will not happen until the 2024/25 financial year. They will aim to try and get further than last time. They are also trying to speak with Scottish Water re their sections. They also had a conversation with Duncan Wight – also looking into the pipe and it transpires that there has never any discussions or consents to have pipe in place. Mr Wight suggested he could deepen ditch above football pitch over to West, so it joins water down the edge. Cllr Black will be keeping on top of this and keep looking for answers. Cllr Black will also contact the housing department regarding the garden fence that has been damaged – she already has photos of this. LC to send the contact details for the person who has the damaged fence to Cllr Black.

**Cllr  
Black  
LC**

Olympic Rings – MA advised they are still waiting on a quote coming in for the plaque for the rings can then decide how to pay for this.

Banchory Group Practice Patient Participation Group meeting – MA attended the meeting last week. Minutes are in the Gmail inbox. Boundaries are changing for any new residents moving in the area. Scolty ward at Glen of Dee will remain closed. Continuing shortage of nursing staff. MA also suggested looking at practice website in case there is anything on here. Should keep an eye on it.

Wellbeing project – EC reported on this. This will be a survey that is conducted to find out how people view wellbeing/ what services would contribute to their wellbeing and what is/is not available. They are expecting a lot of criticism around the Banchory Group Practice. Long term after the research is to eventually to set up a wellbeing Trust for the area.

NC attended a resilience meeting. Council pushing for people to be capable of being resilient for the first 72 hours of any crisis/emergency. We as a community council could look at what could we offer in such a situation where there are vulnerable people at risk – such as a community hub. There is information out there from other community councils who have already made a plan. Cllr Turner will give a contact from Stonehaven community council. Cllr Turvey also suggested speaking to Feughside CC. NC happy to continue working on this and will keep us updated on ideas and suggestions.

**Cllr  
Turner**

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

Although not on the report, SF reported that both himself and MA had received a personal email regarding one of the De-fibs. Currently off-line on the on-line map but to be reinstated soon.

**4) Police Reports**

Nothing to report.



**5) COMMUNITY UPDATES**

**a) Road Safety Subgroup**

Meeting took place. LC did request the figures from the camera's. As a result of the meeting the temporary speed camera as you came into Drumoak from the East, is due to be brought back to the road into Park. It is currently located in Banchory.

SF sent Cllr Dickinson photos and maps of the A957 between the Lochton Triangle and the Blairdryne Bridge showing three water-related problems with water pouring from the verge on to the road at one spot, water appearing to push up through areas of road repair at others, and signs of water eroding the soil around the new gabions put in place to support and reinforce the road on approach to the bridge. It seems, the digger works on site on slug road relate to the reinforcement work.

DM – update from Feb - A93 in Crathes – things have progressed cutting down the trees.

May/June work will go ahead – will mean there is a 4 way traffic management system in place for this.

South Deeside Road - there are plans to put speed camera's in place where the bend near Mary Culter where the recent fatal crash took place. There was a continuing push to get the agreed Kirkton of Durriss 40 implemented – Cllr Turner and Cllr Dickinson believe this will take place when plans to make towns a 20mph instead of 30mph.

MA – advised gateway signs for the Woodlands of Durriss went up this week.

LC reported that signs are ready to go up in Drumoak – just need power to them which will not be available until May

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

MA emailed Tim Davey– they have had no contact with SSEN so assume no plans to run the pylons through here.

**c) Park Bridge**

Re-scheduled many times and has now been booked for 8<sup>th</sup> April.

Cllr Turner reported that In the meantime, still progressing with the work detailed in Jan meeting – they are currently getting costs together.

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

MA reported that It is progressing well. Had a very good meeting with all those involved. Last meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> Feb. Walked the routes. MA still chasing Dunchect estates – not getting any response regarding their sections. Cllr Black will chase Stuart Young. Bob Booth – represented Dunchect at the meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup>.

DM will be back in touch with Stuart Young regarding the mess that has been left from the tree clearing at Crathes.

Cllr  
Black

DM

**e) Proposed Hill of Fare Windfarm**

The date for sending in responses has been extended to the end of May. It was assumed that the area committee meeting will also be extended. Cllr Turner/Dickinson confirmed that generally Papers/Agenda will go out on a week in advance of the meeting and we have until midday on the Friday to request to speak at the meeting. DM has contacted the area officer to ask to be kept informed of the dates of the meetings.



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

LC reported that they have had 2 meetings with 14 CC's involved on the planned lines. 12 have been happy to be engaged. 27<sup>th</sup> Feb – last meeting.

Each of the CC are speaking to action groups within their area and feeding back so learning lots from each other.

LC – Benholm and Johnshaven – rep (Linda Duncan) to be added to the CC network. Email in the Gmail. **LC**

Overhead line folder – in the Gmail account. All contacts are in here. Need to be careful we do not use email addresses for the wrong purposes and that we have the correct consents in place.

Put an agenda item for next meeting re the GDPR on this spreadsheet. **SH**

LC going to put a FB out regarding the questionnaire/SSEN answers and ask people to contact us with email address if not received it and would like to. **LC**

DM to send councillors both results of the questionnaire and answers from SSEN **DM**

AS and MA attended a CC on-line meeting with SSEN. Feedback was that the meeting was not great – nothing new been communicated by SSEN and many of the CC thought that there has been a complete lack of consultations on SSEN's behalf.

Next public event – is on the 20<sup>th</sup> March at Drumoak Bowling Club. MA and ER available – LC will put out a Whatsapp to try and get cover for this. **LC**

**6) FINANCE**

We have £11565 currently available in the Midhill fund.

£3572 in our own account at the moment with no invoices outstanding.

**a) Applications**

Banchory Greenpower is an after-school (Banchory Academy) project which currently has 24 students aged 11 to 16, in the team- some from Drumoak and Crathes. Greenpower Education Trust is a UK-based charity with a track record in kick-starting careers in engineering.

The funding application is for a project total of £4000 to fund pupils to participate in this STEM- Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths- Education and Skills Development Project. The project is to design, build, and race, a green-powered car. In The F24 class car teams compete at Greenpower events across the UK.

All agreed to fund £1000 towards this. MA will try to find out who is involved from the Drumoak, Durriss, Crathes area.

**7) PLANNING & PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

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

**b) Validated**



**Installation of Solar Panels**

Crathes Public Hall Crathes Banchory

Ref. No: APP/2024/0305 | Received: Wed 28 Feb 2024 | Validated: Thu 29 Feb 2024 | Status: Awaiting decision

**Formation of Private Way (Forestry)**

Doucer Den Woodlands Of Durriss Aberdeenshire AB31 6AD

Ref. No: APP/2024/0287 | Received: Mon 26 Feb 2024 | Validated: Mon 26 Feb 2024 | Status: Awaiting decision

Reference	APP/2024/0333
Alternative Reference	100663321-001
Application Received	Mon 04 Mar 2024
Application Validated	Mon 04 Mar 2024
Address	Durriss Forest Durriss Stonehaven
Proposal	Formation of Private Way (Forestry)
Status	Awaiting decision
Appeal Status	Unknown
Appeal Decision	Not Available
Local Review Body Status	Not Available
Local Review Body Decision	Not Available

**Approved**

**Formation of Private Way (Forestry)**

Spyhill Forest By Banchory Aberdeenshire

Ref. No: APP/2024/0214 | Received: Tue 13 Feb 2024 | Validated: Tue 13 Feb 2024 | Status: Decided

**Alterations and Extension to Dwellinghouse and Erection of Decking, Fence and Installation of Oil Tank**

Mill Cottage North Coldstream Drumoak AB31 5EP

Ref. No: APP/2023/2314 | Received: Fri 15 Dec 2023 | Validated: Wed 10 Jan 2024 | Status: Decided

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Noted that 2 forest applications are linked to SSEN and pylons – building roads.



**c) LDP 2027 / Place Plans / Place Plan Meeting**

NC and EC attended a meeting last week. Been promised info from Argyll and Bute – case study who have completed it recently.

They have a meeting next week with Hilary English.

NC – wants and answer to the question ‘How important are these? Will they be looked at/listened to? NC/EC do not want to spend many hours working on this if it is not going to be of use. DM will go back to Piers to gain clarity on the answers given at meeting - NC will give DM a copy of these.

**DM/NC**

**8) Aberdeenshire Council Updates**

Cllr Dickinson – Sunnyside Drive – still in secondary priority for gritting. Doing a review in May/June to look at priorities. LC would like to contribute to this review. Cllr Dickinson suggested get as much evidence as possible and she can pass this onto them. Cllr Turner will also be contributing to this.

**LC**

Cllr Turner – Nestrans will be going out to consultation next month. Jacobs doing the consultation for them – open for 6 weeks.

**9) Strategic initiatives**

**a) Green Initiatives**

To be looked at next meeting.

**b) Vacant Positions, Recruitment and Communications**

One vacant position in Drumoak.  
Co-opt Evelyn Crossan – all agreed.

**10) AOB**

**a) April meeting – Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April – Durriss Kirkton Hall**

**b) Bike Shelters – update SF.**

No update from Council at the minute

**c) Kirkton of Durriss Soakaway**

No update for this meeting

**d) 10 year housing/land requirement – Holyrood sets for each local authority – each local authority can chose to exceed this if they want. NC suggested that it may be worth keeping an eye on this.**

*Meeting closed at 21.35 hrs.*