



Crathes Drumoak & Durriss Community Council Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 14th January 2026

APPROVED JAN MEETING MINUTES

1. INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES

Community and Aberdeenshire Councillors:

David Edgar (DE)– Chair and Durriss rep
Eveline Crossan (EC) – Drumoak rep
Mark Ansell (MA) – Treasurer and Durriss rep
Les Oliver (LO) – Crathes rep
Jules Wood (JW) – Drumoak rep
Ewan Reid (ER) – Crathes Rep
Anne Shearer (AS) - Drumoak rep
David Morrish (DM) – Crathes rep
Shaun Falcus (SF) – Durriss rep – apologies sent
Joe Barns – Drumoak Rep

Councillors:

Cllr Alan Turner – apologies sent
Cllr Wendy Agnew – on-line from 8pm
Cllr Sarah Dickinson – on-line
Cllr Dawn Black – on-line
Cllr Ann Ross – on-line from 8pm
Cllr Yi-Pei Turvey – apologies sent
Cllr Eileen Durno – apologies sent

Others:

Minutes:-
Sharon Hauxwell (SH) on-line

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 (Nov 2025)

AS – proposed, JW - seconded.

b) Actions & Matters Arising from Nov meeting not mentioned below

Paths from Drum Garden Centre – Cameron Forbes believes the stipulation regarding the path from the Garden Centre to Drumoak village, relates to the farmhouse steading (6 houses) planning application rather than the garden centre itself. Cllr Dickinson advised that has searched under this title and still cannot find



- anything. Cllr Dickinson will follow up directly with Derek Forbes to try and find our more specific details. **Cllr Dickinson**
- Grit bins – Cllr Dickinson has researched this and has found out exactly which bins are being removed. All emails are in the Gmail.
- 3) SECRETARY’S REPORT and CORRESPONDENCE**
- DE encouraged everyone to look at both documents and read any emails that stand out. **ALL**
- Sheoch woods (woods along Slug road)AS advised they have been felling trees there for quite a while – they are potentially looking to close the woods for between 5 – 7 years – AS has gone back to recommend they would need to keep public access for it during this time.
- 4) Police Reports**
Nothing to report/discuss at this meeting
- 5) COMMUNITY UPDATES**
- a) Road Safety**
- i) Kirkton of Durriss 40mph**
- Cllr Dickinson is not aware of it being live and ready for public consultation just yet. Cllr Black has a meeting with Alan Wood on Friday and will ask for an update then. **Cllr Black**
- ii) A93 Park & A93 / A957 Crathes request**
- DE/DM have spoken with Cllr Ross to get more information/get public opinion. DM has since looked out previous objection paperwork and will look to update this. **DM**
- Information on speed camera on the Durriss Straight – Cllr Dickinson has looked into this and emailed on the 28th Nov the data she was able to get.
- b) Park Quarry/Nether Park Quarry**
- MA emailed planning between Christmas and New Year. Made it quite clear why we are looking for this. MA will chase this and copy Paul Macari into the email. Went back to Lee Mathers to ask for information on the East side. Has offered an on-site visit. **MA**
- c) Park Bridge**
- Cllr Turner has responded to AS email (in gmail) Repairs have been noted as part of the inspection, but the costs need to be prioritised.
- d) Community Parth Network. Kirkton of Durriss – Woodlands of Durriss Core Path Connection.**
- DE/MA need to follow up on the results of public consultation. Also need to follow up quotes – MA will complete this. **MA**



DE will contact planning regarding what permissions would be necessary **DE**

e) Energy projects / Committees

i) *Convention of North East Community Councils – keep this heading*

Meeting took place on the 13th December.

Unified Statement

Quite a few CC had contributed to this, and they have since circulated the statement and this will be submitted to the Scottish Government. We agreed to the statement. DM will follow this up. **DM**

SH to remove the unified statement and date of next meeting off the agenda for February meeting **SH**

ii) *Proposed Hill of Fare Windfarm*

The reporter has indicated that the 20 January 2026 target date for this case will not be met. It is currently estimated that the report will be submitted by the end of February 2026. However, members of the group are concerned that this will get delayed again and may not actually happen until after the next general election.

iii) *Proposed Hurlie Substation*

Pre Determination Hearing 26th November 9.30am – (delete this subheading for Feb meeting) **SH**

MA spoke at this for 10 minutes. There were approx. 7-8 other presentations from residents.

The Special meeting of the Kincardine and Mearns Area Committee (KMAC) on the 13th January (MA/AS requested to speak at this) was to hear the views of the committee on the proposed Hurlie Substation Planning Application. Infrastructure Services Committee (ISC) is the decision-making committee and will be meeting to determine the application on the 30th of January. Five KMAC councillors who sit on ISC indicated that they would reserve judgement on the application until the ISC Meeting. One councillor intimated that they were leaning towards supporting the application but as a member also of ISC they would similarly reserve judgement until that meeting. Three members objected to the application.

Councillor Dickinson confirmed that the planning report for ISC including the views of the Area Committee would be published on the council's website on the 23rd January.

AS - spoke in great detail about some of the endangered birds and their nesting/habitats – some of which SSEN had not even considered.

iv) *Proposed 400kV Overhead Line*

No major update. The Action Group are working as a combined group.



The CC sent an email to Jim Savage – the acting Chief executive replied – the CC then requested a formal response from Jim Savage directly. This was received into the gmail on the 5th January – still deciding how to respond to this.

v) Proposed Glenskinnan Energy Park

ER was unable to make the last meeting. No updates to report at present.

vi) Glendye overhead line

Cllr Black reported that the application came in over the Christmas period. Consultation had to go back by 9th Jan. Paul Macari has registered an objection. This is a holding objection. Cllr Dickinson confirmed this information will be in the public domain – all information in the letter.

f) The Glebe

Been in touch with Fiona Banks. Plan to try and meet with herself and Tajana in the Spring to see what plants are growing and look to make a plan. Some new signage was sent through, but everyone agreed this was not suitable – it suggested fires should not be lit at certain times – would prefer it just said NO Fires. MA will go back.

MA

The middle bin of three bins on the C35K between the A93 and the entrance to the Glebe which was sitting next to a layby has been removed. Cllr Dickinson has sent an email this evening regarding this. More evidence of litter now arising because of its removal would be required for it to be re-instated.

At the Glebe itself the large bin has been covered up at the moment – this is due to a service vehicle fault and is not an indication that it is likely to be removed.

g) Flooding in Drumoak

Keithmuir Gardens play park – Cllr Black advised that she has been in touch with the floods team regarding the Culvert and the flooding in this area. She is waiting on a reply.

h) Bike Shelters

SF not present at meeting to report.

6) FINANCE

a) Update

Currently in the process of handing over to Joe as treasurer – need to make him a signatory first.

We have a total of £2508 in our account.

Our renewal of **Macafee Virus Protection** for all our laptops, is about to be paid quoted £75 2 years for 2 years, David is checking a possible cheaper option.



We now have confirmation from Lisa Mackie, Assistant Manager **Drumoak SSPCA that we can make a Christmas donation (£200?)** to be made specifically to our local centre. Lisa has provided a list of items they especially need, and they have a dedicated Amazon address and pick list for all items. **All agreed to this.**

MIDHILL COMMUNITY FUND

We are hopefully on the verge of receiving our community fund lump sum from Fred Olsen Renewables. This will amount to £30,269 coming from Fred Olsen Renewables for the next 3 years. This includes our current balance available of £14875.

We are expected to invest this amount, I will look into opening an easy access savings account with RBS.

b) Applications

We have one application pending from (91) Drumoak Nursery £706.47 for items from specialist supplier Findel Education, for new resources to replace broken, lost, or disfigured well-loved items- family group figures, construction vehicles, animals, fire engine etc. (list/quote provided) due to lost or repeated cleaning and disinfecting with Covid Guard cleaning of existing items. **All agreed to this.**

7) PLANNING & PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

Next meeting with Paul Macari in February.

b) Applications

Validated

Week beginning 15.12.25

Reference	APP/2025/2042
Alternative Reference	100736063-001
Application Received	Thu 11 Dec 2025
Application Validated	Tue 16 Dec 2025
Address	Crathes Castle Crathes Banchory AB31 5QJ
Proposal	Internal Alterations, Installation of Ventilation System and SVP
Status	Awaiting decision
Appeal Status	Not Available
Appeal Decision	Not Available
Local Review Body Status	Not Available
Local Review Body Decision	Not Available

Week beginning 22.12.25



Reference	APP/2025/2124
Alternative Reference	100738180-001
Application Received	Mon 22 Dec 2025
Application Validated	Mon 22 Dec 2025
Address	2 Kilduthie Cottages Raemoir Banchory AB31 5QU
Proposal	Alterations and Extension to Dwellinghouse
Status	Awaiting decision
Appeal Status	Not Available
Appeal Decision	Not Available
Local Review Body Status	Not Available
Local Review Body Decision	Not Available

No comments

Decided

None

c) Local Place Plans

Not seen any comments/feedback.

There are still a few requirements to complete before it can be submitted.

EC brought a draft Deeside Sustainable Development Charter for approval, which originated from Banchory CC in relation to the calls for ideas. This was shared on the screen during the meeting - it was agreed that if she hadn't heard from anyone by 10am tomorrow then there are no objections to it.

8) Aberdeenshire Councillor Updates

No further updates at this meeting.

9) Strategic initiatives/Fundraising

North East Community Councils Summit

10) AOB

a) February Meeting – Wed 11th February - Durriss Hall – DE has to give his apologies – DM will Chair.

DM

b) Crathes football pitch – LO sent an email received to the Gmail on 5th January with the response to this. Request a site visit with Leys to see if there is a way of getting a path down the side. If this is possible, then he will make contact with Dunecht.

c) Use of Glyphosate weedkiller by Aberdeenshire Council. Cllr Turner confirmed by email that he provided the wrong information at the November meeting. Cllr Dick-inson has contacted landscape services regarding this. Cllr Turner is also working on



Responding to community needs

this so she will clarify with him this week if he is dealing with this or if she has to follow up.

- d)** Bin collections in winter weather – Cllr Turner has emailed on the 13th Jan to detail a link to the website with information on how they hope to catch up on the missed deliveries (likely to be at the weekend – but will prioritise black bins first).
- e)** DM brought the streetlights in Crathes – installed by Stewart Milne – DM wondering if these have been adopted by the Council? Cllr Ross is waiting for a response on this as she is not sure yet.

Meeting closed at 21.33hrs.