



**Crathes Drumoak & Durriss Community Council Monthly Meeting**

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**APPROVED JAN MEETING MINUTES**

**1. INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES**

**Present:**

Community and Aberdeenshire Councillors:

David Edgar (DE)– Chair and Durriss rep  
Eveline Crossan (EC) – Drumoak Rep – apologies sent  
Mark Ansell (MA) – Treasurer and Durriss rep – on line.  
Lynn Coull (LC) – Vice Chair and Drumoak rep  
Les Oliver (LO) – Crathes rep – on-line  
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 – not present – may join later

Councillors:

Cllr Alan Turner (in person)  
Cllr Wendy Agnew (not present at start – joined later)  
Cllr Sarah Dickinson (on-line)  
Cllr Dawn Black (not present – apologies sent)  
Cllr Eileen Durno (not present – apologies sent)  
Cllr Ann Ross (on-line)  
Cllr Yi-Pei Turvey (not present at start – joined later)

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 few changes required to previous meeting – DE will message SH. Once these have been made minute was approved as below.

**DE/SH**



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

LC– proposed DM - seconded.

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

Page in the Piper a couple of weeks ago regarding the launch of the Olympic Rings

Mini Orchard – will still aim to pick this up

**JW**

DE did reply to Eric Insch about the path from Drum Garden centre – not had a reply back from him

Community Benefit Fund – there will be another webinar coming up in January – MA will aim to attend to find out a bit more about it

**MA**

Bin lorries speeding in Crathes - Cllr Turner did contact the council and forwarded on the response that was sent to the drivers.

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

Office Bearers form – with LC. She will complete and send to MA to complete and then send to SH to complete and return

**LC/MA/SH**

**4) Police Reports**

AS reported that there is a huge amount of angst amongst the Drumoak residents. A serious assault took place and the person who was assaulted believes if he wasn’t as fit and healthy as he was, he could be dead now. The offender has had an ASBO served against him but the people in the village are concerned for their safety and are too scared to report if he has returned. AS has been approached to try and get a response from the Police. AS has been in touch with David Charnley to try and see when they can come and speak to members of the community.

Cllr Dickinson intimated that, with respect to how Housing officers of the council handle problematic situations affecting tenants like those being experienced at Keithmuir Gardens, she was aware that Stonehaven and District Community Council (SDCC) had also been raising similar questions and Housing had indicated that they were willing to provide a briefing/possibly meet with the SDCC to discuss the approach (policy and legislative framework) in general terms rather than with respect to any one specific situation. Cllr Dickinson thought this could also be an option for the CDDCC too and said she would speak to Cllr Black regarding follow up on this point as Cllr Black was the councillor leading on the issues relating to Keithmuir Gardens.

**Cllr  
Dickinson**

**5) COMMUNITY UPDATES**

**a) Road Safety**

It was agreed that the subgroup needs to meet.

Cllr Dickinson advised that there is a road priority review due to take place and any changes will be reviewed with Councillors.

LC advised about problems there have been on Sunnyside Lane over the last few days with the adverse weather. She has video evidence of cars sliding down the road and there was an incident where the school bus had to stop and was sliding back down the road. LC to send the video to Cllr Dickinson and contact the bus company and see if they would be willing to give a statement of their experience as evidence of the problems.

**LC**

Cllr Turner will chase data from the speed camera’s in Drumoak for LC

**Cllr Turner**



A93 entry into Crathes – Council responded that 85% of those recorded were below 43mph – Cllr Ross is happy to lead another campaign to try and reduce the speed limit in the Crathes area. Cllr Turner advised that the policy regarding streets within settlements becoming 20mph will be introduced in 2025 – he understands that the roads connecting them will remain the national speed limit. At this point he does not know which roads this will affect. He will put something in writing to the community council to explain the new policy.

**Cllr Turner**

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

Meeting took place in November. Went along with maps and it is clear that they are quite behind. The sand they are extracting has almost run out. The reinstatement was going very slowly. Could be mentioned at next Paul Macari meeting.

**DM**

**c) Park Bridge**

Cllr Turner's expectation the scoping document will be issued next month, and the CC should be able to see it in March.

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

MA will drop Graham a note and try and get things moving again.

**MA**

**e) Proposed Hill of Fare Windfarm**

Nothing showing on the application on the website. There is a petition being raised to ask the application to be removed completely.

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

Application for substation.

18<sup>th</sup> January public deadline for objections on this. 30<sup>th</sup> January is the CC deadline. AS looked at application. In terms of bats – the survey was flawed – 2 of 4 detectors were not working and did not monitor for the full year. Red squirrels, Pine martins, otters – protective species would also be affected if this was to go ahead as their natural habitat would be removed. There is also evidence of a schedule 1 protective bird (goshawk)– there in this area and to remove their natural habitat is detrimental. They also reference the crossbill bird – 6800 pairs in the world and they are all in Scotland including the North East of Scotland. This doesn't differentiate between the common crossbill and the Scottish crossbill which is also a schedule 1 protective bird and we cannot risk damaging/removing their natural habitat.

DE noted that active travel and recreational usage – not been covered at all in the application. He also advised that this substation would require 215 acres (equivalent of 134.4 football pitches) of woodland to be removed. With no clear plan of where this woodland will be re-planted.

LC noted that until the application has been submitted you cannot see if what has been submitted is correct. And what has been submitted is not correct. LC decided to look at transportation. The transport will come along the South Deeside Road and over the Slug



Road. The figures in the application differ from the consultation document. 4979 instead of 8444 HGV vehicles required.

Group consensus was that the majority of the community object to Pylons and substations. The CC will therefore be writing to object to this. Everyone agreed to object and the subgroup will get together next week to write their objection letter

Need to email the database of contacts to say that the application is open and need to get their objections in. We can reference the Deeside Against Pylons website in our information that we send. **DM**

Also need a FB post.

LC reported that Eileen West had made contact with her. She has been invited to a SSEN event. When talking about the public meeting that took place at Drumoak School (organised by the CC) they told her that SSEN had been advised that they could not have an open forum for Q & A and that the CC had instructed them that they had to leave immediately after. This was not the case and there is email evidence in the gmail to confirm this.

**g) The Glebe**

Nothing to update at this meeting.

**h) Flooding in Drumoak**

Cllr Turner has asked for an update on timings – will report back when he hears anything.

**i) Bike Shelters**

SF not present to update.

**6) FINANCE**

**a) Applications**

None at this meeting

**b) Update**

We have £3244 in the account at present.

All Mid Hill awards are paid except for a further amount for CDDCC laptops and associated add-ons (Mid Hill application 75), Mid Hill award to us of £1311. (paid out £866 so far)

We have purchased the external notice board for Woodlands of Durriss (request from residents) for £274.74, with 50% being paid by K&M Area Budget, following our application.

We made a Christmas donation of £115 to Mrs Murray's Cat and Dog Home through Just Giving.



## Responding to community needs

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We have up to £500 available from K&M Area Budget towards Place Plans development costs. I have several receipts on expenditure; well below £500, but if we anticipate further expenditure, we need to make this prior to the end of February.

### 7) PLANNING & PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

#### b) Applications

*Validated*

*None*

*Approved*

#### Week beginning 16.12.24

##### [Installation Of Air Source Heat Pump](#)

Kennerty Toll Cottage Raemoir Banchory AB31 4DQ

Ref. No: APP/2024/1787 | Received: Mon 04 Nov 2024 | Validated: Tue 05 Nov 2024 | Status: Decided

##### [Installation of Air Source Heat Pump](#)

Kennerty Toll Cottage Raemoir Banchory AB31 4DQ

Ref. No: APP/2024/1750 | Received: Mon 28 Oct 2024 | Validated: Mon 04 Nov 2024 | Status: Decided

#### Week beginning 30.12.24



Reference	APP/2024/1834
Alternative Reference	100691505-001
Application Received	Mon 11 Nov 2024
Application Validated	Fri 15 Nov 2024
Address	Swallow Vale 3 Denside Banchory Aberdeenshire AB31 6DT
Proposal	Erection of Garden Room
Status	Decided
Decision	Approved
Decision Issued Date	Tue 31 Dec 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) Local Place Plans**

Everyone to look at dates in gmail for meeting with Paul Macari

**ALL**

**8) Aberdeenshire Council Updates**

No updates not discussed already.

**9) AOB**

**a) Feb Meeting – 12<sup>th</sup> Feb – Durriss Hall**

**b) Christmas/New Year Bin Collections- Communication**

Not a criticism of the collection service itself but just a general lack of communication about the changes over the Christmas period. People who do not have access to website/smart phones. Perhaps need to communicate with the elderly in a different way – posters in doctors/libraries/announcements in the press.

*Meeting closed at 21.35 hrs.*