



**Crathes Drumoak & Durris Community Council Monthly Meeting**  
**Wednesday 10th February 2021 – Google Video Conference**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

**1) ATTENDEES & APOLOGIES**

**Present:**

Community Councillors:

- Peter Renwick – Chair & Crathes rep.
- Mark Ansell – Treasurer & Durris rep (minutes)
- Anne Shearer – Drumoak rep.
- Joyce Scott – Durris rep.
- David Morrish – Crathes rep.
- Phillippa Jensen- Crathes rep.

Councillors:

Banchory & Mid-Deeside - Marr Area, Ward 16:

- Cllr Ann Ross
- Cllr Eileen Durno

Stonehaven & Lower Deeside – K&M Area, Ward 18:

- Cllr Sarah Dickinson
- Cllr Wendy Agnew

Visitors – David Edgar (Durris), Michelle Russell (Drumoak)

**Apologies notified:**

- Lynn Coull- Drumoak rep.
- Cllr Dennis Robertson
- Cllr Sandy Wallace
- Emma Storey, ASC Committee Officer
- Police Liaison : Marc Camus (PT)
- Cllr Rosemary Bruce

The meeting was declared quorate.

**2) COVID UPDATE**

PR has prepared info for the CC social media sites, on providing transport to anyone needing to get their vaccination appointment. Vaccinations are progressing with the Banchory Sports Village being the main centre for our area, and allocations being made by postcode.

**3) REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

a) The minutes from the January meeting were approved online and distributed, with one amendment to named action arising from item 4, Kirkton of Durris Speed Zone. Proposed by MA and seconded by DM.

**b) Actions & Matters Arising from January**

• **Respond to review of Scheme of Establishment**

Following further review, PR has re-read the legal aspects of the Scheme, and removed any comments on this and then submitted our views.

• **Domestic House Alarms- new regulations**

JS had previously circulated a draft document with comprehensive details on the changes, implications and useful contacts. All were happy with this, thanked Joyce for her work, and Chair will now upload to CC website.

• **Kirkton of Durris Speed Zone Change**

David Edgar provided an update on the progress in building the case. A response has been received from Alexander Burnett's office providing further information; and the issue is on the agenda for the K&M Councillors' Ward meeting 23 February.

• **Minute Secretary**

A total of 4 applicants with varied backgrounds applied for the advertised position; Peter and Anne carried out online interviews with 3, and Michelle Russell was welcomed onboard for the meeting. All thanked Peter and Anne for this work.

• **Drumoak Post Office**

MA has again emailed Deryck Forbes regarding his views on the prospect of Mains of Drum taking on a Post Office counter; no reply as yet. A Tuesday Post Office operating for a couple of hours in the bowling club, has met with frustration from the community.

• **Infrastructure Services meeting**

MA and AS provided feedback on their addresses at the latest ISC Meeting of 21



Jan 2021. The agenda item focussed on the criteria and methodology to be used for prioritising the maintenance budget allocation to all bridges in Aberdeenshire. Both Anne, Alan Holmes (for PBAG) and Mark (for CDDCC) highlighted their concerns regarding missing methodology, inaccurate data and criteria being used for Park Bridge, with the likely result of Park Bridge being allocated a much lower priority. Cllr Peter Argyll, meeting chair, thanked all 3 for their input. Cllr Agnew will follow up with help on the requested information, through Donald McPherson, on the bridge's 'unsafe' classification. Cllr Agnew expressed her praise for the 3 community speakers addressing the meeting.

ACTION: Cllr Agnew

#### **4) SECRETARY'S REPORT and CORRESPONDENCE**

##### **a) Correspondence**

See Appendix A

#### **5) POLICE REPORT**

Police reports have been received and there were no major issues requiring discussion.

Cllr Durno raised the ongoing consultation exercise on police use of bodycams, which is open until 24 February; and will email the link to CC on this. The Chair will then post on social media for info.

- **NE Crime Reduction Business Watch report**

This was received 3 Feb, and all noted the main points included.

#### **6) COMMUNITY UPDATES**

##### **a) Crathes Hall**

Moira Hamilton, Chair of Trustees for Crathes Hall, provided a comprehensive update on the hall, with costs on the necessary refurbishment compared to constructing a new building. A building warrant has been granted for a new-build, with costs of circa £600K. The trustees are meeting fortnightly to discuss funding ideas and sources, and would like support from CDDCC for their business case to ensure the hall remains for the future. The Chair offered to attend a meeting to input on funding channels and where CDDCC can possibly assist e.g. windfarm community funds; and also provide a letter of support from the CC.

##### **b) Crathes Station Property**

DM gave an update on the station building being up for sale, and the detailed work he has undertaken, including use of Survey Monkey to engage with the Crathes community to gauge their views on the way forward, including a possible community buyout. This would involve considerable work, and in view of the Crathes Hall status, it was thought that efforts to refocus the village on the hall at this time, would be preferred. (David also offered use of Survey Monkey for any community issues for its remaining active period)

##### **c) Place Plans**

Feedback has been provided on the best way forward for the CC, and the Chair has held off for the time being, on emailing Jacky Niven on this topic.

##### **d) Durriss Post Facility**

JS raised the issue of a lack of post boxes in the Durriss area. MA agreed but also pointed out that in addition to the Kirkton of Durriss box, there is another, not that obvious, located by the school 'in the hedge' in Woodlands of Durriss. JS also mentioned Parcel PostBoxes which could be positioned locally, and enable the drop off of parcels. Cllr Dickinson offered to provide info from other areas' experience.

##### **e) The Glebe at Drumoak**

AS requested any update on progress on addressing the 'rules of management', to prevent a recurrence of the anti social behaviour of 2020. Cllr Agnew is addressing this with Cllr Peter Argyll. AS suggested that progress is made speedily with appropriate signage as discussed previously, and MA said that the CC could fund the signage to save time.

#### **7) FINANCE**

MA provided an update on the CC financial situation which is still healthy with no outgoings for this period. The Meikle Carewe windfarm fund window for applications is now closed, but the Midhill fund administered by CDDCC is open all year.

The Mid Hill application for funding of the **Crathes Planters Christmas Lights, (£201)** had been circulated



prior to the meeting, and a unanimous decision to support this application was made. Account switching from RBS to Metrobank remains in progress.

8) PLANNING & PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a) The 3 houses applied for at Park West have been refused.
b) Planning Applications Jan – Feb 2021
Planning applications for all areas consisted of largely alterations to individual dwelling houses or extensions; 3 for Drumoak and 1 for Crathes. AS mentioned APP/2021/0101, 13 Deevie Gardens, Drumoak, in that some feedback from residents may indicate concern regarding this application and the effects on neighbours of raising the roof-line. DM, JS and MA agreed to look at the application detail, and report back to the CC. This would determine whether the CC would make a comment. ACTION: DM, JS, MA

9) AOB

- a) David Edgar was welcomed to his second CC meeting, and MA proposed him becoming a co-opted community councillor for Durriss; this was seconded by DM.
b) Secretary/Minute Secretary. Michelle Russell was also welcomed to get a feel for the meeting format.
• Next meeting March 10th.

The meeting closed at 21.05hrs

MOM DISTRIBUTION:

By email

- CDDCC Website: Peter Renwick
• CDDCC Members: email
• Councillors: email
• Police Liaison – Marr (Banchory): email 'BanchoryMidDeesideCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk'
• Police Liaison – K&M (Stonehaven): email to Donna Kelly
• Area Committee – Marr: email to Alison McLeod – Committee Officer Marr
• Area Committee – K&M: email to Emma Storey – Committee Officer K&M
• KDP Liaison: email to Marion McNeil
• DDCG Website: Anne Shearer

Hard Copy: -

- Crathes Hall – Notice Board: CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19
• Durriss Kirkton Hall – Notice Board: Mark Ansell: CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19
• Drumoak Church Hall – Notice Board: via Marion McNeil: CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19
• ~~Drumoak Post Office: Notice Board: via Marion McNeil Closed~~
• Drumoak – Park Shop: ??
• Banchory Library – Author: CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19

Appendix A – Correspondence

Secretarial Correspondence (email)

- 14 Jan – Cllr Ann Ross sent details of catch up on refuse collections due to poor weather (subsequent mails on 18/1,4/2 and 10/2)
14 Jan – Landscaping Kirkwood Home – planning enforcement and local resident exchange. Catriona Woodburn, 14 Jan, insisting with planning enforcement officer, that her complaint about the green space is kept live; Kirkwood Homes need to respond.
15 Jan – M Ansell - ISC Meeting discussion and request to speak (19 Jan)
17 & 19 Jan – ASC enquiring about website management. PR replied to both.
19 Jan – Kirkton of Durriss speed zone. Exchange D Edgar and office of A Burnett MSP
20 Jan – PR confirmed he will take part in Circular Economy event. Cllr Dickinson encouraged CC to attend this event.
20 Jan – ICO payment confirmed for GDPR indemnity
20 Jan – changes to Stagecoach services during latest lockdown



- 20 Jan – Cllr A Ross – latest support info on covid
- 21 Jan – Heather Dey ASC Transport to Vaccination Centres -PR reply and posted on Facebook
- 21 Jan – Cllr A Ross details of ASC's discretionary fund (up to £2000)
- 25 Jan – acknowledgement of our comments on the proposed changes to the Scheme of Establishment. *National Planning Document; CC have a look at volunteer opportunities.*
- 26 Jan – Marr area Resilience reminder- *CDDCC plan on our website.*
- 26 Jan – Joyce Scott – proposed notice re smoke alarms
- 27 Jan – Jennifer Boot – Tree preservation order on woods to NE of Sunnyside Drive, Drumoak
- 28 Jan – Chris Charley email to Forestry Commission re a rotten / dangerous bench at top of Cairn Modern; *Forestry & Land replied advising job on list.*
- 28 Jan – Hugh Craigie & Anne Shear exchange re future of Park Quarry- *Chap advised there is a change of ownership for the quarrying activities, JKR who intend to extend quarrying activities. AS will respond asking why; JS suggested an early meeting with JKR. Chap intend to continue to pursue Kincluny Village plan.*
- 29 Jan various emails re ace plans
- 29 Jan – various email re Minute Secretary candidates
- 3 Feb – SMH reply to D Morrish's email in Nov re connection to the sewage system in their new estate, and follow up by P Renwick to correct the field drainage to collect surface and septic tanks water from the 3 properties N of the development. *Connection into foul sewage available; also issues with surface water.*
- 4 Feb – Kat Latakso - weather warning & impact on council services
- 4 Feb – link to K&M meeting on 9 Feb
- 5 Feb – Police Scotland Business Watch report.- *grant scheme invitation to join board; AS will have a look.*
- 7 Feb- Police Scotland Community Council Report for January 2021 received.
- 7 Feb- Mark Ansell distributed Mid Hill Evaluation sheet for Crathes Xmas lights
- 8 Feb- Marr Area Partnership, invitation to join Board, and info on funding available
- 10 Feb- Marr Area Committee meeting agenda for 16 Feb.
- 10 Feb- Community Council Forum meeting date change to 3 March.
- 10 Feb- Cllr Eileen Durno circulated link for Police Scotland Survey.