



Crathes Drumoak & Durris Community Council Monthly Meeting

Wednesday 14th April 2021 – Google Video Conference

MEETING MINUTES

1) INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES

Present:

Community Councillors:

Anne Shearer - Drumoak rep
David Edgar - Durris rep
David Morrish - Crathes rep
Lynn Coull - Drumoak rep
Mark Ansell - Treasurer & Durris rep
Peter Renwick - Chair & Crathes rep
Philipa Jensen - Crathes rep

Councillors:

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

Visitors:

Police Liaison : Marc Camus (PT)
Lesley Robertson - Community Planning Officer
Natasha Pawlukiewicz - Community Planning Officer
Jules Wood - Drumoak resident
Minutes- Poppy Diamond

Apologies notified:

Cllr A Ross
Cllr Robinson
Joyce Scott
Cllr Rosemary Bruce
Cllr Wallace

The meeting was declared quorate.

2) COVID UPDATE (PR)

- All schools now open and lockdown easing as of 19/4
- No deaths in Grampian in last 7 days
- 1 person in ITU
- 23 cases on average per day with 1.5% positivity rate
- Vaccines : first dose being given to 45-50s and 2nd shots to those 65+
- Hopefully the last time we need to report and take action.

3) REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Mark Ansell to propose
Lynn Coull seconds them

a) Actions & Matters Arising from March

- **Kirkton of Durris speed limit (Cllrs Agnew / Dickinson)**
Cllr Dickinson received an email from the road service stood by the previous policy that the speed limit is correct and should not be lowered DE noted that there are exceptions to the policy, despite the smaller number of houses on the roadside they meet all of the other criteria, therefore the issue will be pursued further
- **Drumoak Post Office Facility**
MA spoke to the Coop in Stonehaven and was then referred to the headquarters in Manchester now awaiting an email from the headquarters regarding the challenges of having a post office service within a store.
AS Spoke with the retired post lady from the old Drumoak post office and is going to forward on her information so that they can discuss the way that she ran the old post office.
- **B9077 potholes (MA)**
South Deeside road, Durris bridge potholes are incredibly dangerous - PC Marc Camus has spoken to roads to ask what is being done - went to the area to assess the damage and see what could be done although this depends on the budget of the council and their final decision as to what work is done
Cllr Dickinson stated that reported potholes are assessed and 2.5million given to potholes in the area. **Action - Cllr Dickinson** will follow up with roads, find information on whether these potholes will be fixed
- **Woodlands of Durris sewage (MA)**
Woodlands estate - the waste treatment plant is needing upgrades due to an increased number of houses in the area, the issue was raised in an email, now waiting for response from scottish water on their plans. 3 new plots in woodlands have drainage issues also. Emails have been sent and also waiting for responses.



Kirkton of Durris; DE stated that the farmer has fixed some drainage but left others, which has led to water draining into people's gardens, meeting with the landowner, work is planned to fix the drains which should be fixed within the year.

- **AED locations to Police (PR)**

The CC was asked by the local police for a list of AED locations, but this was not possible as they did not have access to such a list - PC Camus has a list of approx 53 locations - possibly putting locations online but this is a possible liability for theft - at the moment the list of locations and codes are private but accessible for police. A copy was also sent to Cllrs Dickinson and Robertson. It is slow to gather all of the locations and continuing to add more throughout the local area - most of them are in private areas which are hard to access due to both location and codes - looking to get one at the police station so that they can pick it up and take it to emergencies

It was suggested by AS to establish some form of training for how to use the devices so that people would be more confident using them in emergencies.

- **Park Quarry change of ownership (MA / AS)**

Park Quarry - emails were exchanged due to concern by David Miller about lorries in the area, who phoned Mr Taylor from JKR who mentioned looking for a time extension for the work in the quarry, possibly an additional 5/10 years (originally a few months, but this has been increased)

A meeting with Mr Taylor of JKR was discussed, either with individuals or as part of a CC meeting to see what the time scale is **action** - **AS** will try to set up a meeting with Mr Taylor to establish what the timeline is and ask questions

4) SECRETARY'S REPORT and CORRESPONDENCE

a) Reports

- **Role of the Planning Reporter (PR)**

b) Correspondence

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5) POLICE REPORTS

There have been 91 cases of antisocial behaviour reported, the highest ever, 4 cases of willfully lighting fires, primarily focused on youths in Portlethen continuing high visibility patrols in the Portlethen areas to try and deter further antisocial behaviour. There have been 6 cases of assaults and one serious assault - but these were all resolved - increased cases of acquisitive crime, all of a similar nature, with power tools stolen. There were no drivers under the influence of alcohol, or drugs reported, however there were 3 cases of reckless driving, 2 resolved, one unsolved, and 2 careless driving reports, both undetected one drug warrant in K&M area which was successful and reported

It was noted that the increase in antisocial behaviour may be linked to covid rules changing - with more reported calls from people that may think under 12s are breaking the rules, when they are doing what is allowed for their age groups.

Issues regarding the Drumoak Glebe were discussed, with concerns about the police not doing enough raised, PC Camus looked into calls regarding the Drumoak Glebe, with only one reported case in April, which was attended to and dealt with. Overall there is a general level of concern due to a lack of action to prevent issues in the Glebe. LC received an email from Bruce Stewart regarding the Glebe, asking about police action in the area, asking if the police were recording all of the reported incidents. All phone calls made to 101 and 999 are reported, it was suggested that longer wait times for the 101 service may lead to people abandoning calls before reports are made, which would not result in any action or report. **Actions** - AS will email PC Camus a list of dates and times at which there were issues in the Glebe to be looked into. PR will reply to the email from Bruce Stewart to clarify the issue.

DM stated that the issue is not isolated in the glebe - there is an increased feeling of "lawlessness" with speeding and the noise of the motorcycles - they get the impression that nothing is being done, as there are a huge number of motorcycles with illegal exhausts that are too loud, purposely being antisocial, as there is not much happening and therefore people won't stop as there is no reason not to commit



crime - PC Camus stated that we need to be more aware of the specific cases so that they can be reported and followed up - the difficulty is when people have a single incident and it is not the same people twice - the more repeat cases at specific times reported the more they will be followed up on - if you report the issue it will be addressed AS stated that Sundays between 2pm and 5pm on the Durriss straight are very loud with illegal motorbikes. **Action - PC Camus** will suggest that speed checks should take place in this area

6) COMMUNITY UPDATES

a) **Place plans (PR / PJ + Community Planning Officers: Lesley Robertson & Natasha Pawlukiewicz)**

PR stated that between Drumoak and Durriss there are issues with housing applications and the Park Bridge. PR have contacted Jackie Niven from KDP but we are now in a limbo stage waiting on the revision to the Planning process / Democracy Matters review. The 2 officers presented a 4 page powerpoint and examples of Community Action Plans from Gourdon and Newtonhill.

They advised that there are many different "Plans" however the most important for CC's was Community Action plans.

The place principle hopes to help people work together, create more successful places for economic growth, this is being defined more specifically by local place plans, which will encourage debate and discussion for communities to discuss their specific needs - this is not a plan designed by Natasha and Lesley

The community action plan will feed into a community plan, at the moment there are plans running into next year for the different community areas (eg Marr and K&M)

Community plans cover 6 different areas, and each planning officer is responsible for providing data to show what communities need.

Existing plans were meant to be replaced last year but this was delayed due to covid as it wasn't possible to go out into communities and find out what they need, instead there was a small retouch of the information used previously, that show how the communities were coping and what can be done to help - good qualitative and

quantitative data was gathered, which will be used until 2022

Kincardine and Mearns will go from one plan to 3, looking at school catchment areas in Mackie, Mearns and Portlethen.

There are 17 plans across Aberdeenshire, with some linking plans where appropriate, in some cases people's school catchment isn't the same as the areas they use, in these cases the plans will be linked with the areas that the communities are most engaged with rather than the area that they fall into through school catchment.

The new plans will run for 5 years, rather than three as this is a more realistic timeframe. Community councillors are keen to be on top of these plans so they will keep in touch with us to give updates etc.

Community action plans are important as they come from the local community and they decide what is presented and it is focused on the people, holding meetings and surveys to create a short plan on the local community and what the goals for the area are, this information is then presented to the council. it is a critical stage as you bring together key people from the community (community councillors and others in the community) to decide what topics they will focus on, these plans are very relevant when deciding on issues to be addressed - the document is referred to by many different departments as the needs of the community cannot be ignored. KDP would take us through the process.

b) **Elections & AGM June**

there are currently 7 vacancies , on the 29th of april applications for the roles will open, if there are more than 7 applicants there will be a ballot decisions should be made by the 25th of may **ACTION - PR** will make a provisional Booking at the Kirkton Hall, in case there are more than 7 applications.

FINANCE

a) **Bank account activity / balance / switch**

The current bank balance is £4580, and additionally the administration fee for the Midhill fund of £750 will be received, the switch to Metro Bank is underway and we will be updated once this is complete. MA is preparing the end of year accounts.



b) Midhill Wind Farm funding

There are currently no outstanding applications for funding

trees have been replanted, if this is the case there will be no objection.

8) AOB

a) Broadband

LC stated that more and more complaints from people relating to increasingly bad wifi connection - a huge issue trying to do home schooling / working from home, causing frustration for everyone, looking at trying to get fibre in these areas. There is little that can be done by the council to improve the issue, as it is controlled by the internet service provider, not the council.

b) Durriss Paths

DE raised this issue and will be discussed via email.

- Next meeting May 12th

The meeting closed at *21.42 hrs*

7) PLANNING & PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) Decisions

- There were no objections to planning permission applications in the last month.

b) Applications from March - April 21

- The only potential opposition is a Garden extension to Clune Cottage Durriss, there was a retrospective permission application, it should be confirmed that the ancient forest is replanted somewhere else as this is compulsory. Action - MA will speak to the case officer to check that the