



**Crathes Drumoak & Durris Community Council Monthly Meeting**  
**Wednesday 11th August 2021 – Google Video Conference**  
**APPROVED MEETING MINUTES**

**1) INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES**

**Present:**

Community Councillors:

Lynn Coull - Drumoak rep.  
Peter Renwick - chair and Crathes rep.  
Philippa Jensen - Crathes rep.  
Jules Wood - Drumoak rep.  
Anne Shearer – Drumoak rep  
David Edgar - Durris rep.  
Police Sergeant Lauren Duthie

Councillors:

Cllr Wendy Agnew

Minutes- Poppy Diamond

**Apologies notified:**

David Morrish  
Mark Ansell  
Cllr Bruce  
Cllr Ross  
Cllr Dickinson

The meeting was declared quorate.

**a) Introduction of new Community Councillors**

PR officially welcomed the new community councillors appointed at the AGM in June.

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

David Edgar proposed them for approval.

Phillipa Jensen seconds them

**a) Actions & Matters Arising from June/July**

- **Monitoring the situation at the Drumoak Glebe**  
The park ranger stated that he thought that people driving and camping at the Glebe overnight isn't against the law ACTION - Cllr Agnew will research what the definition of wild camping is and will update us when this definition is found so that a clear distinction can be made.
- **Potholes on C36K**

The potholes have been filled since the issue was brought up at the last meeting. The issue of overgrown vegetation has been raised and the Aberdeenshire council has said that they will cut the verges when possible

- **St. Ternan's Football Pitch**

AR sent information regarding this issue, as DM wasn't present at the meeting the issue will be discussed further at a future meeting where he is present.

- **Re-establishing contact with Banchory Medical Practice (PJ)**

PJ has put this matter on hold as rising cases of Covid-19 has taken priority and we shouldn't overwhelm the practice staff at the moment.

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

**a) Reports**

- **Key points from informal meeting in July**

One of the main priorities discussed at the meeting in July was the overall strategy for the CC, mainly focusing on environmental issues and keeping the community green, local place plans, which will need to be developed in the next year or two. Additionally, there will be actions made after Covid-19 as people's lives have changed greatly - looking at meetings online etc. Furthermore, recruiting the remaining vacancies for the CC and succession planning as there are a few people who are planning on stepping down at the end of the year should also be a priority. These ideas were all agreed upon as focuses for the next year.

**b) Correspondence**

- **24/06/21** An email was received from the Aberdeenshire Council stating that funds were received from Nature Scotland which will allow 2 rangers, more public toilets, better signage, more waste bins and stickers about litter, dog mess, and open fires.
- **24/06/21 - 03/07/21** A contact form was received from Les Bray - LC met with Mr Bray to discuss his concerns, he brought up a multitude



of points, so LC has asked him to send an email collating this information so that details can be clearly established - there will likely be a delay waiting for this email. There have been conflicting reports as to the exact nature of some of the issues reported, LC will follow up with this issue to establish what actually happened.

- **07/07/21** The CC was notified that the Tour of Britain cycle race would be passing through the area on 12th September - unfortunately, the route is not going through the area as closely as expected.
- **05/08/21** Email exchange & report following AS visit to JKR Park Quarry - AS stated that the meeting was very interesting and there has been a big change of approach in the work. The work that they are doing now will take a long time, but their operating license runs out in October 2022 and they plan to ask for an extension. There is a small amount of extraction still to do but they are mostly working on sorting materials and working on other aspects of the site, such as processing materials from other jobs in the North East and reusing rubble and other materials.
- The biggest issue for the residents is noise - they are required to do a monthly noise survey - AS will attend the next survey, the planning permission requires an external body to carry out the survey but JKR are carrying it out themselves, this issue will be raised when AS attends the next survey.
- **09/08/21** Discussion with MA & Niki Hare-Scott re flooding / sinkholes in Woodlands of Durriss - the water is not being managed properly, a sinkhole has appeared near one of the bridges in Woodlands of Durriss. It is clear that there needs to be strict management of where properties are built in the area because of these water issues.
- **11/08/21** Request for letter of support by Crathes Castle (DE) - Crathes castle has asked for a letter of support regarding fundraising for the tall tales experience in the woods - this was unanimously approved.

#### **4) POLICE REPORTS**

##### **a) Recent accident on A93 – diversion signage**

JW raised an issue regarding the accident on the A93 - stating that the road closure signage and diversion signs were not appropriate, leading to delays and hassle for those in the area. DS Duthie stated that this is a matter dealt with by the Council roads department - this issue should be raised with them. Additionally, it was queried as

to why the road closure after the accident lasted for so long - it was established that the road had to be closed initially to investigate the accident, and then damages caused to the road surface due to the accident had to be repaired in order for the road to be safe to reopen. **ACTION** - PR will email Ewan Smith from the roads department regarding signage at accidents.

##### **b) Police July Report**

There have been very similar levels of antisocial behaviour - there is no need for concern at the moment, there haven't been any serious crimes raised - PC Camus has new information about extra stops and checks for speeding in the Durriss area. This will be discussed at a later meeting where he is present.

#### **5) COMMUNITY UPDATES**

##### **a) Drumoak Glebe Signs (LC)**

LC discussed issues with getting signs made as the department was shut, now that they are open there is a long waiting list, therefore LC outsourced the signs, which have now been made and delivered. LC got an alternative quote from a commercial company which could be cheaper and decided to go with them. LC has asked for help to decide where to put the signs and also for help to put up the signs. PR authorised LC to continue with the project.

#### **6) FINANCE**

##### **Bank account activity / balance / switch**

There is currently £6,517 in the bank account, as we have received the Midhill funding for Crossroads Nursery. There has not been a lot of movement in the account at the moment.

There is currently slow action on switching banks, MA will continue to work on this issue.

##### **Midhill Wind Farm funding**

Drumoak Primary School Nursery has applied for £1667 for indoor play equipment including large jigsaws and equipment for a soft toy play area. The request was unanimously approved.

PR urged everyone to encourage community groups to consider us for funding – there is no point in not using windfarm funds or even the Community Council own funds, which are steadily increasing.



**7) PLANNING & PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**a) Applications from June - August 2021**

- There were no objections to planning applications in the last two months.

**8) AOB**

**a) Minute Secretary**

PR will post an advert for the minute secretary position on the CC Facebook page to look for a new person to fill the position.

**b) Meeting Locations**

The idea of possible in-person meetings when Covid restrictions ease was discussed, PR will look at possible places for meetings to be held in the future.

- Next meeting September 8th

The meeting closed at *21.06 hrs*