



Crathes Drumoak & Durriss Community Council Monthly Meeting
Wednesday 13th January 2021 – Google Video Conference
MEETING MINUTES

1) ATTENDEES & APOLOGIES

Present:

Community Councillors:

- Peter Renwick – Chair & Crathes rep.
- Mark Ansell – Treasurer & Durriss rep.
- Anne Shearer – Drumoak rep.
- Joyce Scott – Durriss rep.
- David Morrish – Crathes rep.
- Phillippa Jensen- Crathes rep.
- Lynn Coull – Drumoak Rep.

Councillors:

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

- Cllr Ann Ross
- Cllr Rosemary Bruce

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

- Cllr Sarah Dickinson

Visitors – Ann Williamson (Durriss), David Edgar (Durriss)

Apologies notified:

- Cllr Dennis Robertson
- Cllr Sandy Wallace
- Cllr Wendy Agnew (technical issues)
- Emma Storey, ASC Committee Officer
- Police Liaison : Marc Camus (PT)
- *The question was asked of Cllr Eileen Durno was still active as she had not responded to meeting requests for some months. The chair was advised that she is.*

The meeting was declared quorate.

2) COVID UPDATE

The lockdown has a different feel to it this time round. The Chair is putting information on the CDD CC social media site and sign-posting other sources of information.

3) REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

a) The minutes from the November meeting were approved online and distributed.

b) Actions & Matters Arising

• **Scheme of Establishment**

Responses have been requested to the consultation on the Scheme of Establishment for CC. Comments were:

- (1) The CC has no decision-making authority and therefore should not be bound by Aberdeenshire Council's code of conduct. We need to be able to discuss matters in an apolitical way, although they might be political matters and also able to discuss planning.
- (2) The declaration of interests could be adopted.
- (3) The proposal from the council on confidential information is unworkable – we are a public body representing the community and therefore duty bound to share information unless it is stipulated by Aberdeenshire Council that it is confidential.
- (4) Acceptance of gifts is also a difficult area as in a small rural community people are connected and may want to exchange gifts unrelated to CC matters.
- (5) There needs to be a definition of 'a finding' in regard to misconduct as this is a vague statement.

• **Infrastructure Services meeting**

MA and AS fed back on the ISC Meeting of 26/11/2020 which had bridge maintenance on the agenda and it was acknowledged that bridge maintenance was 'behind the curve'

• **CC Forum**

PJ gave feedback on the CC Forum. The information is available in an email sent my Emma Storey on 17th Nov and can be viewed. A summary was that gardening, cooking, walking and alcohol consumption had gone up during the Covid pandemic. There were some concerns about mental health and access to support. People were able to rely on neighbours to help, were shopping local and working from home. There are particular concerns



about education, training and employment.

- **Drumoak PO**
MA has contacted Drum Garden Centre to ask about the feasibility of them taking on the PO. The proprietor Dryck Forbes is gathering information and we are awaiting a response.
- **Deer Stalking**
Forest and Land Enterprise have responded to community concerns about the calibre of weapons used, lack of notification in vehicles and leaving remains, which will be addressed.

4) SECRETARY'S REPORT and CORRESPONDENCE

a) Correspondence

See Appendix A

b) Kirkton of Durris Speed Zone

David Edgar raised concerns that traffic travelling through Kirkton of Durris at 50mph is in increasing problem. With current planning applications, the village now constitutes 24 properties with a requirement to reduce the speed limit to 30mph being 20 properties and this does not take into account the amenities in the village including the Church, Hall, Forestry offices, school pick-up points, post boxes etc. This is likely to have increased since the closure of Park bridge as people make a detour.

Councillors agreed to raise the issue with the Roads department at their next meeting.

Action Sarah Dickinson.

No new permanent LED road signs are being installed due to cost and the only temporary sign is in Torphins which cannot be moved due to Covid restrictions.

The CC have been notified of a number of road closure recently, mostly at short notice. There have been no complaints from the community though, so it was decided that only major closures would be notified.

5) POLICE REPORT

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

Mark Ansell raised the feedback survey on the new powers that the police have been given in relation to Covid.

Donna Kelly requested that our minutes be sent to PC Mark Camus and not to her. She will continue to issue the Police's own reports.

6) COMMUNITY UPDATES

a) Park Bridge Closure

Additional funding is becoming available for infrastructure improvements due to the increase in council tax. The main considerations for the prioritisation of funding are distance to an alternative bridge and the number of vehicles using it. As yet it is not known where Park Bridge is on the funding list.

b) Community Awards

Six names were received for community awards for their help to the community during the first lockdown.

Rhona Blackhall

Jill Lawrie

Gillian Petrie

Marion McNeill

Elaine Ingram

Sarah Stewart

Received Christmas hampers from Park Shop.

c) Drumoak Community Action Plan

There are changes coming in the way Community Plans will come together. There is a choice between re-invigorating the partial plan that already exists or starting afresh. Jackie Niven from Aberdeenshire Council is willing to help the CC get started. PR sent out a note to the CC which they should respond to.

Action: ALL

d) 2021 Strategic Topics

At the informal meeting held by Community Councillors in December, it was decided that there would be 4 main topics for 2021.

- Establish guidelines on how areas like The Glebe should be managed
- Continue with the environmental theme as 2020 was not a good year for making



progress, e.g. planting trees, dealing with dog fouling, littering, invasive species etc.

- Making progress with maintaining the heritage sites within the community
- Developing local plans

- December, Wed. 9th: Crathes Hall

10)
the meeting closed at 21.20hrs

7) FINANCE

The financial situation of the CC is still healthy with the only outgoings payment of Data Protection Insurance and the Christmas hampers.

The Meikle Carew and Midhill funds are still open. Account switching from RBS to Metrobank is underway.

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

8) PLANNING & PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) The Midhill windfarm extension has been rejected by Aberdeenshire Council on environmental grounds and will now be referred to Holyrood.

b) Planning Applications:
Planning applications for all areas consisted of largely individual dwelling houses or extensions and none were objected to by the CC.

Hard Copy: -

- Crathes Hall – Notice Board: Chris Charnley: 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

9) AOB

- a) **Domestic House Alarms**
- The new regulations regarding domestic house fire and smoke alarms have been delayed for 1 year.
- b) Secretary
- A Secretary/Minute Secretary is still required and further enquiries will be made.

Appendix A – Correspondence

Secretarial Correspondence (email)

- 12 Nov – P Renwick emailed Caroline Close, part of King Edward community re support for community issues at the forthcoming Aberdeenshire infrastructure meeting
- 13 Nov – Alison McCleod issued a draft report on the review of the scheme of establishment inviting replies by 25 Jan 21
- 16 Nov – Moira Hamilton asked us to circulate details of Crathes PS raffle
- 17 Nov – CC Forum slides from E Storey
- 19 Nov – Alison McCleod details about Urgent Assistance Funding
- 23 Nov – Infrastructure services meeting invitation
- 24 Nov – Marr CC forum invite



- 26 Nov & 30 & 10 Dec – SSEN email regarding Ofgen meeting to upgrade transmission lines.
- 27 Nov & subsequent mails exchange with Anne Shearer & Hugh Cragie (CHAP) re IBA processing and notification of the withdrawal of the Rocksolid application.
- 27 Nov – E Storey issued the dates for 2021 CC forums – next one is 25 Feb.
- 30 Nov – E Storey – agenda of K&M area committee & reports (1 Dec)
- 1 Dec – Alison McCleod – Covid cross sectoral connections survey (not responded to)
- 8 Dec – Alister Yo replied to MA re Deer Stalking in Clunie Woods
- 3 Dec – PC M Camus with Police report
- 3 Dec - E Storey issued new Sco Gov Covid fliers for social media
- 7 Dec – Area office informs us about Scottish Gov Open Conference on 15 Dec
- 8 Dec – Police Scotland Business watch bulletin
- 10 Dec – request to participate in a Covid survey
- 13 Dec and more – Mark Edgar email re speedlimit in Kirkton of Durris
- 17 Dec – Cllr Ross – updated schedule for mobile covid testing
- 19 Dec – Lesley Robertson – K&M Welfare bulletin
- 21 Dec – E Storey – latest Covid resources
- 31 Dec – A Shearer updated us on developments on Abbeyton Bridge (from NC Cllr Pike)
- 1 Jan – - GDPR insurance renewal
- 3 Jan/8 Jan – Cllrs W Agnew / A Ross – difficulties with bin collections
- 5 Jan – invite to Community Asset Transfer workshop
- 6 Jan – Diane Henderson update that Mary Robertson has resigned from the Church committee and to update our resilience plan.
- 8 Jan – Keith Anderson of AVA (Marr area) introducing himself
- 8 Jan – Invite to MAP AGM on 25 Jan 2021
- 8 Jan - E Storey/A McCleod – Covid vaccine information
- 9 Jan – A Shearer email re access to Park Estate
- 11 Jan – emails from resident re Drumoak Church containers and derelict pub
- 12 Jan – Invite the Annual Transport Forum
- 12 Jan – Invite to a training event on the Circular Economy (22 Feb) – (green issue ?)
- 13 Jan – Invite by Scottish Water to their annual Consultation event – Q's by 20 Jan.
- 13 Jan – Exchange with PC M Camus re joining meeting.
- 13 Jan – Details of latest Meikle Carew funding opportunities