



Crathes Drumoak & Durriss Community Council Monthly Meeting
Wednesday 9th June 2021 – Google Video Conference
APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

1) INTRODUCTIONS & APOLOGIES

Present:

Community Councillors:

Lynn Coull - Drumoak rep.
David Morrish - Crathes rep.
Mark Ansell - treasurer and Durriss rep.
Peter Renwick - chair and Crathes rep.
Philippa Jensen - Crathes rep.
Jules Wood

Councillors:

Cllr Sarah Dickinson
Cllr Wendy Agnew
Cllr Ann Ross
Cll Rosemary Bruce

Minutes- Poppy Diamond

Apologies notified:

David Edgar
Anne Shearer
Cllr Robertson

The meeting was declared quorate.

2) REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Mark Ansell proposed them for approval.
Phillipa Jensen seconds them

a) Actions & Matters Arising from March

- **Park Quarry Meet with JKR (DM)**
DM stated that he is trying to organise a meeting with JKR to discuss the main issues surrounding the impacts of their work on the community. ACTION - DM will circulate a list of the main issues that will be discussed at the meeting with Mr Taylor from JKR.
- **Monitoring the situation at the Drumoak Glebe**
LC stated that the situation at the Glebe wasn't perfect but not too bad. PR stated that the Gillie (Bert) has been working to try and prevent these issues. councillors have stated that the best thing to do is to just leave it, as it is unlikely that taking

further action would benefit anyone. Signs have been distributed, it was noted that people are parking in restricted areas, preventing access to homes in the area. overall we will just leave it as we are not the police. It was noted that there are concerns regarding people driving down to the Glebe and camping overnight. ACTION - Cllr Agnew will investigate whether it is allowed to put up "no camping" signs as there are issues between wild camping and driving down with a tent

- **Speed/noisey bikes/cars on local roads (PC Camus to organize checks, Cllr Ross sent noise app)**

Cllr Ross circulated information regarding the council noise app for reporting noise pollution. Cllr Ross stated that this has been an ongoing issue but police and the council have been aware of this in Crathes especially, the police in particular. Cllr Ross stated that she and Cllr Agnew have been working together to resolve this issue. Action - Cllr Agnew and Cllr Ross will continue to work on the issue.

- **Kirkton of Durriss speed limit – info exchange (AR, SD, DE)**

DE was not present at the meeting, but sent an update via email stating that since the last CC meeting, he received a response from Brian Strachan at the Roads Department which was unsatisfactory in acknowledging the issues brought forward. DE gave this information Cllr Dickinson. Mr Strachan said there would be no review, and that the speed limit was correct for the location, stating that we did not meet the house frontage criteria. DE has since replied, again stating the various points that Mr Strachan seems to be ignoring and invited him to meet with us on site. He has agreed to this and a meeting is to take place on Monday 14th June at 2pm. There are limited attendees allowed because of COVID.



- **Potholes – C36K and elsewhere still not repaired**

Cllr Agnew has confirmed that the council is planning on tarring and chipping the road between the Durrisc bridge and Maryfield, Cllr Agnew has worked very hard to ensure that this will be completed. The issue of overgrown foliage and verges at junctions causing visual obstructions to drivers was identified and ways to report this were discussed. ACTION - Cllr Agnew will check whether you can report overgrown plants obstructing vision at junctions.

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

PJ has been unable to contact the practice as she has been unable to find contact information for a liaison at the practice. It was noted that practices are restarting their long term chronic disease management appointments, and more people are trying to book appointments as the reduction in covid cases in the area and the easing of restrictions has made people feel confident that it is safe to make appointments. PJ has suggested that we should leave this issue current as the practice is likely to be overwhelmed from the increase in work.

- **St Ternans football pitch access (DM, PR)**

DM has spoken to the chairperson of the committee and his wife. They have locked the gate to the pitch for insurance purposes, and due to an incident of people trying to break into the bathrooms, bringing campervans onto the pitch. There will be a new path cut into the adjacent field so that people can still access the river. Cllr Ross stated that the council will assist the Leys Estate in making appropriate signage to prevent these issues from continuing

It was noted that there was a map with a walking path running through the pitch, which was incorrect, this will be amended. PJ suggested that if new paths are being considered it would be good to have a gate instead of a stile as they are more accessible. It was identified that there must be a discussion regarding accessible

paths as the private landowners may not be keen. PR stated that he and DM will contact the owners of the pitch and those from the estates regarding this and to come to an agreement. ACTION - DM will speak to both Leys estate and Dunecht Estate in order to establish what their opinions are on the issue.

- **Broadband (DE)**

DM sent information about his wifi issues - it was mentioned that wifi issues could be brought up in the LDP - Cllr Agnew stated that this is not the usual type of issue discussed, but it can be brought up and questioned.

3) SECRETARY'S REPORT and CORRESPONDENCE

a) Reports

- **Attendance at K&M (PR, LC) and Marr (DE) community impacts assessments.**

PR and LC attended K&M and Mark attended Marr, There is a summary of what was discussed online regarding community feedback on covid's impacts. LC stated that she was very impressed with the work being done in Stonehaven giving food parcels and helping with people struggling with poverty. DE stated that the Banchory representatives also had a lot to say, but the smaller groups such as ourselves were much less engaged as there was less for them to add as they hadn't been able to get together and discuss these issues.

b) Correspondence

- **27/05/21** Cllr Ross forwarded comments from HWRC regarding taking borrowed vans to recycling centres.

- **27/05/21** a formal notification of LDP 2020-25 progress now sent to Scottish Gov for final approval was received, and an official email was received back with the entire 800 page document PR looked through, stating that there weren't any surprising items. all of the proposals made are available online, many proposals for Drumoak about garden centre and the area towards Peterculter

- **01/06/21** information regarding a car accident at Milton of Crathes was received, the car went off just before the 40mph speed limit the caution sign to warn of the sharp bend in the road was taken down, PR stated that there should be a barrier there as it is a very dangerous drop off of



the road there. DM stated that the surface dressing on the road may have worsened control of the vehicle, but Cllr Ross stated that if there was surface dressing on the road there would have been signs up ACTION - Cllr Ross will update if there is any more info.

- **03/06/21** Doors Open, publicized via FaceBook PR posted on Facebook about being able to attend these historical buildings for free during off season times.
- **08/06/21** Banchory Town strategy invite PR and DE will discuss who would attend the event is run by the Aberdeenshire council, discussing the whole of Banchory from health to education etc.
- **09/06/21** Community bedding plants ready for collection, 800 plants were collected on the 9th of June, this is more than we required, speak to Ada Renwick if there are any community tubs e.g. by Kirton hall that need flowers.
- **09/06/21** Scheme of Establishment final review opportunity closing 5th July there are only 3 weeks to reply, before next meeting PR has said we will not respond as there are other community councils that are working on it

4) COMMUNITY UPDATES

a) Durriss Paths / community link (DE)

DE made a comment via email regarding his work on the paths. Cllr Bruce connected DE with the Banchory Paths network and they were very prompt to reply. David Culshaw connected with me and is more than happy to help us with advice, guidance and tips, once we get going.

DE hasn't moved this any further forward due to being busy with work, it was said that perhaps breaking the tasks down and delegating would be more manageable, e.g. connecting Woodlands and the Kirkton initially, with the help of Derek Forbes and the Forestry Commission, and then move on to the next stage. DE suggested making a call for volunteers, to get the project up and running and managed effectively.

b) Woodlands of Durriss drainage (DE)

DE stated via email there are issues with water running off of the fields at Upper Balfour and down through Kirkton Wood and into the Gardens of Number 10 (William Richmond) and Number 9 (DE) continues. They have tried to contact Derek Forbes again to ask when he will commence his work, as nothing has changed

since their last meeting but he hasn't got contact details for him. Since the last meeting, they have experienced significant rain causing a large amount of water to hit both gardens,

DE's neighbour has also contacted Cllr Agnew, Alexander Burnett, Aberdeenshire Council and SEPA on the matter and there should be a meeting with someone from Aberdeenshire Council linked to Flooding this week.

DE has also tried to contact the land agent at the Forestry Commission again but hasn't received a response, so he will try to escalate the matter. ACTION - MA will help DE contact Derrick Forbes about these issues.

FINANCE

a) Bank account activity / balance / switch

There is currently £5,168 in the bank account, 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.

b) Midhill Wind Farm funding

Crossroads nursery requested £1400 for developing their outdoor area - there were no objections there was a unanimous decision to approve this.

Drumoak Nursery has also made an application - this will be circulated and discussed at a future meeting.

5) PLANNING & PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) Decisions/ Correspondence

- The Woodlands of Durriss property was approved by the Aberdeenshire Council.

b) Applications from May - June 21

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

6) AOB

a) The Gardens at Crathes drainage issues (DM)

DM stated that the drainage issues in this area were fixed, this should no longer be a problem.

b) Young offenders Paint (PR & LC)

LC stated that the organiser needed to get an angle grinder for removing rust from the goal posts - they



Responding to community needs

are now waiting to hear back about how much paint will be needed and costs for this.

c) **July meeting topics / location**

PR confirmed that there will be an informal meeting in July, with the new councillors attending if possible the meeting will be held outdoors (only if covid guidelines allow) topics to discuss include place standards LC has stated that

she will not be able to attend 14th July MA stated that the meeting could take place in his garden weather permitting

- next meeting 11 August

The meeting closed at 21.27 hrs